THE BELL NEWS
And Ringers' Record:
A Weekly Journal of the Ringing Exercise; and Compendium of Information for the Clergy and Churchwardens.

No. 871.—*VOL.* XVII.] SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1898. [PRICE ONE PENNY.

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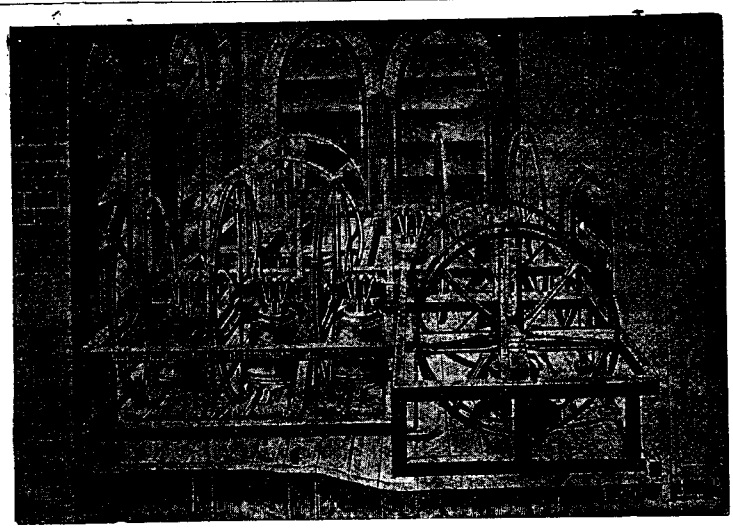

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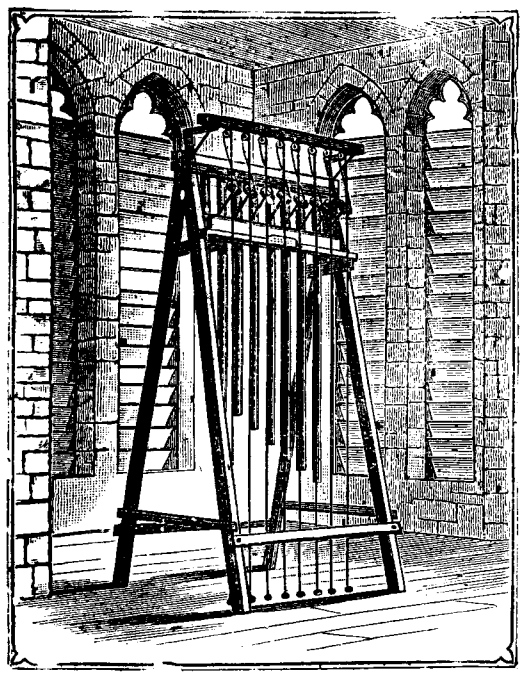

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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 871.] SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1898. [Vol. XVII.

THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES, NORTHAMPTON.

Mr. R. Birdsall gave a most interesting talk on "Old St. Giles," at the fortnightly meeting of the St. Giles's Social and Literary Society, held at St. Giles's Church Buildings, on Tuesday evening. The Vicar, the Rev. A. White, presided over a good attendance of members and friends. Mr. Birdsall gave a similar talk last season, when he brought his hearers down to the beginning of Elizabeth's reign. Continuing his history, he by means of a lantern exhibited a number of enlarged photographic slides of the old parish registers, and fully explained them. They were, he said, unique in the information they contained, and it was information they could not get elsewhere. Many of the entries were first made on paper, and then copied into the register book, and the parish registers of St. Giles were much better kept and in a much better state than they were in many places. There were, however, some missing. They were most interesting, as they contained references to excommunication, licenses to eat flesh in Lent, penances, storms, floods, the plague, the civil war, and drought. Many interesting entries were read, having reference to the different Vicars and their writings, and the peculiar though important things that occurred during the time they were in office, among them being baptisms, burials, executions, institutions of Vicars, etc. Particular reference was made to the Rev. Robert Sibthorpe, who was inducted Vicar in 1607. He was a remarkable and able man, and son-in-law of the Dean of Arches and Chancellor of the Diocese, Sir John Lambe, who then lived at the tower house. The Rev. Robert Sibthorpe, who resigned the living of St. Giles's in 1681 and went to St. Sepulchre's, was a man of extreme views, and taught obedience to royal authority under every conceivable circumstance. In the time of the civil war he left his living at Brackley and Burton Latimer, and joined the king's army. His livings were sequestrated in the time of the Commonwealth, but at the time of the Restoration he returned to Burton Latimer and died. St. Giles's tower fell in 1613, and the registers were not kept for four years after that. Mr. Sibthorpe began the restoration, but did not finish it, as the work was continued for some ten to seventeen years afterwards. A view of the town in 1610, showing the surroundings of St. Giles' before the tower fell, was exhibited. The town walls, the Churches, the Market Cross, and the different places of importance were all clearly defined. Reverting to the parish registers, Mr. Birdsall showed entries referring to the terrible ravages of the plague in the parish in 1605, and to the deaths of whole families within a day or two. The names were the same in many instances as were known in the town at the present time. The plague re visited the town in 1638, and again there were many entries found on the registers having reference to it and payments in connection therewith. In the months of June and July, 1638, two whole pages of the register were closely filled with the names of those who had died in the parish during that time, whereas usually a quarter to a third of one page sufficed for such entries. Referring to the time of the Civil War, the talker showed entries having reference to several of the officers and men who fell at the Battle of Naseby, and who were buried in St. Giles's churchyard. Similar entries were also to be found in All Saints' registers, and how many fell in the Civil War and were buried in Northampton he said they would never know. There were three entries showing that Thomas Sparrow, who was executed at Abington gallows, was buried on the 23rd February, 1610, and Pedder, who was executed at the same place, on the 25th of February, 1610, in St. Giles's churchyard. Stephen Preston, who was executed at Walbanke, situate at the north gate, was also buried there on the 8th of April, 1611. The manner in which the churchwardens' accounts were kept in 1627 and onwards was next shown, and attention called to the singular entries therein. In 1639 there was a payment of £57 6s. for "casting the for bell and the founding the two bell," and there were numerous entries for helping the bell man. Mr. Birdsall said they were rather reproached at the present time for taking money for seats, but in 1631 there were several entries in the churchwardens' books of the receipt of the sums of 3s. and 6s. from various persons for seats in the church. Views of the town in 1731, 1746, 1807, and 1830, and also various views of the church of St. Giles' at different periods were shown and much appreciated, and the closing slide was the portrait of the old parish clerk, Mr. Penn, who, Mr. Birdsall said, was a man of iron will and a terror to all the young folk.

The Rev. A. W. Thompson moved, and the Rev. R. A. White seconded, a vote of thanks to Mr. Birdsall for his interesting talk, and it was carried with acclamation. After the company had partaken of light refreshments, the musical part of the evening's entertainment was commenced. The members of the St. Giles's Glee Society sang "Charity," by Rossini, the solo part being sustained by Mrs. Osborn Smith. Lady Bedford, wife of Admiral F. G. Bedford, also sang "Husheen" (Needham), "If thou wert blind" (Noel Johnson), "When daises pied and violets blue" (Dr. Arne), and "Damon" (Max Strange). Miss Stanton presided at the piano. Altogether the evening's entertainment was both of an instructive and most enjoyable character.

EDGBASTON, BIRMINGHAM.

At Edgbaston parish church last Monday, the 12th instant, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25½ minutes, was rung by the following members of the St. Martin's Guild; and on the 5th ultimo a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 minutes, the ringers standing as follows: Plain Bob Minor—Messrs. W. Bryant, W. Ellis, F. Clayton, R. Hunt, R. Hackley, T. Miller (conductor). Kent Treble Bob Minor—W. Bryant, J. Day, W. Short (conductor), 3; T. Miller, 4; J. Barker, 5; C. H. Watts, 6.

This ring of bells has been augmented by a new treble, and a new oak frame has been supplied, together with the thorough rehanging of the whole of the bells by Messrs. Charles Carr, Ltd., of Smethwick. These bells are proclaimed to be now one of the finest rings of six in England,

DEDICATION OF TWO MEMORIAL WINDOWS AT SMETHWICK OLD CHURCH.

On Wednesday, November 30th, two stained glass memorial windows and a sanctuary chair were dedicated at the above church in the presence of a large congregation, by the Archdeacon of Stafford (Ven. Robert Hodgson, M.A., R.D.) The window in the east end of the church is a memorial to a former vicar (Rev. Edward Addenbrooke), and is the gift of the parishioners, whilst a sanctuary chair in his memory is the gift of the members of the deceased clergyman's family. The other window is in memory of the late Samuel and Mary Ann Thompson, and is presented by their son, Major Thompson, J.P. of "The Uplands." Mr. J. J. Horton asked the Vicar's acceptance of the gifts, and requested that these gifts may be solemnly dedicated to the service of the Almighty, and set apart from all wordly and profane purposes, and for ever preserved for the religious use of the people of this parish.

The Vicar (Rev. George Astbury, M.A.), as the representative of the church in that parish, thankfully accepted the gifts, and placed them under the care and guardianship of the churchwardens, and Mr. W. J. Durose, one of the churchwardens, accepted the charge, and said it should be their endeavour to see that these gifts were used for the purpose of which they had been given.

The Archdeacon then dedicated the gifts, and subsequently delivered an address. The subject of the window which is fixed in the east end of the church, is the Ascension. Our Lord is shewn rising from the earth above the heads of the Apostles, who are grouped in various attitudes of devotion gazing at His ascending figure. The colouring is rich and harmonious. The inscription on the window reads: "To the glory of God and in memory of the late Rev. Edward Addenbrooke, B.A., for years curate and Vicar of this parish, died on St. Andrew's Day, 1897, aged 81 years, and interred at Rees, Salop." The other window contains two subjects—The Good Samaritan and The Prodigal Son. The window is admirably designed.

At the close of the service the local band with the assistance of Mr. Samuel Reeves, of West Bromwich, rang the Queens, Tittums, and Whittingtons; also two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. G. Wiggins, 1; E. Brown, 2; H. Mills (conductor), 3; S. Reeves, 4; J. Mordey, 5; W. Carr, 6; J. Hughes, 7; A. Bennett, 8. Also another 6-score. G. Wiggins, 1; H. Mills, 2; S. Reeves (conductor), 3; E. Brown, 4; J. Mordey, 5; W. Carr, 6; J. Hughes, 7; A. Bennett, 8.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

On Monday last eight members of the Worcestershire and Districts Association met in the tower of St. Andrew's church and made an attempt for a peal of Forward Major, but after ringing 1634 changes in 58 mins., "stand" was called owing to a change-course. The bells were muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Rev. Alfred Bell Timbrell, M.A., Rector of Oldswinford, who died somewhat suddenly on Sunday, December 4th, at Walton-on-Thames, whither he had gone to consult Dr. Povey. The deceased gentleman took a deep interest in the work of the Association, and was its first clerical Hon. Secretary, an office he held for some time, until ill-health caused him to resign. W. R. Small, 1; J. W. Smith, 2; A. Spittle, 3; S. Spittle, 4; W. Micklewright, 5; J. Goodman, 6; J. Smith, 7; J. Carter (conductor), 8.

HOWDEN, YORKSHIRE.

On Sunday, November 27th, the Goole parish church company visited the parish church and rang 118 Grandsire Triples. H. Driffield, 1; J. T. Walsh, 2; A. Harlington, 3: J. Hodds, 4; —. Stephenson, 5; J. Swingler (conductor), 6; J. Driffield, 7; A. Tate (Goole) and T. Moore (Howden), 8. The above is supposed to be the first and longest touch of any seven or eight-bell method yet rung on these bells since their restoration in 1829. The above 118 was again attempted and successfully brought round. J. T. Walsh, 1; J. Hodds, 2; J. Driffield, 4; A. Tate (conductor), 7; the rest as before. Tenor 27 cwt. It is the intention of the Goole company to go for a longer touch early in the New Year. It is worthy of note that two of the present company, Messrs. Tate and Walsh, took part in the only 720 in any method rung on these bells about four years ago.

ST. STEPHEN'S, BRISTOL.

On Sunday, November 13th, three new stained glass windows presented to the church by the Antient Society of St. Stephen's Ringers, was unveiled and dedicated. The windows, which have been placed in the north aisle, are fine examples of stained glass work, being (1) "Scenes of the Incarnation," (2) "Jesus in the Temple," (3) "The Mount of Beatitudes." The first window is to the memory of "departed Masters of the Antient Society of St. Stephen's Ringers;" the second to the memory of "Arthur Vyvian James, Master, 1893, died 1894;" the third to the memory of "George Nichols, Master, 1873, died 1896."

The Rev. E. J. Houghton, Rector of St. Stephen's, preached the sermon. For the above service 384 Superlative Surprise Major was rung. R. Clark, 1; C. H. Horton, 2; W. Knight, 3; F. Elles, 4; C. H. Tomkins, 5; C. H. Gordon, 6: W. A. Cave, 7; W. J. Hinton (conductor), 8. Several touches of Stedman Caters were also rung.

THE REV. F. E. ROBINSON'S 550 PEALS.

	RUNG.	CONDUCTED.
Grandsire Triples	52	8
Grandsire Caters	27	1*
Stedman Triples	235	100
Stedman Caters	58	28†
Stedman Cinques	1	...
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College Single Triples	2	...
Bob Major	2	...
Duffield Major	1	...
Double Oxford Major	1	...
Double Norwich Major	73	5‡
Oxford Treble Bob Major	3	...
Kent Treble Bob Major	13	2
Kent Treble Bob Royal	9	...
Kent Treble Bob Maximus	2	...
Duffield Royal	1	...
Superlative Surprise Major	43	6
Cambridge Surprise Major	13	2
London Surprise Major	13	3§
	550	155

*Including a peal of 13,247 changes.
†Including a 12,041 and a 15,041 (record).
‡Including a 10,080 and 12,096.
§Including an 11,328 (record.)

A PEAL OF 362,880 GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6d.
Contains the full extent of changes on nine bells. Forwarded Post Free, on receipt of 7d. By James Hewett, 16 Chapel Row, Gosport.

CURRENT TOPICS.

I need not make any lengthy reference to those remarkable performances just recorded by the Brighton company, because I am told they are alluded to by another writer. The job was well done, and they could not have done better if I had formed one of the party.

The peal record is getting on. Performances of great merit appear every week; the "cramp" methods are "cramp" no longer, and some of the talent go about in tears because nothing more difficult than simple "London" is to be had. Well they can try a few of the comparatively unknown methods—Shipway's principle, Imperial, Mermaid, Hippopotamus, and so on. If none of these are sufficiently entertaining, Old Doubles will prove a fair alterative.

There appeared a notice of a meeting at a place called "Dagenham," and the sender very likely thought he had made a good hit by using one of the present catch phrases—"Let 'em all come." And they comed, apparently. Mr. Deards is understood to be the Dagenham teacher, and it is to be hoped he makes his pupils "all come" up to the scratch; in other words, strive to excel, and in a short time be able to teach their teacher.

The new ringing Association for Cleveland and North Yorkshire is become an accomplished fact, apparently. I suppose that between the two northern Associations there are some "trimmings" available for collection, and this new body may snap them up. If the "authorities" of each Association secure only one dozen ringers who are members of no Association whatever, their *locus standi* is accomplished. That is if they have a hard-and-fast rule—very hard and very fast—that every member has a copy of this paper every week all to himself.

And so the grand old Abbey of Hexham is to have its bells ringing merrily in the near future. Mr. W. Story is at the head of affairs, and it may be believed that he will keep things moving there. The difficulties of keeping a company together militate against complete success very often, but as was said last week in the leader—"keep pegging away," Mr. S.

There are one or two appeals on the *tapis* just now which I hope are being attended to. There is one for the benefit of an afflicted brother, David Wilson; particulars of this have been given. Perhaps at this season of the year some of my friends may open their hearts—and their pockets—in aid.

The praiseworthy desire to augment rings of church bells from six to eight at more than one well-known spot is being shown, and whoever can spare a shilling towards these schemes will, I hope, have their reward.

One more thing I may mention. There are too many ringers out of work, as the advertisements prove. Let us ask you all to keep your eyes wide open for employment for those of your brethren who are in want of it.

Next week we shall be in the thick of preparations for Christmas. The amount of provender of various kinds got together to enable us to get through the festive season is really wonderful. Both London and provincial markets will be chock full of everything—fish, flesh and fowl. What becomes of it all? Many newspapers are reaping a harvest through the insertion of advertisements of Christmas produce, both solid and liquid.

We may see in any street in London the monarch of the poultry farm brought to a very ignoble condition; miles upon miles of beef, mutton and pork; mountains of fruit of every kind; and tons of confectionery.

Not only food for the body but the mind also. The trade in publications for Christmas is beyond conception, while articles of utility and ornament for the purpose of presentation are exhibited at every coign of vantage to catch the eye.

Perhaps this diffusion of good things shows the wealth and prosperity of the country. We must confess that we live in fairly happy times, and therefore ought to feel thankful that, taking it altogether, we are so comfortable.

Those of my readers who prefer quiet upon every occasion, will not give the rein to boisterous mirth. Christmas-Day is in itself a hallowed festival of the Church, and should therefore be kept in a reverent manner. We can be merry and joyful all the same, but the worldly festivities may without offence be postponed till the following day, when we can sing, and dance, and make good cheer. Most of us will be fully occupied on Christmas day with our duties at church, which we shall carry out with our usual exactitude.

I should like to recommend for Christmas reading a famous book I have just had lent to me to read, which contains a vast amount of wit and humour of the best sort. "The memories of Dean Hole" is the title of the volume. The author is a perfect humourist. Let me relate one instance. The late Sir William Don was a very tall man, and he, when walking through the streets of a garrison town, was accosted by two bricklayers thus: "Sir William, me and my mate have been having a bet what your height is." "My height," quoth the baronet, "is six feet four; and yours is the height of impudence."

Another story is told in the same book. Speaking of church choirs it is stated that the congregation of St. Peter's church, Marlborough, when assembled in church, knew when they were going to have an anthem, for just before there was a stampede of the choir, who sallied out to The Six Bells over the way to "whet their whistles."

Should I not have the felicity of appearing before you next week, I beg to wish you all "The Compliments of the Season." When around the festive board on Christmas Day, I shall give utterance to the same wish for my old friends.

PLAIN SPEAKER.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD PEAL-BOOK.—A Record of Five Hundred and Twenty Peals rung by this Guild. Paper covers, 6d.; cloth do., 9d.—Blackwell, Reading; or the Hon. Sec. of the Guild—the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, Dunsden Vicarage, Reading, Berks.

SHALL WE HAVE A CONGRESS?

Is it not somewhat surprising that the suggestion so ably made by Mr. E. A. Davies, of Barking, who occupied the vice-chair at the College Youths' dinner on November 5th, has not caused any discussion in these pages? It was the second time Mr. Davies had brought forward his idea, without, it would appear, any practical result. If one understands the question Mr. Davies advocates, it is that a great meeting of ringers from all parts should be held in the metropolis, at which not only practical demonstrations should be given of the Art of change-ringing, but that at a business meeting certain resolutions should be passed which should afterwards be submitted to the Church Congress, which will meet in October at the Albert Hall. Many will agree that Belfry Reform is not making that permanent progress which it ought to do, and alas! that there are still many belfries in which reform is still unknown.

Up to the present all attempts to introduce the subject before the Church Congress have failed. There is however no reason why an attempt to carry out Mr. Davies's idea should not be made, for surely the game must be worth the candle. The prominence that would be given to a resolution submitted to the Congress from a large and influential body of representatives of the entire ringers of England, must naturally of itself be productive of some good, and might be the means of driving in the thin edge of the wedge for a discussion on the whole question of Belfry Reform at some near future Congress.

To carry out Mr. Davies's entire idea would of course require some considerable time to complete the necessary arrangements. The first question which arises is who should move? Some will contend that the Central Council should make an effort, others will say it is outside the Council's work. As the Council does not however meet till Whit-Monday, it would appear to me that the time and the constitution of the Council, if the meeting should be held on the August Bank Holiday, both tell against making the attempt. I would therefore suggest to Mr. Davies, who appears to have the whole question at his fingers' ends, that he should attempt to bring about the formation of a preliminary joint Committee of the two great and respected ancient societies to consider the matter, and if it was considered desirable to make the effort, a strong Committee of the two societies should be formed with the President of the Central Council as chairman, in order that an appeal should go forth early in the New Year to all County and Diocesan Associations throughout the kingdom, to join in making what would undoubtedly prove the greatest event in the annals of change-ringing a complete success.

K.

Situations Vacant.

GROCERS' ASSISTANT.—I shall have a vacancy for above early in the new year. Applicants please state age, experience and salary required. Indoors.—GEO. DENT, Grocer and Draper, Harlow, Essex.

WANTED.—An Improver to the Plumbing, and general work of a country shop. Apply—E. BARNETT, Crayford, Kent.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, the 10th instant, Messrs. F. Sheraton, J. Anderson, and A. Meyers, from Chester-le-Street; Story and Gofton from Whitley; and W. Hunt from North Shields, visited Houghton-le-Spring for the purpose of attempting a 5040 in seven methods, but unfortunately it was lost after some good ringing. The visitors were pleasantly surprised to be informed at the start that they must finish by 6.30 p.m., as tea would be ready for them at that hour. After ringing several touches in different methods, a muster was made in the parish room, where the visitors, in company with the local ringers, were most hospitably entertained by Dr. and Mrs. Roll, the former being people's warden. The Rector, the Rev. Canon Brown, very kindly presided, supported by his curate; full justice being done to the fare so thoughtfully provided. In returning thanks to their generous hosts, Mr. Story took the opportunity to thank the Rector for his kind permission to ring, and congratulated him on the condition of his belfry and bells.

The ringers are, unfortunately, not change-ringers, or members of the Association, but are a kindly body of men who would not stand in the way of advancement if change-ringing could be introduced.

A most pleasant afternoon was spent in spite of the loss of the peal, and the visitors went away with warm feelings towards the Rector and Dr. and Mrs. Roll.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Liverpool Diocesan branch of this Association had its monthly meeting at the church of St. Nicholas, Liverpool, on Saturday, December 3rd, and was well attended by members from the towers of St. Peter's and St. Luke's, Liverpool; Aughton; and West Derby. The bells were set going at five o'clock, when some good ringing was done by the West Derby company on six bells until six o'clock, when the meeting was held, the two curates of the parish church—the Rev. J. L. Jenkins and the Rev. W. Brown—attending the meeting.

The Rev. J. L. Jenkins, on being invited to take the chair, said that he hardly knew what to say to them as it was the first time he had ever attended a ringers' meeting, but he would do his best. He was sorry that the bells were in such bad order, but he hoped the time was not far distant when they would be restored. There seemed two ways by which ringers might benefit by ringing: firstly, from the excellent bodily exercise; and secondly, by the spiritual help it was to them as churchworkers. It had given him very great pleasure to meet them, and he hoped he should have the pleasure of presiding over many more meetings of ringers.

After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, it was arranged to hold the next meeting at Grassendale. A hearty vote of thanks to the chairman brought the proceedings to a close.

Ringing was then kept up till nine o'clock in the following methods: Grandsire Minor, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, and Double Norwich and Grandsire Caters on the handbells.

FELSHAM.—On Thursday, December 2nd, for practice on handbells, 720 Bob Minor (twenty bobs and ten singles). E. Steggals, 1; E. Kinsey, 2; H. Gladwell, 3; J. Horrex, 4; H. Horrex, 5; W. Kinsey (conductor), 6. Also two courses of Bob Major. W. Kinsey (conductor), 5-6; H. Horrex, 7-8; the rest as before.

SUSSEX NOTES.

Seven Surprise peals in nine attempts must be acknowledged by everyone to be a fine achievement, but added to this the fact that each was in a different method, additional lustre is given to the performance accomplished by the St. Peter's (Brighton) branch of the Sussex Association, as the list of peals published last week shows. It is without doubt a record, which will require a great deal of beating.

The performance however may not come as a surprise to some members of the Exercise, knowing the great things which have often been accomplished by the St. Peter's band, whose *personnel* has changed but little during the last eight or ten years, and whose success can only be attributed to the perfect cohesion which exists between the individuals of the band, and the perseverance and campanological enthusiasm of all the party, at whose head is the worthy Master of the Association, Mr. G. F. Attree.

There is however one point in which the Brightonians have an advantage over many other bands in the country, whose capabilities are without doubt equal to the men of "London-on-Sea." Within a radius of a dozen or sixteen miles of Brighton there are almost as many eight-bell towers to which access is easy, and at which permission to ring is willingly granted by "the powers that be."

Of the two attempts which were unsuccessful, one was lost through that common cause which overtakes even the best ringers, namely "a change-course," but, if report be true, it was through a mean despicable action that the other came to grief. No one worthy of the name of a man would cut the ropes in a tower to prevent a band obtaining a peal. And yet this seems to have been done at one tower visited by the Brightonians, for it was surely something more than an accident which caused three ropes to be partially severed. Whoever committed this dirty action must be full of spiteful jealousy. A searching enquiry should be, and doubtless will be held into the matters by the authorities of the church concerned, and the ringers themselves will be exceedingly glad to have such an unpleasant occurrence cleared up.

Sussex, who according to the last analysis published in "The Bell News," stands well ahead of the rest of the Associations of England, received as the result of this "ringing week" a considerable number of points, which will largely assist in establishing the county in a position, which, if it will not be impossible it is highly improbable, that any other Association will attain this year. Although the Surprise peals rung in Sussex at intervals through the year total a goodly number of points, yet the solid addition of 230 in one week by the efforts of a single branch is a substantial help.

The quarterly meeting of the Eastern Division held at Ringmer was well attended, although but few towers were represented. Perhaps the position of the tower, situated as it is at the extreme boundary of the Division, and the fact of it necessitating a three-mile walk in weather which has lately been anything but settled, prevented a larger attendance of members from the district in which the meeting was held, but certain it is that by far the largest portion of those present came from the adjoining Division. But wherever they came from does not detract from the all-important fact that the meeting was successful.

The Vicar very kindly gave the tea and welcomed the Association to his tower. As to the working of the Association he said he knew very little, but he was sure of the creditable, loyal and faithful manner in which the ringers of his church carried out their duties. The Master in thanking the Vicar for his words of welcome, said he did not doubt the loyalty of the Ringmer ringers, but he would like to see, all the same, their names appearing oftener in "The Bell News" in connection with peal-ringing. This is a matter which Mr. Attree always takes opportunity of impressing on the minds of local bands, and it is undoubtedly a fact that in Sussex there is not a band, with but one or two exceptions, which makes any attempt to organise or ring peals. Either they don't care for peal-ringing, or the effort to arrange one is too much for them. Local ringers would do well to take Mr. Attree's suggestions to heart. Occasional Contributor.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(St. Peter-at-Arches Society.)

Before commencing the ringing for Divine Service on Sunday morning, the 27th ult., at the church of St. Peter-at-Arches, Lincoln, Mr. C. W. P. Clifton said the members were well aware that that was the last day they would have the pleasure of the company of Mr. J. R. Mackman (formerly of Spalding), who was about to leave them to join the 2nd Life Guards, and to take up residence at Windsor. The society had felt that his brother-ringers could not let him leave without presenting him with a small token of the esteem and respect which he had won during the two years he had been in Lincoln. Mr. Clifton referred to the rapid progress he (Mr. Mackman) had made, from Grandsire Triples to Surprise methods, during his brief stay, and wished him every success in the army. He was assured that if he conducted himself in the same manner as he had done while in Lincoln, he would win the respect of his comrades. He then presented Mr. Mackman with a case of Sprock's razors, and hoped that when he was preparing to appear on parade with a clean chin, he would be reminded of his friends in the St. Peter-at-Arches society.

Mr. Mackman, in responding, thanked the company for the kindness he had always received from them, and for their tuition in the art of change-ringing. It had always been a pleasure to be amongst them, and he hoped to meet them again in the near future.

A well-struck 504 of Seedman Triples formed the parting touch, rung by Messrs. R. Dawson, G. Flintham, R. E. Clarke, G. W. Bemrose, C. W. P. Clifton, A. Craven, J. R. Mackman, J. W. Watson.

HEXHAM, NORTHUMBERLAND.

A meeting of those interested in the ringing of the bells of the Abbey was held in the vestry on Thursday, the 1st instant, by the invitation of the recently-appointed Rector, the Rev. E. Sidney Savage.

It was decided to form a Guild of Ringers, and rules were adopted. Mr. W. Story was appointed Guild-Master, and Mr. R. J. Conkleton assistant. Ringing for service on Sundays at 10.15 a.m. and 6.0 p.m. Practice on Tuesdays at 7.30 p.m. Any ringer visiting the neighbourhood will be welcome.

JASPER W. SNOWDON'S WORKS.

ROPE-SIGHT: 1s. 6d. FOURTH EDITION. Commences by explaining how to manage a bell; deals with Change-Ringing on three, four, five, six, seven and eight bells in the PLAIN BOB METHOD, giving touches and peals in each case; and closes with instructions for conducting, etc., etc. (143 pages).

STANDARD METHODS: 2s. 6d. THIRD EDITION NOW READY. Contains full explanations and rules for ringing all the best methods, from five to eight bells, with plain-course diagrams of each printed in full, with coloured lines. 40 pages of diagrams and 87 of descriptive letterpress.

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TREBLE BOB. PART I. out of print and under revision. Part I. contains instructions for pricking, transposing, proving, composing, and conducting peals; an essay on the *In and Out-of-course* of the changes; and a history of the various compositions and performances. Part II. contains classified peals of Minor, Major, Royal, and Maximus, with their reverse variations; remarks on the different qualities; particulars of first performances, composers' names, &c., &c. (236 closely printed pages. *Part II.* (136 *closely printed pages*) *may be had separately*, 2s. 1½d.

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

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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, DECEMBER 17, 1898.

AMONG our records in this number will be found one of a peal rung at Basingstoke in Hampshire on the 8th instant. There is nothing out of the ordinary with this performance as such, for it was only the popular ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples of JOHN HOLT'S. But nevertheless it possesses a peculiarity open to comment.

What is this peculiarity? No less than three bells were rung by ladies—the MISSES DORA and ALICE WHITE (daughters of the conductor), and MISS FRANCES WHYLEY (daughter of the Vicar of Alton).

All these ladies have for some time taken a great interest in half-pull ringing, and we have on more than one occasion drawn attention to the fact. The MISSES WHITE have, as is well-known, rung peals before this one, but this is MISS WHYLEY'S first peal, though she has rung some tolerably good lengths.

We think this performance is another proof that the practice of change-ringing, under suitable conditions, is eminently fitted for the gentler sex. We shall doubtless see before long more of them taking a part among

the ropes, perhaps on a light ring we may hear of a peal being rung solely by ladies.

Another record this week also deserves an allusion. This is the 550th peal by the Rev. F. E. Robinson. An analysis of these performances is also given, and to describe such list as wonderful, even in these times, falls short of a complete designation. One hundred peals of Stedman Triples, conducted by one man, is positively an amazing record of prowess. Whether the rev. gentleman has some great feat pending, which may astonish the Exercise still more, we cannot say, though we should not doubt the rumour that a 40,000 was under consideration.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

Glossary of Technical Terms.

Sir,—I am much obliged to you for re-inserting my letter of request for return of Glossary lists, and also wish to thank those who have so far acceded to my entreaty as to reduce the number of lists still out from one half to one third; for of ninety-one sent out, twenty-nine are at this date (December 3rd) still unreturned. I hope these will come to hand during the coming week.

H. Earle Bulwer, *Hon. Sec. C.C.*

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Thursday, December 8, 1898, *in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,*

At the Church of St. Mary, Bow, E.,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Brook's Variation. Tenor 14 cwt.

James Pettit	..*Treble.*	James Scholes..	5.
Richard Turner	2.	Henry Springall	6.
York Green	3.	Emanuel Hall	7.
Samuel Hayes	4.	George Barrell ..	..*Tenor.*

Conducted by Henry Springall.

Rung on the thirty-ninth birthday of Emanuel Hall, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 13, 1898, *in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,*

At the Church of St. Andrew, Enfield,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Holt's Original Reversed. Tenor 18 cwt.

Sydney T. Darlington ..*Treble.*		Percy J. Darlington ..	5.
Alfred W. Darlington	2.	John E. Miller	6.
Sidney Wade	3.	Arthur Miller	7.
Frederick W. Bines ..	4.	Robert R. Johnson	..*Tenor.*

Conducted by Sidney Wade.

The Provinces.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

On Tuesday, December 6, 1898, *in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,*

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5076 CHANGES.

Tenor 27¼ cwt.

F. Brown	..*Treble.*	Wm. Jakeman	6.
Rev. T. L. Jones*	2.	J. Mellor	7.
J. Booth	3.	S. Wood	8.
P. W. Davies	4.	J. Adams	9.
J. Wood	5.	S. Booth	..*Tenor.*

Composed by W. Walmsley, and Conducted by Samuel Wood.

*First peal of Caters.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, KIDDERMINSTER.

On Wednesday, December 7, 1898, *in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,*

At the Church of St. Mary and All Saints,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES. Tenor 30 cwt.

Thomas Wakeman*..	..*Treble.*	Thomas J. Salter	5.
John O. Bennett	2.	*Albert E. Parsons ..	6.
William H. Smith	3.	James Pagett	7.
Noah Davis	4.	Richard E. Grove ..	..*Tenor.*

Composed by Henry Dains and Conducted by R. E. Grove.

*First peal of London Surprise.

SOUTHWOLD, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 8, 1898, *in Three Hours,*

At the Church of St. Edmund,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 13 cwt.

Frederick Lambert	..*Treble.*	Thomas King	5.
Edward Chatton	2.	Charles Kerrison	6.
Arthur Took	3.	Robert Tracy	7.
Albert Lee	4.	Samuel Kerrison ..	..*Tenor.*

Composed by H. Hubbard, and Conducted by F. Lambert.

Rung to celebrate the wedding of Mr. T. King and Miss E. Palmer, which took place the previous Saturday.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Thursday, December 8, 1898, *in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,*

At the Church of St. Paul,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES. Tenor 26 cwt.

Harry Wakley ..	..*Treble.*	Edward I. Stone	5.
William J. Smith	2.	Arthur Wakley	6.
John Benstead..	3.	Joseph Griffin	7.
George Robinson	4.	William Wakley ..	..*Tenor.*

Arranged by Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart., and Conducted by William Wakley.

BASINGSTOKE, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, December 8, 1898, *in Two Hours aud Forty-nine Minutes,*

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Holt's Ten-Part. Tenor 15 cwt.

Dora White	..*Treble.*	Henry White	5.
Alice White	2.	John E. Ballard	6.
Frank Hopgood	3.	John W. Whiting	7.
Frances Whyley*	4.	*Frank Redgate ..	..*Tenor.*

Conducted by Henry White.

*First peal and first attempt. The peal was arranged for Miss F. Whyley daughter of the Rev. F. Whyley, Vicar of Alton, Hants.

GLOUCESTER.

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

On Thursday, December 8, 1898, *in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,*

At the Church of St. Michael the Archangel,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 20 cwt.

Jesse Gillett	..*Treble.*	William T. Pegler ..	5.
Ernest E. Davis	2.	John Austin	6.
Fred. G. May	3.	Robert A. Barratt ..	7.
Francis E. Ward	4.	Arthur E. Pegler..	..*Tenor.*

Composed by H. Johnson, and Conducted by John Austin.

It was intended to have rung a peal of Stedman Caters, but meeting one short the above was rung.

KING'S NORTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 10, 1898, *in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

NOAH DAVIS	*Treble.*	THOMAS J. SALTER	5.
JOHN O. BENNETT	2.	THOMAS WAKEMAN	6.
JOHN S. PRITCHETT	3.	WILLIAM S. PRITCHETT	7.
ALBERT E. PARSONS	4.	RICHARD E. GROVE	*Tenor.*

Composed by CHARLES MIDDLETON, and Conducted by RICHARD E. GROVE.

SHEFFIELD, YORKS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 10, 1898, *in Three Hours and Twenty Minute,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARIE (R.C.),

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 25 cwt.

JOS. MULLIGAN	*Treble.*	HENRY WARD	5.
ROBERT HARRISON†	2.	GEORGE O. DIXON	6.
F. BURGAR	3.	J. A. DIXON	7.
J. EVINSON*	4.	THOMAS CHOWN	*Tenor.*

Conducted by ROBERT HARRISON.

*First peal in the method. †First in the method as conductor. Rung with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the late Thomas Dixon, many years a member of the above society.

HIGHWORTH, WILTS.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 10, 1898, *in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 17¾ cwt. in E.

THOMAS RICKETTS	*Treble.*	ERNEST BISHOP	5.
GEORGE S. BROWN	2.	HENRY ROBERTS	6.
ALFRED LAWRENCE	3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON	7.
JAMES H. SHEPHERD	4.	CHARLES J. GARDINER	*Tenor.*

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

BRENTWOOD, ESSEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 10, 1898, *in Three Hours and Twenty-six Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS-THE-MARTYR,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES. Tenor 19 cwt. 3 qrs. 25 lbs. in E.

ALBERT DEARDS	*Treble.*	ROWLAND FENN	5.
YORK GREEN	2.	THOMAS FAULKNER	6.
HENRY SPRINGALL	3.	SAMUEL HAYES	7.
CALEB FENN	4.	ALBERT C. HARDY	*Tenor.*

Composed by YORK GREEN, and Conducted by THOMAS FAULKNER.

First peal of Superlative on the bells. The band wish, through the medium of this paper, to thank the Vicar for granting permission to ring; also the steeple-keeper (Mr. J. Burgess), for having everything in readiness. The "go" of the bells is excellent.

LEDBURY, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 10, 1898, *in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DARLASTON BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 25 cwt.

CHARLES WATKINS	*Treble.*	FREDERICK SMITH	5.
HENRY W. ALLEN	2.	CHARLES LAYTON	6.
STEPHEN HOPE	3.	ANDREW LAYTON	7.
THOMAS WILLIAMS	4.	*HENRY ELLESMORE	*Tenor.*

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by CHARLES LAYTON.

*First peal. First peal in the method by the treble, 4th, 5th and 7th men.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 10, 1898, *in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF COURT BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 14¾ cwt.

WALTER CHANDLER	*Treble.*	THOMAS ANDREWS	5.
ARTHUR CHARMAN	2.	*WILLIAM STANFORD	6.
WILLIAM HOOKER	3.	JOHN COOK	7.
GEORGE WOODMAN	4.	ALFRED COX	*Tenor.*

Composed by J. J. PARKER, and Conducted by W. CHARMAN.

This peal, which is in eighteen parts, is now rung for the first time. *First peal in the method. It is also the conductor's 100th peal in Warnham belfry.

BRIDGEND, GLAMORGANSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 10, 1898, *in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ILLTYD,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, one of Grandsire Minor and two each of Plain Bob and College Single.

JOHN EVANS	*Treble*	RICHARD EVANS	4.
DAVID J. HURFORD	2.	RICHARD BUNSTONE	5.
JAMES SOUTH	3.	JOHN COX	*Tenor.*

Conducted by JOHN COX.

First peal in five methods by all, and on the bells.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 10, 1898, *in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF REAL DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES. Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lbs.

JOHN J. MAWBY	*Treble.*	WILLIAM PETTITT	5.
ANDERSON Y. TYLER	2.	JAMES GARRATT	6.
WILLIAM V. NEWMAN	3.	WALTER PERKINS	7.
THOMAS R. HENSHER	4.	JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN.	*Tenor.*

Composed by the REV. E. BANKES JAMES, and Conducted by J. HOUGHTON, JUN.

This peal is a reduction of a 6720, all the calls being made in pairs, and is now rung for the first time.

BLOXWICH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Satnrday, December 10, 1898, *in Three Hours,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLIAM H. GODDEN	*Treble.*	THOMAS J. ELTON	5.
WILLIAM R. SMALL	2.	JOHN C. ADAMS	6.
WILLIAM GRIFFIN*	3.	SAMUEL REEVES	7.
THOMAS HORTON	4.	RICHARD W. FROST	*Tenor.*

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

*First peal of Stedman Triples.

ERITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, December 11, 1898, *in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

FREDERICK A. NUNN	*Treble.*	WILLIAM PYE	5.
JOHN H. CHEESMAN	2.	EDGAR WIGHTMAN	6.
ALFRED W. BRIGHTON	3.	HARRY FLANDERS	7.
GEORGE R. PYE	4.	JOSEPH HOARD	*Tenor.*

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

The band wish through the medium of this paper to thank Mr. Hoard for his kind hospitality in entertaining them after the peal. The above is G. R. Pye's 50th peal.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

On Monday, December 12, 1898, in Three Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5040 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 27¼ cwt.

S. BOOTH	*Treble.*	WILLIAM JAKEMAN	7.
W. BROWN*	2.	H. CHAPMAN	8.
J. BOOTH*	3.	J. MELLOR	9.
WALTER JAKEMAN*	4.	B. THORPE*	10.
J. WOOD	5.	A. CROSS*	11.
P. W. DAVIES*	6.	S. WOOD	*Tenor.*

Composed by SAMUEL WOOD, and Conducted by WM. JAKEMAN.

*First peal of Maximus.

SHIPTON, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, December 12, 1898, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

REV. G. F. COLERIDGE	*Treble.*	ALFRED THOMAS	5.
CHARLES HOUNSLOW	2.	FREDERICK WHITE	6.
RICHARD WHITE	3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON	7.
WILLIAM BENNETT	4.	WALTER LONGSHAW	*Tenor.*

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

This is the conductor's 550th peal, and his 100th peal of Stedman Triples as conductor. Rung on the occasion of the Annual Meeting of the Chipping Norton Deanery Branch. A list of Mr. Robinson's peals will be found elsewhere.

WOMBOURN, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Monday, December 12, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BENEDICT,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 10 cwt. 12 lbs.

WILLIAM ROGERS	*Treble.*	WILLIAM DEVEY	5.
JAMES BATE	2.	HORACE SADLER	6.
PERCY SADLER	3.	ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT	7.
RICHARD C. BALCOMBE	4.	E. SIDNEY HODGES	*Tenor.*

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and
Conducted by ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT.

Handbell Peals.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 7, 1898, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. H. BURRELL, ESSEX BUILDINGS, LONDON ROAD,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES. Tenor 21 cwt.

GEORGE R. PYE	1-2.	ERNEST PYE	5-6.
WILLIAM PYE	3-4.	EDGAR WIGHTMAN	7-8.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN, and Conducted by GEORGE R. PYE.

Umpire—W. Watson.

PEAL CORRECTION.—In the report of the peal rung at Mitcham on November 30th, the name of the ringer of the 5th bell should read Ernest C. Lambert instead of Ernest C. Smith.

Date Touches.

FATELEY BRIDGE (Yorks).—On Wednesday, November 30th, for practice at St. Cuthbert's church, a date touch of Bob Minor in 1 hr. 12 mins. *R. Nibbs, 1; S. Bastnett, 2; *A. Haigh, 3; *G. H. Mason, 4; J. Mason, 5; *J. Summersall (composer and conductor), 6. *Longest touch in any method.

Miscellaneous.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—On Sunday evening, November 27th, at All Saints' church, Boyn Hill, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 43 mins. G. Martin (conductor), 1; W. Walker, 2; F. Bissley, 3; W. Brown, 4; J. Eldridge, 5; W. Ayres, 6; J. C. Truss, 7; A. Harding, 8.

BURFORD (Oxon).—On Sunday, November 27th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 42 mins. E. T. Druce, 1; H. Bond, 2; E. Large, 3; C. Packer, 4; T. E. Glanville, 5; T. Bond, 6; W. Large (conductor), 7; G. Parker, 8.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

EDMONTON (Middlesex).—On Sunday, December 4th, for morning service at All Saints' church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. S. T. Darlington, 1; P. J. Darlington, 2; H. Nix, 3; R. Goodchild, 4; J. Lawson, 5; A. W. Darlington, 6; S. Wade (conductor), 7; B. Nix, 8. Composed by G. Watson, of St. Leonard's-on-Sea, and was published in "THE BELL NEWS" of December 3rd, 1898. And for evening service, 504 in the same method, J. Waghorn, sen. ringing the 5th.

SOUTHGATE (Middlesex).—On November 27th, at Christ Church, for morning service, 504 Stedman Triples. J. Miller, 1; P. J. Darlington, 2; A. W. Darlington, 3; A. Miller, 4; W. Pickworth, 5; H. W. Newby, 6; S. Wade (conductor), 7; H. Balaam, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND (Kent).—On September 6th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Butler, 1; H. Lingham, 2; R. Munn, 3; G. Morrad, 4; F. Hayes, 5; L. Silver (conductor), 6. On September 11th, 720 Plain Bob. W. Beer, 1; G. Butler, 2; H. Lingham, 3; B. Spunner, 4; L. Silver, 5; F. Hayes (conductor), 6. On September 25th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Butler, 1; G. Morrad, 2; R. Munn, 3; B. Spunner, 4; F. Hayes, 5; L. Silver (conductor), 6. On October 4th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Butler, 1; L. Silver, 2; G. Morrad, 3; B. Spunner, 4; J. Avis, 5; F. Hayes (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, November 8th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Beer, 1; G. Hayes, 2; R. Munn, 3; G. Morrad, 4; F. Hayes, 5; L. Silver (conductor), 6. First 720 of Treble Bob by W. Beer. On Wednesday, November 9th, 720 Plain Bob. W. Beer, 1; W. Ware, 2; L. Silver, 3; G. Morrad, 4; J. Avis, 5; L. Silver (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. W. Beer, 1; F. Hayes, 2; R. Munn, 3; G. Morrad, 4; W. Ware, 5; L. Silver (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, November 22nd, 720 Cambridge Surprise. H. Lingham, 1; R. Munn, 2; F. Ring, 3; G. Morrad, 4; L. Silver, 5; F. Hayes (conductor), 6.

GRAVESEND (Kent).—On Thursday, November 24th, at St. George's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. J. Avis, 1; R. Munn, 2; G. Hayes, 3; F. Ring, 4; W. Martin, 5; L. Silver, 6; F. Hayes (conductor), 7; H. Simmonds, 8.

EDENBRIDGE (Kent).—On Tuesday, November 1st, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Preston (conductor), 1; J. Edwards, 2; T. Wallis, 3; J. Heasman, 4; J. Steddy, 5; R. Jenner, 6. On Sunday, November 6th, 720 Grandsire Minor. J. Maylan, 1; J. Edwards, 2; T. Wallis, 3; J. Heasman, 4; J. Steddy (conductor), 5; R. Jenner, 6. On Tuesday, November 8th, 672 Grandsire Triples. J. Maylan, 1; J. Steddy, 2; J. Heasman, 3; J. Edwards, 4; J. Preston (conductor), 5; T. Wallis, 6; R. Jenner, 7; P. Smith, 8. On Tuesday, November 29th, 720 Bob Minor with the tenor covering. J. Maylan, 1; J. Edwards, 2; T. Wallis, 3; R. Jenner, 4; J. Heasman, 5; J. Steddy (conductor), 6; P. Smith, 7.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

OXHEY (Herts).—On Sunday, November 6th, for morning service, 588 Stedman Triples. W. Norris, 1; J. B. Bates, 2; G. N. Price (conductor), 3; B. Prewett, 4; H. Martin, 5; W. Norris, 6; C. George, 7; J. Vernon, 8. For evening service 1008 Stedman Triples. A. Lance, 8; the rest as before. On handbells, 652 Grandsire Triples. C. George (conductor), 1-2; G. N. Price, 3-4; H. Martin, 5-6; J. B. Bates, 7-8. On Sunday, November 13th, for morning service, 336 Bob Major. F. Glennerster, 1; J. B. Bates, 2; B. Prewett, 3; W. Norris, 4; Wm. Norris, 5; C. George, 6; G. N. Price, 7; H. Martin (conductor), 8. On Sunday, November 20th, for evening service, a course of Kent Treble Bob Minor. H. Eden, 1; B. Prewett, 2; W. Norris, 3; C. George, 4; H. Martin, 5; G. N. Price, 6. On Sunday, November 20th, for evening service, 308 Grandsire Triples. J. Vernon, 1; H. Eden, 2; C. George, 3; J. B. Bates, 4; Wm. Norris, 5; B. Prewett, 6; G. N. Price (conductor), 7; J. Vernon, 8.

ALDENHAM (Herts).—On Sunday, November 20th, 720 Bob Minor. B. Prewett, 1; W. H. L. Buckingham, 2; W. G. Whitehead, 3; W. Norris, 4; C. George, 5; G. N. Price (conductor), 6.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

PORTSEA (Hants). — On Sunday evening, November 27th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 47 mins. J. Harper, 1; A. D. Stone, 2; F. S. Bayley (conductor), 3; J. T. Matthews (first quarter-peal with a bob bell), 4; A. E. Tomlins, 5; J. Gould, 6; J. W. Whiting (Fareham), 7; E. Newman, 8.

WICKHAM (Hants).—On November 30th, on the occasion of the opening of the belfry, 720 Bob Minor. W. Singleton, 1; W. Cooper, 2; W. F. Churcher, 3; Rev. R. C. M. Harvey, 4; G. Chappell (conductor), 5; J. W. Whiting, 6. And 720 Oxford Single, standing as above, conducted by G. E. Chappell. And 240 College Single. W. F. Churcher, 1; G. E. Chappell, 2; W. Cooper, 3; Rev. R. C. M. Harvey, 4; Cummins, 5; J. W. Whiting, 6.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HECKINGTON.—On Friday, November 18th, 720 College Single. W. Woods, 1; J. Hilton, 3; E. Houlden, 4; T. Woods, 5; J. H. Clark, 6; W. Dickinson (conductor), 7; F. Hilton, 8. On Sunday, November 20th, for service, 720 College Single. H. Nash, 1; J. Hilton, 3; J. T. Holmes, 4; E. Houlden, 5; J. H. Clark, 6; W. Dickinson, 7; W. Houlden, 8. On November 25th, 630 Darlaston Bob Triples. W. Woods, 1; J. T. Holmes, 2; J. Hilton, 3; F. Hilton, 4; E. Houlden, 5; J. H. Clark, 6; W. Dickinson, 7; H. Wash, 8. First touch of Darlaston Bob Triples by all the band. All conducted by W. Dickinson.

HALE MAGNA (Lincolnshire).—On Thursday, November 8th, for practice, 720 College Single, in 29 mins. J. W. Woods, 1; C. Ward, 2; J. R. Green, 3; T. Humberstone, 4; T. B. Woods, 5; T. T. Taylor (conductor), 6. On Thursday, November 24th, on the occasion of the re-opening of the church, 720 Bob Minor, in 28 mins. J. R. Green, 1; R. Masters, 2; C. Ward, 3; T. Humberstone, 4; T. B. Woods, 5; T. T. Taylor (conductor), 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BLACKBURN BRANCH.

BURNLEY (Lancashire).—On Sunday, November 6th, 704 Kent Treble Bob Major. T. Knowles, 1; R. Ashworth, 2; N. Townend, 3; R. Hartley, 4; D. Campbell, 5; D. Heys, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. On Tuesday, November 8th, 720 Woodbine. T. Knowles, 1; R. Ashworth, 2; R. Hartley, 3; D. Heys, 4; F. Towns, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. On Sunday, November 13th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Walton, 1; R. Hartley, 2; D. Campbell, 3; N. Townend, 4; D. Heys, 5; R. Ashworth (conductor), 6. On Sunday, November 20th, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. T. Knowles, 1; F. Towns, 2; N. Townend, 5; R. Hartley, 4; D. Campbell, 5; T. Redman, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; R. Ashworth (conductor), 8. Also for evening service, 720 Kent. W. Walton, 1; R. Hartley, 2; T. Redman, 3; N. Townend, 3; T. Mouncey, 5; R. Ashworth (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, November 22nd, 720 Kent. R. Hartley, 1; D. Heys, 2; T. Redman, 3; W. Walton, 4; F. Towns, 5; R. Ashworth (conductor), 6. On Sunday, November 22th, 720 Kent. T. Knowles, 1; D. Campbell, 2; W. Walton, 3; N. Townend, 4; R. Hartley, 5; R. Ashworth (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Kent. D. Campbell, 1; T. Redman (conductor), 2; W. Walton, 3; R. Hartley, 4; T. Mouncey, 5; R. Ashworth, 6.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BATTLE (Sussex).—On Sunday morning, November 27th, for Divine Service, 168 Grandsire Triples. W. H. Eldridge, 1; W. Eastland, 2; W. J. Thomas, 3; C. J. Hyland, 4; C. R. Carter, 5; A. H. Saxby (Canterbury), 6; W. Franks (conductor), 7; J. Sinden, 8. On Tuesday, November 29th, 518 Grandsire Triples. J. Sinden, 1; W. Franks, (conductor), 2; W. Eastland, 3; F. Mathis, 4; W. H. Eldridge (longest length), 5; J. Livermore, 6; W. J. Thomas, 7; A. Saunders, 8. Also 504 Oxford Bob Triples. F. Mathis, 1; S. Saker, 2; W. J. Thomas, 3; F. Lock, 4; C. J. Hyland, 5; C. R. Carter, 6; W. Franks (conductor), 7; J. Sinden, 8. On Saturday, December 3rd, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples which was lost owing to a change-course, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples in 47 mins. W. H. Eldridge, 1; C. Hyland, 2; W. Thomas, 3; F. Lock, 4; S. Saker, 5; C. Carter, 6; W. Franks (conductor), 7; J. Sinden, 8. First quarter-peal in the method by Messrs. Eldridge, Lock, Saker, Carter, and Sinden.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THORNHAM MAGNA (Suffolk). — On Saturday, December 3rd, for practice at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Doubles in 47 mins. in the following methods: The Dream, Morning Star, April Day, St. Dunstan's, Fortune, St. Simon's, London, Plain Bob, and Grandsire. E. Youngs, 1; E. Buckingham, 2; W. Rose (longest length), 3; J. Buckingham, 4; A. Symonds (conductor), 5. Also a 6-score of Stedman Slow Course. E. Youngs, 1; C. Nunn, 2; J. Buckingham, 3; E. Buckingham, 4; A. Symonds (conductor), 5. First in the method by all.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

WITTON, NORTHWICH (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, November 8th, at St. Helen's church, 720 Grandsire Minor. W. Forster (conductor), 1; S. Forster, 2; S. Johnson, 3; G. Johnson, 4; J. Bell, 5; A. Johnson, 6. On Thursday, November 17th, 720 Bob Minor. S. Johnson (conductor), 1; S. Forster, 2; R. Chantler, 3; G. Johnson, 4; J. Bell, 5; A. Johnson, 6. On Saturday, November 19th, 784 Bob Major. G. Johnson (conductor), 1; W. Sutton, 2; S. Johnson, 3; S. Forster, 4; R. Chantler, 5; A. Johnson, 6; J. Bell, 7; W. Forster, 8.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PORTISHEAD.—On Tuesday, November 22nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins. R. Cottle, 1; E. Knight, 2; G. Tippitt, 3; L. Moore, 5; A. Gale, 5; J. Nisbitt, 6; W. Gillingham (conductor), 7; C. Urch, 8. First quarter-peal by all and on the bells. On Sunday, November 13th, 720 Bob Minor. G. Acker, 2; R. Cottle, 3; S. Moore, 4; A. Gale, 5; J. Nisbitt, 6; W. Gillingham, 7; C. Urch, 8. First 720 by Messrs. Acker and Urch.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

WILLESDEN (Middlesex).—On Thursday, December 1st, at St. Mary's church, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. W. Burrows, 1; H. Kirby, 2; S. Wade (conductor), 3; A. Pittam, 4; F. Richardson, 5; A. Tennant, 6. And 720 Double Oxford Bob. R. George, 1; W. Burrows, 2; A. Tennant, 3; F. Richardson, 4; S. Wade (conductor), 5; A. Pittam, 6. First in the method by all except W. Burrows, and first 720 in the method on the bells. Also several courses of Double Stedman Slow Course Minor.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUNDERLAND.—On Sunday, November 6th, for morning service at Holy Trinity church, 504 Bob Triples. R. Miller, 1; F. Naisby, 2; W. Smallwood, 3; T. Ditchburn, 4; T. H. Naisby, 5; J. J. Leighton, 6; J. Naisby (conductor), 7; T. Brass, 8. On November 8th, for practice, 840 Bob Triples. On November 15th, 840 Bob Triples and 350 Grandsire Triples. On November 20th, on the occasion of the Mayor and Corporation attending church, 532 Bob Triples was rung for service. After service 840 Bob Triples. All conducted by J. Naisby. On November 29th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. F. Naisby, 1; R. Miller, 2; W. Smallwood, 3; T. Ditchburn, 4; T. Naisby, 5; J. J. Leighton, 6; J. Naisby (conductor), 7; T. Brass, 8. In reference to the peal of Bob Triples rang on Tuesday, November 22nd, it was the first peal on the bells by a local band; also first peal by J. Naisby, as well as the first as conductor. On Sunday morning, December 3rd, for Divine Service at the church of St. Ignatius the Martyr, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles, called differently. W. Denteth, 1; G. S. Taylor, 2; R. H. Blakey, 3; J. W. Parker (conductor), 4; R. Patterson, 5. This is the first time Doubles have been rung for service by the local band.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—On Sunday evening, December 4th, 504 Grandsire Triples. E. Hern, 1; T. Teasdale (conductor), 2; W. Hunt, 3; A. Tully, 4; J. Browell, 5; J. Hern, 6; C. E. Waugh, 7; A. Dowell, 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRISTOL. — On Wednesday, November 30th, at St. Stephen's church, 1152 Superlative Surprise Major. C. H. Horton, 1; F. Elles, 2; W. Knight, 3; J. D. Matthews, 4; C. H. Tomkins, 5; C. H. Gordon, 6; T. Radford, 7; W. J. Hinton (conductor), 8.

YATTON (Somerset).—On Saturday, November 26th, at the parish church, 2528 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. J. Jones, 1; F. Elles, 2; W. Knight, 3; J. D. Matthews, 4; C. H. Tomkins, 5; C. H. Gordon, 6; T. Radford, 7; W. A. Cave (conductor), 8. This is the first in the method on the bells, and was brought round at the request of one of the band, instead of going on for the peal.

ARELEY KINGS (Worcestershire).—On Wednesday, November 16th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. W. Bowen, 1; W. Martin, 2; J. Reynolds 3; E. Mapp, 4; C. Beaman, 5; T. Griffiths (conductor), 6. On Monday, November 21st, 720 Bob Minor. T. Griffiths, 1; E. Mapp, 2; J. Reynolds, 3; W. Martin, 4; C. Beaman, 5; J. Earp, 6. On Wednesday, November 23rd, 720 Grandsire Minor. E. Mapp, 1; J. Reynolds, 2; J. Earp, 3; T. Griffiths, 4; C. Beaman, 5; W. Martin (conductor), 6. Also on Friday, December 2nd, 720 Oxford Bob. E. Mapp, 1; W. Martin, 2; T. Griffiths, 3; J. Reynolds, 4; J. Earp, 5; C. Beaman (conductor), 6.

BEARSTED (Kent).—On Saturday, December 3rd, the Boxley ringers visited Bearsted, to have an evening with the local band, and rang 720 Grandsire Minor. H. Stubbs (first 720), 1; Rev. A. L. Brine, 2; J. Shorter, 3; A. Arnold, 4; W. Kilpatrick, 5; G. Pound (conductor), 6. Also 600 Grandsire Minor. C. Attwood, 1; A. Arnold, 2; J. Shorter, 3; W. Hope, 4; W. Kilpatrick, 5; G. Pound (conductor), 6.

BILSTON (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, November 26th, an attempt to ring Cox's six-part peat of Grandsire Triples came to grief after ringing 2 hrs. 43 mins., owing to the tenor rope breaking. H. Harper, 1; S. Pitt, 2; E. Unitt, 3; J. Harper, 4; J. A. Brown (conductor), 5; J. Adams, 6; W. Smith, 7; W. Eyre, 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled to the memory of the late Richard Harper.

BRISTOL.—On a recent Sunday after Divine Service at St. Michael's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire and Bob Doubles. J. Thomas, 1; F. Isaacs, 2; E. Hauberg, 3; S. Thomas (conductor), 4; A. Isaacs, 5; G. Thomas, 6. On Thursday, November 10th, 720 Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. A. Stowell, 1; W. Lea, 2; S. Thomas (conductor), 3; R. Clark, 4; A. Isaacs, 5; F. Isaacs, 6. First 720 by A. Stowell, and first 720 with a bob bell by Messrs. Lea and F. Isaacs. And 360 Bob Minor in 12 mins. S. Thomas (conductor), 1; W. H. Lea, 2; W. H. Thomas, 3; E. Hauberg, 4; F. Isaacs, 5; A. Isaacs, 6. Longest touch of Bob Minor by E. Hauberg. On December 4th, at All Saints church, 1248 Superlative Surprise Major, in 47 mins. W. Paddock, 1; A. Pearce, 2; H. Pring, 3; G. Pearce, 4; H. Tucker, 5; W. Porch, 6; G. T. Daltry, 7; H. Porch (conductor), 8.

CANTERBURY (Kent).—On Sunday, November 25th, at St. Alphege church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. E. Waghorn, 1; G. G. Jenkins, 2; Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, 4; M. W. Pierce (conductor), 4; F. G. Brett, 5; P. H. Pierce, 6.

DARLASTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, November 20th, 1260 Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. J. Mark, 1; T. Lowe, 2; J. Adams, 3; N. Kibble, 4; W. Smith, 5; E. Unitt, 6; J. A. Brown (conductor), 7; J. Jones, 8.

FROME (Somersetshire).—On Saturday, November 19th, at the parish church, an attempt for a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples came to grief after ringing 600 changes. This attempt was made on the occasion of the last attendance of one of the band, Mr. W. Prescott (who conducted), previous to his leaving for Scotland. H. Gaisford, 1; W. Bishop, 2; F. Rebbeck, 3; H. Scammell, 4; E. Fricker, 5; H. Nutley, 6; W. Prescott, 7; C. Wareham, 8.

KING'S NORTON (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, November 20th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. H. Withers, 1; F. Clayton (conductor), 2; A. Pritchett, 3; J. Pritchett, 4; W. S. Pritchett, 5; T. Pritchett, 6; E. J. Withers, 7; G. Cooper, 8. On handbells 378 Grandsire Triples. W. Palmer, 1-2; F. Clayton, 3-4; W. S. Pritchett, 5-6; H. Withers (conductor), 7-8.

LEICESTER.—On Sunday evening, November 27th, at St. Martin's 504 Grandsire Triples. T. Palmer, 1; G. Cleal (conductor), 2; J. C. Hill, 3; G. Burrows, 4; C. Fowler, 5; C. R. Lilley, 6; A. Martin, 7; S. Cotton, 8. And 252 Stedman Triples. A. R. Aldham (conductor), 1; G. Cleal, 2; J. O. Lancashire, 3; G. Burrows, 4; C. Fowler, 5; S. Cotton, 6; C. R. Lilley, 7; A. Martin, 8. Tenor 22 cwt. Rang on the back eight.

RUGBY (Warwickshire).—On Monday, November 28th, at St. Andrew's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins. J. Coales, 1; R. Watson, 2; A. J. Gillings, 3; S. Hall, 4; J. George (composer), 5; A. Dubber (conductor), 6; H. King, 7; J. W. Shotton, 8.

STRATTON STRAWLEY (Norfolk).—On Thursday, November 24th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. A. Smithson, 1; H. Smithson, 2; R. Hook, 3; J. Laws, 4; J. Hardingham, 5; W. Rought (conductor), 6.

SEDBERGH (Yorks).—On Wednesday, November 30th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. W. Pennington, 1; R. Ibbotson, 2; J. E. Senogles, 3; R. Atkinson, 4; F. S. J. Pile, 5; G. F. Woodhouse (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. This was rung on the occasion of the first anniversary of the dedication of the bells, and it is the thirty-third 720 rung by the local band since they started to learn to ring a year ago.

WILBURTON (Cambs).—On Sunday, October 2nd, for morning service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Markwell, 1; Jas. Markwell, 2; H. Sharp, 3; A. Hazel, 4; W. Smith (conductor), 5; H. Markwell, 6. For evening service 720 College Single. H. Sharp, 1; Jos. Markwell, 2; W. Smith (first in the method as conductor), 3; A. Hazel, 4; H. Markwell, 5; J. Markwell, 6. On Monday, November 1st, 720 Bob Minor. R. M. Croft, 1; Jas. Markwell, 2; J. Markwell, 3; W. Smith (conductor), 4; H. Markwell, 5; H. Sharp, 6. On November 6th, 720 Kent. J. Markwell, 1; Jas. Markwell, 2; H. Markwell, 3; A. Hazel, 4; W. Smith (conductor), 5; H. Sharp, 6. Also 720 Woodbine. A. Hazel, 3; H. Markwell, 4; H. Sharp, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6; the rest as before. On November 13th, 720 Merchants' Return. J. Markwell, 1; Jas. Markwell, 2; H. Markwell, 3; A. Hazel, 4; H. Sharp, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6. On November 20th, 720 Violet. J. Markwell, 1; H. Sharp, 2; H. Markwell, 3; A. Hazel, 4; W. Smith (conductor), 5; A. Markwell, 6. This is W. Smith's first 720 in the last two methods.

Obituary.

HARRY CHARLES WOODWARD.

We regret to announce the death of the above named ringer, of Derby, at his residence, on November 28th, aged forty years. He was interred in the new cemetery, Nottingham Road, Derby, on Thursday, December 1st. The deceased was one of the founders of the Midland Counties Association, and conducted its first peal on June 23rd, 1882, at St. Alkmund's, Derby. He had rung seventy-five Association peals, many of which he conducted. Derby has lost one of its most prominent ringers, and one who has done much for the advancement of the Art in his locality, and as a last tribute of respect and esteem the following band rang on Tuesday evening, December 6th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled, in 50 mins., at St. Alkmund's church, this being the first place he rang at in Derby. T. Anthony, 1; J. W. Thompson, 2; L. L. Lomas, 3; C. Draper, 4; A. E. Thompson (conductor), 5; S. Maskrey, 6; J. Newbold, 7; S. Smedley, 8.

THOMAS DIXON.

The St. Marie's branch of the Yorkshire Association regret to announce the loss of a member, Mr. Thomas Dixon, who, after a long and painful illness, borne with great patience, died on Sunday, December 4th, in the Royal Infirmary, Sheffield. Born at York, in 1850, he early turned his attention to the art of ringing, and in 1874 he took part in a peal of Stedman Triples at St. Marie's, and in 1876 he conducted peals on handbells, Kent Treble Bob Royal, and Grandsire Triples, and Grandsire Caters in 1897. These peals were rung at York by the Minster company. He was one of the first to join the Yorkshire Association, under whose report he has thirty-eight peals in various methods to his credit, the greatest number of which he conducted. These, however, are only a portion of the peals in which he took part, as he was also a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and as such took part in and conducted many peals in and around London. He came to Sheffield (a second time) and during the past seventeen years had been actively connected with the St. Marie's Society. He acted as judge on several occasions at ringing contests. He was an excellent conductor, and teacher to the new beginner, always ready to ring when his services were requested; a man widely known and as much respected. He was borne to his last resting place in the Wardsend Cemetery on Thursday, December 8th, by four of his fellow workmen, and followed by others, and representatives from the various towers in the district. A course of Grandsire Triples was rung at the grave-side, and a muffled peal on December 10th.

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."

THE HEREFORD PEAL.

SIR,—Your reference to the late Mr. James Burford in last week's "BELL NEWS" woke up many pleasant memories of my long acquaintance with that gentleman. I endorse all you say as to his high character as a ringer and man, and I am sure he would not have said he had rung a peal if such was not the fact. I think our friend Mr. Groves may rest satisfied that his was not the first peal rung at Hereford. Besides, things of that kind are so easily forgotten, note the two peals of Treble Bob Royal rung at Bromsgrove, one rung in 1851, the other in 1854, yet in 1896 or '97 there was no one left in Bromsgrove who knew anything about their ever having been rung.

Harborne, Birmingham. J. DAY.

P.S.—We had no "BELL NEWS" in those days.

NORTH'S ENGLISH BELLS AND BELL LORE. Illustrated. Price 12s., Postage 6d. Should be in the hands of all Bell lovers.—W. H. EATON, Publisher, Leek, Staffs.

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

Middlesex County Association.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, to-day, Saturday, December 17. Tower open at 4 p.m. The Vicar, the Rev. H. G. Bird, with his usual kindness, will provide tea at 6 p.m. All members and ringing friends are cordially invited.

C. EDWARDS, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

Lampton, Hounslow.

Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Weston-super-Mare, to-day, Saturday, December 17th. Short service in the parish church at 4 p.m. with an address by the Rector. Tea and business meeting after at Glass's restaurant, Regent Street. The bells of the parish church will be available, also Worle and Uphill.

HY. W. TOMKINS. *Hon. Sec. and Treas.*

Sussex County Association. — Western Division.—Next meeting at West Tarring to-day, Saturday, December 17. Members are requested to send numbers to Hon. Sec. All subscriptions for this year should be sent in at once. J. W. G. LODER COTHER,

Yapton Vicarage. *Hon. Sec.*

The St. Andrew's Society, Netherton.—The first annual dinner in connection with the opening of the two new bells will be held on Tuesday, December 20th, at The Five Ways inn, Netherton. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m. sharp. Tickets, 1s. 6d. each, may be obtained from the undersigned, and should be applied for not later than the 17th inst.

JOHN SMITH.

36, *Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.*

The Llandaff Diocesan Association.—The Christmas Quarterly Meeting will be held on Monday, December 26th, at Magor, Mon. There will be a service at St. Mary's church at 2.30. Meeting in the schoolroom at three o'clock. The bells will be available for ringing all day. Members who have not already done so, are kindly requested to pay their subscription for the current year at this forthcoming meeting. REV. D. H. GRIFFITHS, } *Hon.*
H. G. WHITE, } *Secs.*

DEATH OF THE VICAR OF CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.—The Rev. John Barrett-Lennard, M.A., Rector of Crawley, died on Tuesday afternoon. Born in 1839, he entered the Royal Engineers, obtaining his lieutenant's commission. Relinquishing the army, he went to Magdalene College, Cambridge, and graduated in 1864 in the Second Class of the Theological Tripos, with distinction in Hebrew. He was ordained the same year to the curacy of St. Jude's, Chelsea, and was presented to the Vicarage of Fauls, Salop, in 1866. Ten years later he was appointed rector of Crawley, the church of which parish he completely restored and enriched with wood carvings executed by himself. Mr. Lennard was a practical change-ringer.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. A. Walker has removed from 180, Walford Road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham, to 23, Primrose Avenue, Poplar Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

"BELL NEWS" WANTED.—Wanted "BELL NEWS" No. 636. Will give 1s. or any reasonable price.—E. W. ALLEN, Ave Maria Lane, London, E.C.

ST. JAMES'S, BURY ST. EDMUNDS.

Writing on the subject of church expenses in the *St. James's Magazine*, the Vicar (the Rev. George Hodges) says: "There is always the possibility of unlooked-for expenses arising in a large building like St. James's church. Now we have two items which have been sprung upon us; one entailing an expense of £45, and the other about £45. The boiler of the heating apparatus is quite worn out, and must be replaced at once; and four of the bells require to be rehung, as they are not considered, by the bellfounder who has examined them, safe. The question has also arisen whether it may not be well to take this opportunity of extending the heating apparatus along the north side of the church to the west end, so as to have another coil in the north-west corner, where there is, at present, no stove. The advantage of the scheme will be at once apparent, but it will require another £100 to execute it. This means that a sum of £185 must be raised. The subject is receiving the anxious consideration of the authorities, who hope shortly to make a proposition that will be acceptable to the parisioners, as to the best means of accomplishing it."

Every one acquainted with the truly beautiful ring of bells in the Norman tower of St. James's church will be pleased to hear that the bellhanger has been called in. This church should be the great rallying centre of ringing for West Suffolk.

LAKENHEATH, SUFFOLK.

Following upon the publicity recently given to the fact that an ancestor of the Sirdar was born here, Lord Kitchener of Khartoum entered into correspondence with the Vicar of Lakenheath (the Rev. F. G. Scrivener), kindly requesting him to furnish all the particulars he could. When his Lordship was at Cambridge last Mr. Scrivener went to see him by appointment, accompanied by Mr. Edwin J. Rolph. They made their way to Christ College Lodge, the residence of Dr. Peile, at whose house the Sirdar was entertained. In the interview which followed, Lord Kitchener expressed his thanks to the Vicar for all the trouble he had taken to get the particulars concerning his ancestors. It is worthy of mention that the oldest gravestone in Lakenheath churchyard is that of Thomas Kitchener. This stone stands almost opposite the south porch of the church, and is dated April 9, 1731. His Lordship having had his attention drawn to his Lakenheath associations, the bell with his ancestor's name upon it will have been noticed. At present there are five bells there. Why not now add a 6th? The Rev. W. W. Crump is just the man to set the idea afloat.

COOK'S TEN GUINEA TOUR.—We have received from Messrs. Thos. Cook and Son their illustrated programme of popular tours for the winter and spring season, and are struck by the large number of attractive excursions which it contains for the inclusive sum of ten guineas. Not only may tours ranging from ten to seventeen days be made to Rome, or to Nice, Cannes, and Mentone; or again to the Swiss Riviera on the sheltered shores of the Lake of Geneva, to Davos Platz, and other similar places, but even yachting cruises in the Mediterranean of thirteen days' duration, visiting Algiers, the Balearis Islands, Tunis, Palermo, Naples, and other interesting places by the Steam Yacht "Midnight Sun."

WANTED a peal of 15 Second-hand Handbells. Mears and Stainbank's make preferred.—Apply to ABEL WRIGHT, 11, Livingstone Street, Lees, near Oldham.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

At the meeting of the Central Committee of this Association, held at Rochester on Saturday, December 10th, 1898, the following resolutions were passed:—

(1) That the next Annual General Meeting be held on Whitsun-Monday at Ashford, or, failing that, at Hythe.

(2) That the travelling expenses of only one Central Council Representative be paid by the Association when the C.C. meeting is held in the provinces, unless anything particularly affecting K.C.A. be on the agenda.

(3) That at their summer meeting the Committee add to their number so many practising members as they shall see fit.

(4) That the next December meeting of the Committee be held at Maidstone.

F. J. O. HELMORE, *Hon. Sec.*

NOTICE.

Our next number will be accompanied by a portrait of Mr. T. J. Salter, of Kidderminster. With this issue is given the last handbell coupon. Coupons must reach our office not later than the first post on Saturday, January 7th. There are four prizes of handbells, viz.: one peal of eight; one of ten; one of twelve; and one of fifteen. These prizes will be awarded generally to those sending the highest number of coupons, but we may require evidence that the numbers containing the coupons have been purchased by the individual sending them. On the whole matter of distribution we shall exercise a wide discretion, which must not be brought into question. It may be added that we are much obliged to those readers who have complimented us on such an enterprise, but the result leads us more firmly to believe in the conviction that gratuitous actions meet with small encouragement.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

WANTED Situation as Tinsmith. One used to shop work. Ringer in various methods. Member of the Yorkshire Association.—E. WHEATER, Alma Street, Cutler Heights, Bradford, Yorks.

COMP.—Good all round Ness and Jobbing Hand, requires sit. Young, Society, experienced. Change-ringer.—R. JONES, 27, Lamb pit Street, Wrexham.

WANTED.—Situation as tinsmith; at liberty after Christmas; ringer in various methods; member of the Yorks and Newcastle Associations. W. Heckingbottom, South Bailey Gate, Pontefract.

WANTED by a steady reliable man, a situation as a painter or in any other light capacity; a good change-ringer in the standard methods. Terms moderate. Address, W. Brook, Mr. J. Fitter, 41, Bath Street, Birmingham.

CLERK AND BOOKKEEPER seeks situation; age 21. Ringer in Superlative, Stedman, Double Norwich, etc. Apply, Wm. Rudd, 44, High Feversham Street, Middlesbrough, Yorks.

WANTED a situation in any capacity. Change-ringer on eight bells. Age 22; single. Address—F. Greenwood, Station Road, Saffron Walden, Essex.

COMP.—Good Comp. requires permanency. Change-ringer. J. O. Neill, Framlingham, Suffolk.

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FIFTY HANDBELLS by Mears. Chromatic Scale. Apply to W. Reed, 66, Saville Street, North Shields.

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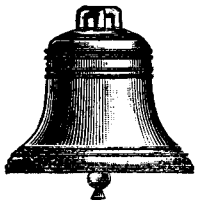

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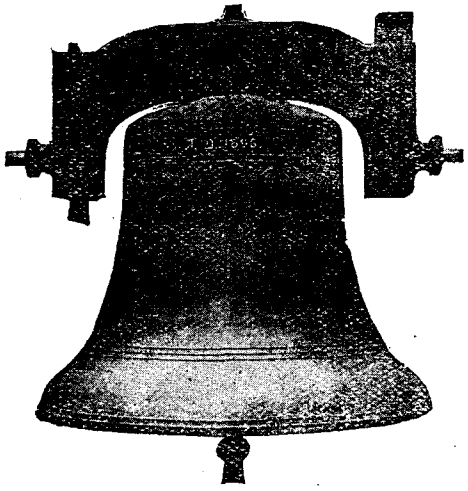

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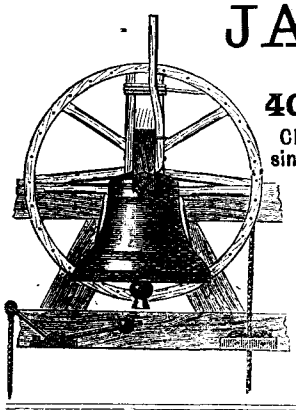

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