

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 931.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1900.

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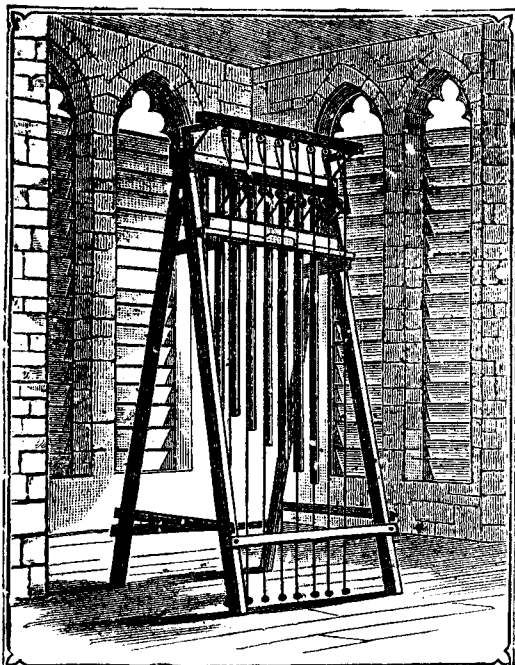
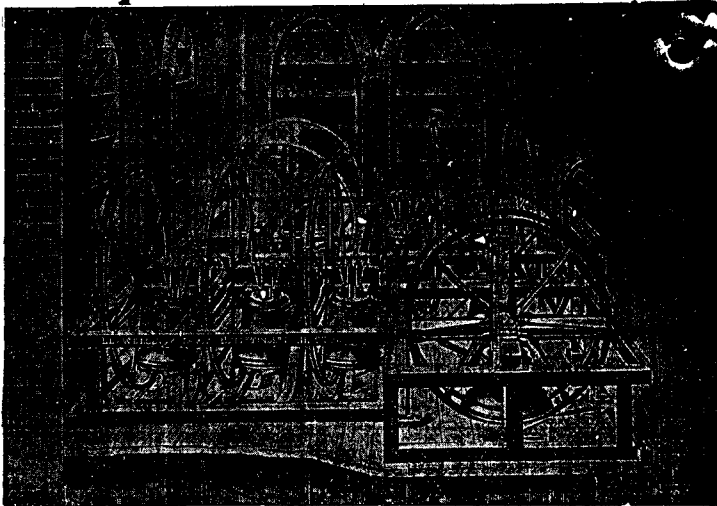
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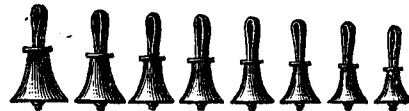
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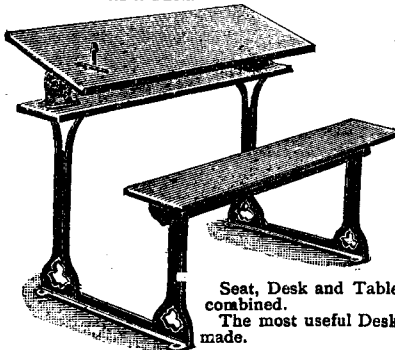
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No. 931.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1900.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Croydon on Monday, January 29th. The bells of St. Peter, South Croydon, a ring of eight, tenor 27 cwt., were opened soon after 3 o'clock, and were rung to Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob Major until 6 o'clock, when the members who came from St. Peter's and St. John's (Croydon), Beddington, Benhilton (Sutton), Betchworth, Carshalton, Cheam, Ewell, Epsom, Guildford, Leatherhead, Mitcham, and Streatham sat down to a meat tea at the Church House, which adjoins the churchyard. The tea, which was admirably served by Mrs. Butt, gave way to the business meeting, at which the Rev. John White, the Rector, presided. The Rector cordially welcomed the members of the Association, and hoped they would come again in due course. He was pleased that the local company had succeeded in ringing two peals during the past year, although they were only able to have the use of the bells for peal-ringing on rare occasions, in consequence of the complaints which reached him and the local press from near residents.

The minutes of the previous quarterly meeting having been read and duly confirmed, it was proposed by the Hon. Secretary, seconded by Mr. C. H. Kitching (South Croydon), that the accounts and committee's report as printed be adopted. The report states that the year commenced with a balance in hand of £28 15s., 10d., and that the receipts had exceeded the payments by £2 3s. 4d., making the balance on deposit at the post office and in hand on the 31st December £30 19s. 2d. During the year twenty-six Association peals had been rung, bringing up the total rung since the foundation of the Association in 1880 to three hundred and ten. During the year three honorary, two life, and thirty-six performing members were elected, the respective totals at the end of the year being thirty-four, twenty-six, and two hundred and forty-seven. The report, which was printed at the office of this paper, included details of the peals rung during the year, lists of members, a summary of peals rung for the Association by past and present members, and an analysis of the peals rung to the end of 1899. The adoption of the report was agreed to with the exception that the question as to dividing the Association's area into districts was ordered to be dropped.

Referring to the report of the Committee, which stated that the Association had lost an old member and one of its auditors in the death of Mr. George Pell, it was proposed by the Hon. Secretary, seconded by Mr. Charles Bance (Beddington), and resolved unanimously, that a vote of condolence be passed to the family of Mr. Pell.

The Hon. Secretary proposed, Mr. Henry Brooker (South Croydon) seconded, and it was resolved, that the committee as appearing in the printed report be the committee for the ensuing year. The Rev. A. S. W. Young was reappointed Hon. Treasurer on the proposition of Mr. Harry Kenten (Epsom), seconded by Mr. Joseph

Fayers (Mitcham); and Mr. Charles Dean was re-elected Hon. Secretary on a motion proposed by Mr. C. Kitching, seconded by Mr. C. Bance.

Messrs. William Canning (Cheam) and Henry Brooker were appointed auditors, and a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Samuel Greenwood, who retired from the post of auditor in consequence of ill-health. Mr. Greenwood having replied, it was resolved that Dr. A. B. Carpenter and the Hon. Secretary be appointed delegates to the Central Council for the ensuing three years.

The Hon. Secretary reported that since the last meeting the following peals had been published in "THE BELL NEWS" as rung by members of the Association:—

- 29th Oct., 1899, Treble Bob Major at Rusper.
- 9th Nov., " Grandsire Triples at Ashted.
- 18th Nov., " Grandsire Triples at Bletchingley.
- 19th Nov., " Treble Bob Major at Horley.
- 16th Dec., " Double Norwich Conrt Bob Major at Carshalton.
- 26th Dec., " Grandsire Triples at Dorking.
- 28th Dec., " Grandsire Caters at Beddington.
- 6th Jan., 1900, Grandsire Caters at Beddington.
- 6th Jan., " Grandsire Triples at Leatherhead.
- 20th Jan., " Grandsire Triples at Ashted.
- 27th Jan., " Oxford Bob Triples at Ashted.

It was resolved that the same be recorded as peals by the Association.

The next business was to fix the place of the next meeting, which would be on Easter Monday. Leatherhead, Sutton, Kingston, and Ranmore Common were proposed, and the first-named was chosen. The following new members were elected: the Rev. John H. White (the Rector's son and curate at St. Peter's), hon. member; Messrs. W. J. Freakes (Guildford), W. H. Poplett (Ewell), W. J. Chambers and C. R. Lilley (unattached), B. Wadmore and A. Winterton (life); and the election was ratified of Messrs. A. Arnold (life) J. Akehurst (Capel), H. F. Songhurst and W. J. Songhurst (Dorking), W. Tiller (South Croydon), W. Cropley and H. Wood (Leatherhead), J. Worsfold, G. Paice, and J. H. Blythman (unattached).

Mr. Lover (South Croydon) proposed, Mr. Joseph Fayers seconded a vote of thanks to the Rector for presiding, and for the use of the bells; and a vote of thanks proposed by Mr. Percy Sylvester (one of the St. Peter's churchwardens) to the Hon. Secretary concluded the business.

Besides the members present there were also Mr. John Sims Smith (churchwarden, and the Rev. J. H. White (curate), the total attendance being fifty-two. After the meeting the ringing members rang on the church bells touches of Treble Bob and Double Norwich, and a course of Superlative Surprise Major, the ringers taking part in the latter being A. Trappitt, E. Walker, H. Brooker, C. Dean, C. R. Lilley, J. Fayers, E. W. Bray, C. Bance.

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, Danston Vicarage, Reading, Berks.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(READING BRANCH.)

The annual meeting of this branch was held at Reading on Monday, January 29th. Soon after 6 p.m. the bells of St. Laurence were set in motion, and continued in short touches till 7 p.m., when a short service was held, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. R. P. Newhouse, who extended to the members present a hearty welcome. Tea had been arranged for 7.30, and at hour fifty-six members sat down to an excellent repast at the Abbey Cafe Restaurant. The Master (the Rev. F. E. Robinson) was present, and with him the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, W. P. Routh, Esq., Rev. R. F. Hankins, and representatives from most of the towers in union.

At the business meeting the chair was taken by the Rev. F. E. Robinson (in the unavoidable absence of the branch chairman), and having to leave early asked to have the toast list first. They were the usual three: "The Queen," "Oxford Diocesan Guild," and "The Father." "The Queen" was enthusiastically honoured; ringers being amongst the most loyal subjects.

In proposing the toast of The "Oxford Diocesan Guild," the Master thanked the members of the Reading branch for the support they had accorded him during the past year. By their help much good work had been done for the Guild. He was sorry to say they had lost their talented instructor, J. W. Washbrook, and the Caversham men having seceded from the Guild had somewhat reduced the number of Surprise ringers. However, he trusted the Reading men would stick at the higher methods, and if wanted he himself would come to Reading to practice with them.

The Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis said he was glad to say the finances of the Guild were in an excellent state, but for some reason the numbers fell a little short of 1898. The number of peals however created a record, being 84.

The third and last toast was "The Father," and the good old annual was well received. Mr. Robinson said there was no need for him to say as to who was meant by "the father"; he might just look for one moment over in the corner to see the father was there. Everyone knew the good work he had done amongst ringers.

Mr. Newell said he hoped to see his children gathered together at many such pleasant evenings.

The Master made a few remarks as to whether the peals he rang with Reading branch men counted as branch peals, and to test the feeling of those present, Mr. F. Hopgood proposed that such peals rung with the Master in the past should not count for the branch. No one seconded, but all present were unanimous that such peals should be included.

Mr. A. W. Pike here put in the balance-sheet, which showed a balance of £3 16s. od., and the same was passed on the proposition of Mr. Newell, seconded by Mr. Hern.

The officers of the branch were all re-elected, viz.: Chairman—J. M. Routh, Esq.; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer—A. W. Pike; Representatives on General Committee—C. Giles, C. Chapman, and A. W. Pike.

The Rev. F. E. Robinson having to go, he was accorded a hearty vote of thanks, and the chair was taken by the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis.

The report of the Reading Branch showed that ninety-six change-ringers, three probationers, and seven towers in union; eighteen peals had been rung, including eight

of Stedman Triples, one of Stedman Caters, and three of Treble Bob.

A very hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar of St. Laurence for kindly giving a service: also to the organist and choir. The company regretted the absence from the meeting of the Rev. R. P. Newhouse, but it was unavoidable, the rev. gentleman having been "commandeered" by Justice Bruce and the Sheriff of Berks. to dine with them that evening.

From now till eleven o'clock the time was pleasantly spent in song, under the chairmanship of W. P. Routh, Esq., those contributing to an excellent programme being Messrs. W. Newell, H. Goodger, A. E. Reeves, F. Sweetzer, W. Williams, R. Chapman, H. Burley, and A. Cullum; a short touch of Grandsire Triples also being rung in hand. The meeting wound up with a verse of the National Anthem, thus bringing the evening to a successful termination.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

A Committee of the above was held on Wednesday, January 31st, at 4, High Town, Hereford. There were present the Very Rev. the Dean, the Revs. H. C. Sturges, G. W. Turner, and A. C. Lee (Hon. Secretary and Treasurer), Messrs. R. Marston (Ludlow), John Jones (Hereford), J. Cartwright (Foy), Thos. Williams (Eastnor), T. Smith (Cradley), and W. S. Evans (Colwall). Mr. R. Marston took the chair. After letters of apology for non-attendance read from Archdeacon Stanhope, the Master (F. G. Buchanan), and others, the accounts were presented, shewing a balance of £17 7s. 4d., and passed with acclamation. Matters for the Report were considered; rules for the ringing of Doubles and Triples are to be added.

Subject to the consent of the Rector and churchwardens, it was decided to hold the Annual Festival at Church Stretton on Thursday, June 21st.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Hon. Secretary for his services to the Guild.

In the afternoon some touches were well rung on the Cathedral bells.

DEDICATION OF NEW BELLS AT SHARES-HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Saturday, January 27th, the little village of Shares-hill was enlivened by the sound of a new ring of bells just cast and placed in the tower by Messrs. Taylor. The bells are a very nice little ring of six, and of very fine tone, tenor about 9 cwt. There was a service in the afternoon, the Bishop of Lichfield preaching the sermon, his lordship dedicating the bells and several other articles, the gifts of the Vicar and parishioners.

The bells are the gift of Mr. A. L. Vernon, D.L. For service a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung by J. Birch, W. Barton, F. Edwards, A. Turley, J. C. Adams (conductor), and J. Elton; this being the first 720 on them.

After service the afternoon was spent by the ringers ringing another 720 of Grandsire Minor and several 6-scores of Doubles, and touches of Grandsire Minor by the same band, Mr. A. Painter ringing the treble.

The whole of the ringing company belong to All Saints, Bloxwich, and are members of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford. They were very pleased with the tone and the "go" of the bells, which were everything that could be desired.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(CENTRAL DIVISION.)

Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather on Saturday last, February 3rd, a good muster turned up at the quarterly meeting at Horley, Surrey. (By the way, Horley is just over the Sussex boundary, but the local band there has always well supported the Sussex Association, hence the meeting). Representatives were present from Brighton (St. Peter's), Hurstpierpoint, Lindfield, Balcombe, Cramley and Horsley, the company also included Mr. I. G. Shade (Greenwich), Mr. H. P. Harman (Bromley), and Mr. G. Davey (Red Hill).

The bells were raised at 3 p.m., and kept going in various touches till tea time, which was held at 6 p.m. at The Six Bells inn (an old hostelry built in the fifteenth century), twenty-three sitting down, presided over by the Rev. H. T. Lewis, Vicar of Horley.

The business meeting which followed proved of rather more than usual interest. The minutes of the last meeting were read by the Hon. Secretary (Mr. G. Williams), and confirmed. Only one new member was forthcoming for election, viz., an additional member to the Bolney band. A suggestion was then made by the Hon. Secretary, that a resolution should be passed at this meeting for consideration at the next committee meeting and thence to the annual, that provided funds permit, a privilege should be granted to members attending these district meetings, as from experience he was sure this would prove an inducement to get a much larger attendance, as for some time past these meetings had not proved a success. Mr. E. C. Merritt (St. Peter's, Brighton) also spoke very strongly in favour of the suggestion; he (Mr. Merritt), had attended a large number of these meetings and quite endorsed what the Hon. Secretary had said.

It was then proposed by Mr. F. W. Rice and seconded by Mr. G. Paice, "That provided funds permit, this Association allow members attending district meetings a moiety of the railway fare." This was carried unanimously.

Mr. Merritt then in some well-chosen remarks, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar (Rev. H. T. Lewis), for granting the use of the bells, for presiding at the tea and meeting, also for his very generous donation towards defraying the expenses of the tea. This was seconded by Mr. Gasson and carried with acclamation.

The Vicar in responding thanked all present for the very hearty way in which he had been received. He was very pleased to have the honour of presiding at this meeting, he thought they were fortunate in getting the Association "over the border." He heartily welcomed them to Horley, and hoped they would come again. He was pleased to say they had a capital band of ringers at Horley, and although he did not meet them on practice nights, he could hear them from outside. He also spoke of their punctuality on Sundays, remarking that there always seemed a kind of Freemasonry amongst church bell ringers.

The meeting terminated with a course of Grandsire Triples on the handbells. The tower was again visited and various touches rung till 8.30 p.m.

A social hour was then spent with the Horley men who gave several selections on the handbells, and a couple of songs by Mr. W. Dart (Hurstpierpoint), "Our Johnnie," and "The Red, White and Blue." Before parting a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. A. Songhurst, the captain of the Horley band, for the excellent arrange-

ments made, this having proved the most successful meeting held during the last twelve months in the Central Division.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Taunton branch was held in St. James's tower on Saturday, the 27th of January, 1900. Members put in an appearance from St. James's, St. Mary's Milverton, Wiveliscombe and Wilton. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. It was moved by Mr. J. Burge that they should try to improve the Taunton branch in ringing altogether more than they had done in the past. Also that they should elect a chairman at the meeting instead of having a yearly chairman. It was proposed and seconded that Mr. J. Maddock be re-elected secretary and treasurer. It was proposed by Mr. E. E. Burgess, and seconded by Mr. J. Burge that the next meeting be held at Curry Rivel. The following touches of Grandsire Triples were brought round, 518 1260, also 378. This brought the meeting to a close.

THE YORK MINSTER SOCIETY.

On Saturday, February 3rd, the anniversary of this company was celebrated by a most sumptuous dinner which was put on the table by host Breed of The Lowther hotel, Queen's Street, to which, as is usual, justice was done by spoiling the look of the dishes provided in such a profuse style. Afterwards the chair was occupied by Mr. J. W. Cundall, the President, under whose rule the different toasts was proposed, viz., "The Queen and Royal Family," "The Archbishop, Dean, and other members of the Church," "The Donors to the Feast," "The City Member," "The Yorkshire Association," responded to by one of the Vice-Presidents, and "The Press," not omitting "THE BELL NEWS," and others. Harmony was contributed by Mr. Hodgson, Mr. Homer, and Mr. Haigh. Several courses on the handbells, including three leads of Treble Bob Major, was rung by Messrs. Earnshaw, Breed, T. Haigh, and Morrell. Harmony and good feeling was kept up till the usual hour, when the toast of next merry meeting was proposed, and then the parting.

RANMOOR, SHEFFIELD, YORKS.

On Wednesday evening, January 24th, the local company had their annual supper at The Ranmoor inn, a most excellent repast being served by Mr. and Mrs. Walker, which to judge by the remarks of some and silence of others, was in every way appreciated. After the cloth was removed, Mr. F. Allen was voted to the chair. He proposed the usual loyal toast, which was honoured as it should be, and the ball was kept rolling with tunes on the handbells and songs in great variety by Messrs. Walker, Noble, Evinson, Haynes, Sawyer, and Thomas, which were varied by a few more toasts, and a hearty vote of thanks to the host and hostess and the chairman. The singing of Auld lang syne brought to a close a very enjoyable evening.

MIRFIELD (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, January 28th, at St. Mary's church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Royal, 1900 changes, in 1 hr. 22 mins. G. Thornton, 1; H. Robinson, 2; T. Crawshaw, 3; H. Peacock, 4; R. Ellis, 5; H. Hinchliffe, 6; D. Clarkson, 7; C. Peacock, 8; F. Robinson (composer and conductor), 9; B. Robinson, 10. Tenor 30 cwt.

A BRIEF CONSIDERATION OF A FEW POINTS CONNECTED WITH THE HISTORY OF RINGING.

By R. A. DANIELL.

(Continued from page 437.)

In the chapter to which I have already referred, Sir Walter Besant gives an account of a Sunday holiday far more wonderful than that with which I concluded last week. In connection with Laughton's time, the whole chapter should be read, but perhaps the London Sunday of the period forms as remarkable a contrast as anything to what we are accustomed to now. To begin with, religious observance was practically confined to the bearing of sermons of what was called "sound doctrine" to which the reading of the liturgy had become a mere prelude. One consequence arising partly from this singular view of Divine Worship was that what we now know as the Parochial System had got into abeyance. The thing was practically congregationalism for Sunday meetings. The idea of common religious interests between different classes was almost lost, and little attempt was made to deal with increasing population. The church accommodation outside the City was altogether inadequate, and what we now call parochial organisation was impossible. Whether people went out for the day on Sunday or stopped at home, they had no need to usurp the description of bona fide travellers. Licensed houses and entertainment gardens were open all day long, and were resorted to by crowds of people. Laughton and his friends cannot be said to have made a bad use of their day. If Laughton had gone to his parish church, St. Andrew's, Holborn, he would probably have found the accommodation monopolised by the wealthy residents of Hatton Garden (then well inhabited), and other more well-to-do parishioners. He would not find himself wanted or missed, and as he had probably never had enough instruction in the liturgy to appreciate it, he was in my opinion much better employed in walking to Tottenham than in listening to the "sound doctrine" of his Georgian rector; and when one realises how many people then did—and naturally did under the conditions of their period—spend their Sunday in roving about among places of entertainment, one also realises that the members of the club who went out for health exercise and a definite object of a scientific nature, and when refreshing themselves could and did discuss topics of rational interest, were surely at least making a much better use of the day than many of their equals and betters, who frittered it away at Vauxhall Gardens or Bagnigge Wells, or tumbled all day long in taverns in town.

On November 21st, 1734, they rang seventeen dozen and a half of sixes at St. Bartholomew-the-Less, after which they went to The Cock and Crown in Little Britain, a noted house for birds and bird fanciers. Laughton writes some lines about the birds he heard talked of by frequenters of the house—carrier pigeons among others. He ends—

"For from the eagle to the wren
There I heard discours'd of by some men.
I would write more upon the matter
But in the art of birds I do but smatter,
For indeed I want the proper words
That's used by them that fancy birds."

On December 22nd, 1734, they rang 720 Morning Exercise on the back bells at Christ Church, Spitalfields. They met at The George in Houndsditch, where "Mr. Greenwood and Mr. Davis gave us for supper two legs of mutton, roasted and stuffed with pickled herrings, which was as fine eating as ever was ate. The stuffing was composed of pickled herrings, sweet marjoram, pennyroyal, thyme, parsley, onions, beef suet, crumbs of bread, grated nutmeg and whites of eggs, the herrings minced small and mixed with the other ingredients. Three herrings is enough for a leg of 12 pounds, and four for one of 15 or 16. Ours weighed 12 pounds each, so there was six large herrings used to them both. They were stuffed without cutting of holes in the meat, as they do in a buttock of beef or a fillet of veal, for the stuffing of these was crammed down by the knuckles where there is a cavity to be found in the middle of the leg near the bone, though not quite at it. The stuffing of

these went down quite to the bottom of the legs, and so up to the knuckles, that when they were stuffed they looked half as big again as they did before. As they roasted the herrings dissolved among the other ingredients, and left not the least taste of fish behind, but gave the stuffing the finest flavour that can be imagined, nor was there the least taste of fish in the dripping, for we had several sops made in it to taste. The goodness of this dish few will believe without they eat on't."

If any ringers should venture upon this dish at a festival or meeting, I hope they will write Mr. Editor and tell us how they liked it.

The fiftieth and last meeting of the Club took place at Will Coster's on March 8th, 1735, where Laughton stood a supper of a shoulder of veal roasted, and two plum puddings. They met to talk over what they had accomplished.

"Our pleasant walks the summer past
And whate'er we'd done from first to last,
Which seemed to yield us much delight
For merrily we spent the night.
A song sometimes came in betwixt
And was agreeably intermixed,
For songs well sung and tales well told
Are to conversation the life and soul,
And store of mirth will seldom fail
Where there is good cheer and merry tale.
To friends and foes I wish the like
Whene'er they meet by day or night."

Laughton appends certain tables and figures, from which we learn that in this volume he wrote 1684 lines "without the prose." Also that in their fifty meetings the Club rang 53,228 changes. The methods rung were Grandsire, Old Doubles, New Doubles, St. Simon's Doubles and Cambridge Delight on five bells; College Single, Plain Bob, Court Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Morning Exercise and Cambridge Surprise on six bells; Grandsire Triples on seven bells; and Bob Major and Union Bob on eight bells. The use of this latter term for Treble Bob Major is explained by Mr. Snowdon. Laughton also uses the word "cramp," which is now, I think, regarded as meaningless; but of course the word must have originally been applied to other than plain methods above six bells for some reason. I cannot find in dictionaries anything which helps to the meaning of such a word in such a connection, and if any of your readers can throw any light on the history of this word, I shall be much interested.

Among one or two other minor things in the book is an account of a sail down the Thames to Sheppey. In some verses addressed to Gilbert and Greenwood (two members of the club) explaining his inability to keep an appointment with them because of going on this expedition, Laughton says—

"If the Sterling Castle we can find
Captain Geary will use us kind;
We hope to find him in our rounds
Either at the Nore or in the Downs."

This I take to indicate Francis Geary, afterwards Admiral Sir Francis Geary, who rang in the College Youths Bob Maximus peal at St. Bride's in 1726. Laughton must have known him, as they both rang in it. Laughton, however, does not appear to have met with him on this occasion, nor shall I extract anything from his account of this expedition except the quaint phrase that he caught some "scuttlefish that spews a natural ink."

The great interest of this manuscript of Laughton's arises from the fact that it is a record made, of his own fancy, of the proceedings of himself and his friends. It has no object to teach people anything, it was not written with a view to publication, nor is it anything but a transparently natural account written by a good-humoured man. The extracts I have given are good samples of the whole—indeed I have selected those which appeared to me most interesting as conveying most information as to the habits and people concerned. There are two or three passages of indelicate suggestion, but only two or three, and the writing is much more free than one would have expected from the coarseness so prevalent at the time. On one or two occasions, perhaps, Laughton, or some one else, shews himself rather self-assertive in dealings with outsiders, but the

impression left on one's mind on closing the volume is that of a good-humoured set of men, fond of healthy exercise and honest mirth, self-respecting and intelligent, probably good average specimens of the younger and middle-aged members of the London Exercise. They were the same fellows as ourselves in essence; different only in respect of the habits of their day. They drank considerable quantities at times, but they do not seem to have got incapacitated by what they took, unless indeed in one or two cases the word "tired" applied to an individual carries a suggestion with it. One feels one would like to have joined them in a ramble, or to have been one of the party at Davis's or Coster's, and that there was about them plenty of that nature which brings us all into sympathy.

It may be complained of these ringers that they were secular. They certainly were; but did they in this practically differ to any extent from their contemporaries? Take their Bishops, for example. Laughton and ringers generally regarded bells as things set up at the public expense to be used for pleasure. The Bishops as a class regarded Sees as State institutions to be used for profit. They took them—sometimes after intriguing for them—on the terms that their real business was to attend regularly in the House of Lords and vote steadily in support of the party of the Minister who appointed them; after this their next duty was to use their patronage to the utmost for the benefit of their relatives and friends, and then, these two important things attended to, they were at liberty to attend to their dioceses if and so far as their private convenience permitted. Excellent men! Let us be more charitable to them than the clergy so often are to the old ringers, and insist that if they are to be judged at all they must be judged by the standard of the age which produced them. They were extremely respectable and often men of ability, and they no more doubted about the propriety of their views and the virtue of their conduct than Major Pendennis did about his. The immortal Butler was not yet on the bench, and of course an assertion as to a class is not meant to admit of no exception. Still, it seems to me that the difference in view between these Bishops, as a class, and the clergy of our day is at least as great as that between our clergy and the old ringers. It would be interesting if the clerical members of the Exercise would tell us whether in the matter of Church principles of any kind they find any practical difference between William Laughton and the *Ramblers' Club* on the one hand, and, say, Archbishop Potter and Bishop Hoadly on the other? and if so in what respect?

So I now leave Laughton for the present, and turn to a brief consideration of the subject of the non-consumption of drink in London change-ringing towers, to which I have already alluded.

(To be continued.)

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

In the early history of this Society one of the favourite places of resort of its members was the pretty village of Beddington with its pleasantly situated church and fine peal of bells—many years however having elapsed since a visit was paid there it occurred to one or two of the present day members whether arrangements could not be made for another visit to this quaint little spot.

Permission for a peal was readily granted through the good offices of Mr. Bance the steeple-keeper, who at the same time intimated to the Waterloo men that the Beddington Company were holding their annual supper on the evening in question, and would be pleased if the visitors could conveniently spend a social hour with them, after their energies in the ringing direction had been exhausted.

Such a welcome and courteous invitation as this could not but be taken advantage of, and a representative band was easily found willing to undertake the journey to Beddington. Saturday 20th January, was the day appointed, and the party in two sections duly arrived at Waddon station at 5 o'clock. Those of the party who were travelling in strange country happily had the advantage of the company of our good friend and treasurer Mr. Malim, who associated as he has been with Beddington and the neighbourhood for so many years, kindly acted as a guide to the excursionists during the evening. The tower was very soon

reached, and everything being in readiness, the bells were raised and set going to Stedman Caters, the late George Newson's well-known 5006 being the composition chosen. The "go" was all that could be desired and good striking was maintained until the welcome "that's all" was called. Upon descending the band were congratulated upon their feat by many listeners including the veteran Edgar Bennett.

Needless to say the object in view of the party, after mind and muscle had been so well exercised, was to avail oneself of the invitation extended by Mr. Bance. Accordingly The Plough inn was soon reached where the Waterloo men, who were received with cheer, found themselves surrounded by mirth and conviviality.

Curiously enough at this particular part of the programme the health of the visitors was given by the chairman, who congratulated the Waterloo Society upon their performance, which he understood had been successfully accomplished, but which he had had no opportunity of hearing.

Mr. Malim responded, and the visitors not to be outdone by their hosts in harmony, by way of further reply rang a course of Grandsire Caters upon a fine peal of handbells, by Messrs Shaw of Bradford, which had been brought down by Mr. W. H. Fussell, and which were admired by the Company: H. Langdon, 1-2; W. H. Fussell, 3-4; G. S. Symonds, 5-6; R. Charge, 7-8; H. Barton, 9-10.

The time for departure arrived only too quickly, but leave was not taken until the Beddington men had been warmly invited to a similar function proposed to be held by the Waterloo Society on the 17th of February, which invitation was greeted with much cheering. London was again safely reached, and in spite of the inclemency of the weather and the lateness of the hour, the men appeared none the worse—in fact, the present generation of Waterloo heroes seemed to regard these outings as part of their peal-ringing programme, and certainly the opportunity of scoring a peal in such a clean and comfortable tower as Beddington, with its pleasant surroundings, should not be made light of, contrasting strangely as it did with the condition of the ringing chambers of some of our principal churches in the heart of the Metropolis.

The thanks of the Waterloo Society are hereby tendered to the Rector of Beddington and to all those concerned who helped to make their outing a success.

THE BEDDINGTON (SURREY) SOCIETY.

The annual supper of this society was held at The Plough, Beddington, on Saturday, January 3rd. The company included ringers and friends from Carshalton, Croydon, and Sutton, and in the regretted but unavoidable absence of the Rector, the Rev. H. A. Hodgson, the chair was occupied by Mr. Charles Bance, the vice-chairman's duties falling to Mr. C. H. Kitching, of South Croydon. Mr. Sanders' fare having received full attention, the cloth was removed, and the evening devoted to harmony. The toast of "The Queen" was received with musical honours. A course of Grandsire Triples was rung on the hand-bells by A. Trappitt, 1-2; F. Holden, 3-4; C. R. Lilley, 5-6; and J. Fayers, 7-8. Mr. Bert Handley, who ably accompanied the songs, gave a selection on the pianoforte. The toast of "The Army, Navy and Reserve Forces" having been honoured, a long programme of songs was got through. The toast of the "Beddington Company" was proposed by the chairman, as was also that of "the Visitors," the latter being responded to by Messrs. Malim (London), Holder (Carshalton), Kitching (South Croydon), and Dean (Sutton). The chairman in proposing the health of the Rector, said he had heard only at the last moment that that gentleman would be unable to be present, and he felt sure, therefore, that something very unforeseen and unavoidable had occurred to cause his absence. The toast was drunk with musical honours. The members of the Waterloo Society, who during the early part of the evening rang a peal, afterwards joined the company at The Plough for a short time, as will be found above.

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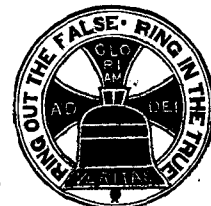
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Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1900.

THE adjuncts of winter, we are told, have so much affected the health of certain districts that it has been found necessary to postpone ringing meetings for a time in the respective neighbourhoods. We need not gather from this that any great number of members of the Exercise are rendered unfit for ringing by reason of illness, but that many inhabitants within the hearing of bells are incapacitated through the rigour of the season. The severe weather just now needs a great amount of personal care indeed, if we would successfully withstand the dreaded influenza and all its accompaniments. This subtle monster has played havoc with more than one of our staff during the past fortnight; at present we are without the co-operation of a valued and popular contributor. The practice of ringing thus requires our friends to be careful; many belfries are treacherous places, and chronic colds, leading to other complications, have before now been correctly attributed to disregard of warm apparel while staying in them.

The Metropolis.**THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, January 27, 1900, in Two Hours Fifty-eight and ½ Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL HALLOWS, TOTTENHAM,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' ONE-PART.

Tenor 18 cwt.

HENRY BARNETT Treble.	GEORGE B. LUCAS* 5.
RICHARD GOODCHILD* 2.	LEWIS J. DARLINGTON 6.
WILLIAM BENNETT 3.	JAMES PARKER 7.
WILLIAM WARD 4.	ARTHUR T. KING Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES PARKER.

*First peal in the method. This is the first time Thurstans' one-part has been rung by the above Association. [This is a corrected report from last week.]

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE ST. STEPHEN'S SOCIETY, WESTMINSTER.*On Saturday, February 3, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 24 cwt.

JOHN N. OXBORROW Treble.	HENRY S. ELLIS 5.
HENRY R. NEWTON 2.	JOHN M. HAYES 6.
JOHN W. GOLDING 3.	WILLIAM H. PASMORE 7.
ARTHUR G. ELLIS 4.	CHARLES T. P. BRICE Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW, and
Conducted by CHARLES T. P. BRICE.**THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, February 3, 1900, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, EDMONTO

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES.

Tenor 17½ cwt.

RICHARD GOODCHILD* .. Treble.	WILLIAM WARD 5.
JOHN R. SHARMAN 2.	*LEWIS J. DARLINGTON .. 6.
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 3.	JAMES PARKER 7.
CHARLES WILKINS 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by J. PARKER.

*First peal in the method.

The Provinces.**THURLASTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.****THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.**

(NUNEATON DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, January 27, 1900, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being eight 6-scores of St. Simons, fourteen of Plain and twenty of Grandsire.

Tenor 17½ cwt. in F.

J. WRIGHT Treble.	W. A. NEEDHAM 3.
J. H. SWINFELD 2.	C. BELTON 4.

A. R. ALDHAM Tenor.

Conducted by A. R. ALDHAM.

This is the first peal on this grand ring, and was arranged to oblige J. Wright, who is one of the local band, and has recently joined the Association, it being his first peal.

SANDHURST, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(SONNING BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, January 30, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720s each called differently.

J. PITTS Treble.	J. BRINN 4.
H. WATTS 2.	C. SMART 5.
A. WOODERSON 3.	A. E. COUSINS Tenor.

Conducted by A. E. COUSINS.

First peal by the local band

NORTON FITZWARREN, SOMERSET.**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Wednesday, January 31, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of City Delight, London Scholars' Pleasure, College Exercise, College Pleasure, Woodbine, Duke of York, and Violet.

Tenor 16 cwt.

JOHN SLOMAN* Treble.	HENRY CHAPLIN 4.
HENRY J. CREED 2.	TOM W. CREED 5.
ISAAC CREED 3.	JOHN CRIDLAND Tenor.

Conducted by ISAAC CREED.

*First peal.

MITCHAM, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.*On Wednesday, January 31, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes*

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION.

ROBERT SEWELL Treble.	JOSEPH FAYERS 5.
JAMES D. DREWITT 2.	ALBERT CALVER 6.
JOSEPH A. LAMBERT 3.	WILLIAM S. SMITH 7.
CHARLES R. LILLEY 4.	LEWIN C. FERRIGE Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM S. SMITH.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, KIDDERMINSTER.***On Wednesday, January 31, 1900, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF SHIPWAY MAJOR, 5002 CHANGES.

ERNEST C. HUNT Treble.	THOMAS WAKEMAN 5.
NOAH DAVIS 2.	THOMAS R. BENNETT 6.
THOMAS J. SALTER 3.	JOHN CRANE 7.
WILLIAM H. SMITH 4.	RICHARD E. GROVE Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by R. E. GROVE.

The above is the first peal rung in the method.

PORTISHEAD, SOMERSETSHIRE.**THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Thursday, February 1, 1900, in Three Hours,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt.

T. WYATT Treble.	G. TIPPITT 5.
E. KNIGHT 2.	J. NISBITT 6.
L. MOORE 3.	W. GILLINGHAM 7.
A. GALE 4.	C. URCH Tenor.

Conducted by W. GILLINGHAM.

First peal by all, and first peal on the bells.

BRISTOL.**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, February 3, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS'.

Tenor 18 cwt. in E.

JOHN THOMAS Treble.	RICHARD CLARK 5.
FRED G. MAY 2.	WILLIAM A. CAVE 6.
HENRY PRING 3.	GEORGE T. DALTRY 7.
WILLIAM KNIGHT 4.	WILLIAM BEVAN Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE THOMAS DALTRY.

MAIDENHEAD, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.*On Saturday, February 3, 1900, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, BOYNE HILL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 17½ cwt.

G. L. BODDINGTON Treble.	CHARLES CHAPMAN 5.
FRANK BISSLEY 2.	WILLIAM NEWELL 6.
JOHN C. TRUSS 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
REV. HAROLD C. BELL .. 4.	REUBEN SAWYER Tenor.

Conducted by the Rev. F. E. ROBINSON.

BORDEN, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.*On Saturday, February 3, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 23 cwt.

WILLIAM EASTER Treble.	CHARLES R. MILLWAY .. 5.
WILLIAM HAIGH 2.	ALFRED WM. DARLINGTON 6.
WILLIAM SPICE 3.	SIDNEY WADE 7.
ERNEST MEXTER 4.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE .. Tenor.

Composed by A. KNIGHTS, and Conducted by THOS. GROOMBRIDGE.

This is the first peal of Major on the bells for nearly a century, and was rung as a birthday compliment to C. R. Millway, the band wishing him many happy returns.

PRESTBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

(CHELTENHAM AND DISTRICT GUILD.)

On Saturday, February 3, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE. Tenor 14½ cwt.

W. T. PATES Treble.	W. DYER 5.
F. WADE 2.	*F. COURT 6.
G. H. PHILLOTT 3.	T. PENDRY 7.
C. POCKETTS 4.	J. BALLINGER Tenor.

Conducted by T. PENDRY.

*First peal.

SUNDERLAND.**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, February 3, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,*

AT BISHOPWEARMOUTH PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 11½ cwt.

ROBERT C. HUDSON .. Treble.	†JOHN NAISBY 5.
JOSEPH W. PARKER* .. 2.	ROBERT W. LOVIE 6.
JOHN J. LEIGHTON† .. 3.	WILLIAM T. ROBSON .. 7.
THOMAS RICHARDSON* .. 4.	†ROBERT L. PATTERSON .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM T. ROBSON.

*First peal. †First peal in the method.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.**THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, February 3, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5312 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt. in E flat.

JOHN CREASEY Treble.	WILLIAM E. BULLOCK .. 5.
GEORGE PERRY 2.	JAMES G. RUMSEY 6.
WILLIAM GRIMES 3.	WILLIAM C. RUMSEY .. 7.
GEORGE THURLOW 4.	ALFRED W. GRIMES Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, of Chesterfield, and Conducted by WILLIAM C. RUMSEY.

The above peal is a two-part composition with the 4th, 5th, and 6th their extent in 6ths place, and is now rung for the first time. Rung as a compliment to A. Grimes on the occasion of his nineteenth birthday, which occurred a few days previous, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.—LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.*On Saturday, February 3, 1900, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF THE SAVIOUR,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 20½ cwt.

THOMAS PEERS Treble.	TITUS BARLOW 5.
JOSEPH LOWE 2.	JOSEPH POTTER 6.
A. EDWARD WREAKS .. 3.	JOHN POTTER 7.
ALFRED POTTER 4.	WILLIAM BARLOW Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN POTTER.

READING, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.*On Tuesday, February 6, 1900, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

CHARLES GILES Treble.	ALFRED E. REEVES 5.
G. L. BODDINGTON 2.	FRANK HOPGOOD 6.
ALFRED W. REEVES 3.	HENRY TUCKER 7.
FREDERICK SWEETZER .. 4.	ALBERT E. REEVES Tenor.

Composed by J. BUCKLEY, and Conducted by ALBERT E. REEVES.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

DUNSTER, SOMERSET.**THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

(THE DUNSTER GUILD.)

On Tuesday, February 6, 1900, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 21 cwt.

JAMES HOLE Treble.	THOMAS A. ELLIOTT .. 5.
GEORGE STACEY 2.	JAMES R. JONES 6.
ALBERT HOLE 3.	JAMES GRABHAM 7.
ALBERT J. CHILCOTT .. 4.	JOHN PAYNE Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES GRABHAM.

This is the conductor's 50th peal.

Handbell Peals.**ROMFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.***On Wednesday, January 31, 1900, in Two Hours and Nineteen Minutes,*

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

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'.

GEORGE R. PYE 1-2.	ERNEST PYE 5-6.
WILLIAM PYE 3-4.	*LEONARD W. COPSEY .. 7-8.

Conducted by GEORGE R. PYE.

Umpires—W. Watson and H. F. Dawkins. *First peal on handbells.

Date Touches.

CHESTERFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, January 14th, for Divine Service, a date touch of 1900 Grandsire Caters, in 1 hr. 12 mins. W. Nuttall, 1; A. Craven, 2; W. J. Thyng, 3; D. Farthing, 4; G. Davies, 5; S. Price, 6; W. Worthington, 7; J. Hunt, 8; A. Knights (conductor), 9; G. Mee, 10. Composed by J. W. Bayley, of Stockport.

Miscellaneous.**THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

STRYNING (Sussex).—On Saturday, January 20th, 2512 Bob Major. W. Palmer, jun., 1; L. E. Sears, 2; G. Gatland, 3; F. W. Steele, 4; F. R. Dearing, 5; G. A. Steele (first attempt at Major), 6; W. Palmer, 7; K. Hart (conductor), 8.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

STAINES (Middlesex).—On Thursday, January 7th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 336 Grandsire Triples. S. Greenwood, 1; A. Wicks, 2; W. E. Butler, 3; T. Sadler (conductor), 4; J. Durrant, 5; T. C. Couch, 6; P. Richardson, 7; G. Harrison, 8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—LIVERPOOL BRANCH.

GRASSENDALE.—On Sunday, December 3rd, for evening service at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor. J. Turner, 1; R. Green, 2; F. C. Newton, 3; T. Morris, 4; J. T. Lowe, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 10th, for evening service, 720 Grandsire Minor. R. Green, 1; J. Turner (first 720 in the method), 2; F. C. Newton, 3; T. Morris, 4; J. T. Lowe (conductor), 5; J. Allen, 6. On Sunday, December 24th, for evening service, 720 Grandsire Minor, composed by R. Johnson, Farnworth, and published in "THE BELL NEWS" of December 16th, 1899. J. Turner, 1; R. Green, 2; F. C. Newton, 3; T. Morris, 4; J. T. Lowe (conductor), 5; J. Allen, 6. On Christmas morning, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Turner (conductor), 1; R. Green, 2; F. C. Newton, 3; T. Morris, 4; J. T. Lowe, 5; J. Allen, 6. On Sunday evening, January 14th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. J. Turner (conductor), 1; R. Green, 2; F. C. Newton, 3; T. Morris, 4; J. T. Lowe, 5; J. Allen, 6. On Sunday evening, January 21st, for Divine Service, 720 Grandsire Minor standing as before, conducted by R. Green. On Sunday evening, January 28th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Turner, 1; R. Green, 2; F. C. Newton (conductor), 3; T. Morris, 4; J. T. Lowe, 5; J. Allen, 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

MISTLEY (Essex).—On January 14th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 25 mins. E. Hills, 1; B. Bridges, 2; J. Souter, 3; W. Honeywood, 4; W. Last, 5; A. Fuller (conductor), 6.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

HECKINGTON (Lincolnshire).—On October 23rd, 840 Union Triples. T. Woods, 1; J. T. Holmes, 2; J. Hilton, 3; E. Houlden, 4; J. Clark, 5; H. P. Nash, 6; W. Dickinson (conductor), 7; W. Houlden, 8. On November 5th, 630 Oxford Bob Triples. F. Hilton, 1; J. T. Holmes, 2; J. Clark, 3; E. Houlden, 4; F. Warrington, 5; H. P. Nash, 6; W. Dickinson (conductor), 7; W. Houlden, 8. On Friday, December 15th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. F. Warrington, 3; E. Houlden, 4; T. Woods, 5; J. T. Holmes, 6; H. P. Nash, 7; W. Dickinson (conductor), 8. On November 27th, 720 Grandsire Minor. W. Houlden, 3; E. Houlden, 4; J. T. Holmes, 5; T. Woods, 6; H. P. Nash, 7; W. Dickinson (conductor), 8. On Friday, December 1st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. *W. Houlden, 1; J. Clark, 2; J. T. Holmes, 3; E. Houlden, 4; H. P. Nash, 5; T. Woods, 6; W. Dickinson (conductor), 7; B. Woods, 8. *First quarter-peal. On Friday, December 22nd, 720 Bob Minor. W. Houlden, 3; E. Houlden, 4; F. Warrington, 5; T. Woods, 6; W. Dickinson (conductor), 7; J. T. Holmes, 8.

GREAT HALE (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday evening, December 10th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. H. Wood, 1; C. Ward, 2; T. Humberstone, 3; R. Masters, 4; T. B. Wood, 5; T. T. Taylor (conductor), 6. On Sunday afternoon, December 24th, 720 Duke of York in 24 mins. J. W. Wood, 1; R. Masters, 2; C. Ward, 3; T. Humberstone, 4; T. B. Wood, 5; T. T. Taylor (conductor), 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CHARING (Kent).—On Saturday, December 30th, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). P. Edwards, 1; E. Dixon, 2; W. Hills, 3; J. Willis, 4; T. Tabrett, 5; W. Spice (conductor), 6.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

LONDON.—On Sunday evening, January 14th, at St. John's church, Waterloo Road, for Divine Service, the last 742 of Holt's Original. E. Oxenham, 1; H. Langdon, 2; F. G. Perrin, 3; A. Hardy, 4; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 5; H. Barton, 6; G. E. Symonds, 7; H. Walker, 8. Afterwards at 40, Catherine Street, Buckingham Gate, S.W., on handbells, an attempt was made for a peal of Bob Major, but after ringing 4240 changes "stand" was called owing to a change-course. W. H. Fussell, 1-2; G. E. Symonds, 3-4; R. Charge, 5-6; H. Barton (conductor), 7-8. Umpire—A. Hardy.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BACUP.—On Sunday, December 3rd, for morning service, 720 Burton Treble Bob. L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. H. Barnes, 6. For afternoon service,

720 Duke of York, standing as before, except H. L. Cockroft, 3. For evening service, 720 Woodbine. H. L. Cockroft, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3; W. Smith, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. S. Lomas (conductor), 6. Also 720 Superlative Surprise. J. S. Lomas, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. H. Smith, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 10th, for morning service, 720 London Treble Bob. L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. H. Smith, 3; J. S. Lomas, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, December 17th, 720 Arnold's Victory. J. S. Lomas, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. H. Smith, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. H. Barnes, 6. On Sunday morning, December 24th, 720 Woodbine. D. Briggs, 1; H. L. Cockroft, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On December 25th, for morning service, 720 Duke of York, standing as above. On Sunday morning, December 31st, 720 Imperial. L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Ebor, standing as before, except W. Smith, 1.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS

LONDON.—On Sunday, January 21st, for Divine Service in the evening at St. Mary Abbott's, Kensington, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters, in 56 mins., composed by J. P. Bradley. W. E. Judd, 1; T. H. Taffender (conductor), 2; A. V. Selby, 3; W. E. Garrard, 4; S. H. Godfrey, 5; H. G. Miles, 6; A. E. Bradley, 7; W. Fox, 8; A. F. Harris, 9; J. Judd, 10. On Sunday, December 17th, for evening service at St. George the Martyr, Southwark, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans) in 44 mins. J. Pettit, 1; T. H. Taffender (conductor), 2; W. S. Wise, 3; W. Pickworth, 4; C. F. Winney, 5; H. Springall, 6; W. T. Cockerill, 7; G. Woodage, 8.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

LONDON.—On Monday, November 27th, at St. Clement Danes, Strand, the usual whole pull and stand was rung, as a last token of respect to the late Henry Langdon. F. F. Winney (conductor), 1; J. Mansfield, 2; W. Weatherstone, 3; H. R. Newton, 4; E. J. Comb, 5; H. R. Pasmore, 6; A. W. Brighton, 7; T. H. Taffender, 8; E. P. O'Meara, 9; W. T. Cockerill, 10. Afterwards touches of Grandsire and Stedman Caters were rung, in which Messrs. Golding, Hinton, S. Saker, Symonds, Truss and Lamb took part.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

TIMBERLAND (Lincolnshire).—On Monday, October 16th, for practice, 720 Violet Treble Bob in 28 mins. A. Sharpe, 1; H. King, 2; F. Cobb, 3; A. Ferry, 4; W. Elkington, 5; G. Elkington, 6. On Thursday, November 30th, being the Dedication Festival, 720 Oxford. A. Sharpe, 1; F. Curtis, 2; F. Cobb, 3; A. West, 4; W. Elkington, 5; G. Elkington, 6. On Thursday, December 7th, 720 Duke of York. A. Sharpe, 1; F. Curtis, 2; F. Cobb, 3; H. King, 4; W. Elkington, 5; G. Elkington, 6. On Friday, December 15th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. W. Elkington, 1; A. West, 2; F. Cobb, 3; A. Sharpe, 4; F. Curtis, 5; G. Elkington, 6. On Sunday, December 17th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. F. Curtis, 1; H. King, 2; F. Cobb, 3; A. West, 4; W. Elkington, 5; G. Elkington, 6. On Monday, December 18th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. H. King, 1; A. West, 2; F. Cobb, 3; A. Sharpe, 4; W. Elkington, 5; G. Elkington, 6. On Sunday, December 24th, 720 Oxford. W. Elkington, 1; A. West, 2; F. Cobb, 3; A. Sharpe, 4; F. Curtis, 5; G. Elkington, 6. On Christmas Day 720 Oxford. H. King, 1; F. Curtis, 2; F. Cobb, 3; A. Sharpe, 4; A. West, 5; G. Elkington, 6. On Thursday, January 11th, 720 Woodbine. F. Curtis, 1; H. King, 2; F. Cobb, 3; A. West, 4; W. Elkington, 5; G. Elkington, 6. All conducted by G. Elkington. First 720 of Woodbine by all and on the bells.

GOSPEL OAK (Middlesex).—On Sunday morning, December 31st, for Divine Service at St. Martin's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. N. Alderman, 1; G. Hollis, 2; E. Bonfield, 3; E. Young, 4; W. Nudds, 5; G. Smith (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 7th, 360 Bob Minor. C. Pryor, 1; G. Hollis, 2; E. Bonfield, 3; J. Nixon, 4; N. Alderman (conductor), 5; R. Bevan, 6. And another 360 in the same method. H. Ellis, 1; G. Hollis, 2; E. Bonfield, 3; N. Alderman, 4; W. Nudds, 5; R. Bevan, 6. On Sunday morning, January 14th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. E. Bonfield, 1; G. Hollis, 2; E. Young, 3; N. Alderman, 4; J. Nixon, 5; G. Smith (conductor), 6. For evening service 360 Bob Minor. H. Ellis, 1; C. Pryor, 2; E. Bonfield, 3; G. Hollis, 4; J. Nixon (conductor), 5; W. Nudds, 6. Also 240 Kent Treble Bob. N. Alderman, 1; G. Hollis, 2; E. Bonfield, 3; —, Chandler, 4; E. Young, 5; W. Nudds, 6.

THE ST. ANDREW'S ASSOCIATION, RUGBY.

The annual meeting of the members of this association was held at the coffee tavern on Monday evening, January 22nd, after the usual practice. The Rev. A. V. Baillie, Rector, as president of the association, took the chair, and was supported by Mr. W. Brooke, churchwarden. The finances and membership were reported to be in a satisfactory position. Mr. James George was unanimously re-elected ringing master, and Mr. A. Coleman was appointed honorary secretary, in the place of Mr. S. Stannard resigned.

Mr. George, after returning thanks for his re-election, gave a brief review of the year's work. They were steadily progressing, and might congratulate themselves upon the fact that, apart from quarter peals and touches, two peals had been rung on the bells within the year.

Amongst other business it was decided to institute a peal-book, and to have certificates of membership, with rules and lists of officers; but the Rector suggested that as the names of the churchwardens appeared thereon, and there would inevitably be a change at Easter, the issuing of the certificates should be deferred till then.

Mr. C. J. B. Cooke proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector and the churchwardens for the way in which they endeavoured, as far as possible, to promote the interests of the association.

The Rector, in the course of a genial reply, said that, having such a fine peal of bells, it was only reasonable that they should be rung, and by having due regard to the feelings of those who lived in the immediate vicinity, and ringing the bells on suitable and proper occasions and in a reasonable manner, they hoped to avoid giving annoyance and remove in time all objections.

Mr. Brooke also replied, and was pleased to say that during the past year they had scarcely had a complaint, and he had no doubt if they continued to ring as they had done during the past year they would not give much cause for complaint. It was the desire of the Rector and churchwardens to encourage the association in every possible way, consistent with the reasonable desires of the people who lived in the neighbourhood of the church. He added that all the thanks were not due to the Rector and churchwardens, and he had, on their behalf, to thank Messrs. Cooke, Coleman, and George for their handsome present of ringing-mats for the belfry.

THE ST. NICOLAS GUILD, GUILDFORD.

At the invitation of the Rev. W. S. Sanders, R.D., the above Guild held their annual supper at the Rectory, January 18th, where an excellent repast was served up in splendid style, to which full justice was done. Supper over, the rev. gentleman proposed the health of the ringers, saying there was nothing he loved to hear better than his bells rung for service on Sundays, but unfortunately illness has been so prevalent near the church that the bells had not been rung for three months, but he hoped to be able to inform the ringers that they would be able to start again on the coming Sunday. Mr. Jones replied on behalf of the ringers in suitable terms. Then Mr. Blondell gave one of his favourite songs, which he sung in capital form. Touches of Triples and a plain course of Caters on the handbells brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

On the following Saturday evening an interesting ceremony took place, when the Rector met the ringers in the tower, and unveiled four peal-boards recording four peals

that had been rung by the guild, viz.: two peals of Grand-sire Caters, and one each of Plain Bob and Treble Bob Major. The rev. gentleman in the course of a few remarks said it was a very great pleasure to meet the ringers on such an occasion, and congratulated them on their successes. He expressed the hope they would have soon have an opportunity of attempting further peals, and that success would attend their efforts. Mr. Jones thanked the Rector in suitable terms. Touches of Stedman Triples and Bob Major having been rung, and to close the meeting the Rector asked the ringers to accept a contribution towards the cost of the boards, then the company separated.

HALCOT, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

A special service for the dedication of the new clock and two bells was held in Halcot parish church, Northamptonshire, on Friday afternoon. The Rector (the Rev. John Gooch) said the following prayer:—

"To the glory of God and for the benefit of the parish we dedicate this new clock and two bells in memory of Harriet Andrew Watts-Manning, who departed this life on Lady Day, 1899, at Harpole, in this county, and was interred in this churchyard on the 29th day of March. The offering of her sister, Frances Mary Montgomery, February 2nd, 1900."

The sermon was preached by Canon Birch, R.D. (Overstone), and subsequently a tea was provided for the villagers, the Rector inviting the whole of the population.

ST. THOMAS'S (EXETER) JUNIOR SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the above society was held at the Conservative room, on Monday, January 29th. The Rev. D. W. Mathie, M.A., took the chair. There was a full attendance of members, and among the visitors was Mr. Ferris Shepherd, representing the Devon Guild. The Secretary's report showed a great advance in the science of ringing in the past year, as the band had become associated with the Devon Guild, and are now doing their best to become qualified as performing members. The Treasurer reported that the funds showed a substantial balance to the good. At the conclusion of the meeting an excellent dinner was partaken of. We append a copy of the menu, which was neatly and appropriately got up:—

MENU.—Ready? Go!—Joints (Plain Course). Roast Mutton in the Hunt with Roast Beef. Vegetables making Thrds.—Poultry (Touch of Court Bob). Roast Chicken striking Roast Pork; next Sallie.—Sweets (Lower them steadily!). Mince Pies (Singles). Apple Tarts (Devonshire Surprise). Plum Pudding (Set at hand stroke), Dodging with Blanc Mange. Jellies. Cheese and Celery Hunting up behind.—That's all!

It is stated that the Rev. J. D. Davies, Rector of Cheritoncum-Llanmadock, Gower, near Swansea, has made and carved with his own hands a reading-desk, lecture, pulpit, choir-stalls, rails, and Communion-table for his church. He has presented many specimens of his work to neighbouring parishes, and has been for some months engaged in carrying out a promise to execute all the inside carving required in another Welsh church.

The congregation of St. Augustine's Church, Bournemouth, which was built and endowed by the late Canon Twells, have resolved to place a permanent memorial to him in the church. It will take the form of a stained-glass window.

RINGERS' SUPPER AND SOCIAL.

On Saturday, February 3rd, ringers from Loughton, Woodford, and Leytonstone, assembled at the latter place for a convivial evening. Previous to sitting down to supper a good 720 of Kent and another of London was rung, in addition to shorter touches. Adjourning to The Two Brewers, a capital spread was set by host and hostess Wallace. Needless to say ample justice was done to it, course after course being accomplished in fine style. This important part being safely negotiated, all adjourned to another room, where toast, song, and hand-bell ringing caused the hours to fly all too quickly, midnight being upon them before the end came.

The company was ably presided over by Mr. W. Miller, Master of the Leytonstone ringers. Following the loyal toast of "Queen, Church, and State," Mr. Carter, in an interesting speech, proposed "The Navy, Army, and Reserve Forces," adding interesting extracts from a letter received from his brother in Natal. In a rousing speech Mr. F. Withers replied, and, as a Volunteer, spoke of the value that body had at last proved itself to be. "The Three Towers" was proposed by Mr. W. Doran, who prefaced an able speech by a most feeling allusion to the sad death, at the early age of thirty-nine, of Mr. H. Randall. Taking each tower in turn, and being in a reminiscient state of mind, he gave all the rare treat of his experience in the district during the past twenty years. This was replied to by Messrs. Kimberley, Miller, and Rann, the latter speaking of the obstacles placed in the way of change-ringing at Loughton by a body of ringers, "rounds and queens" seeming the highest branches of the ringers' art. "The Ringing Press," proposed by Mr. Keeble and responded to by Mr. Bacon; "The Host and Hostess," and "The Chairman," finished the toast list, which was most judiciously interspersed by tunes on handbells by the Woodford ringers (Messrs. Kimberly, Green, Mardell, and Morse), a touch of Grandsire Triples by Messrs. Keeble, Bacon, Whitman, and Rann, another of Caters by Messrs. Miller, Wightman, Bacon, Doran, and Clark, and songs by Messrs. Carter, Kimberley, Bacon, Wightman, Moule, Rann, Dawson, Withers, and Beams.

The Leytonstone company availed themselves of this opportunity to present to Mr. Dawson, one of their number, a dwarf standard lamp, on the occasion of his forthcoming marriage. All voted the evening, the first of its kind, a complete success.

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."

REPLY TO MR. F. MAY.

SIR,—I notice in your last issue that Mr. F. G. May has a few words to say with regard to my query about the peal of Stedman Cinques at Bristol. He says he had the pleasure of listening to the ringing, and had also the composition of the peal (?) in his possession, and can vouch to its being a true peal. Now I don't at all doubt but what he has, but if he did not listen to all of it and tick off the part-ends as they came up, how can he vouch to it being a true peal. Now I am a member of a society who have rung more peals and in more methods on twelve bells than any company, which Mr. May knows (no doubt) is correct, and their performances have not as yet been excelled. Well, the members of this society do not believe that the peal was rung, in fact, that to ring a peal of Stedman Cinques, tenor 52 cwt., in 3 hrs. 28 mins. is a physical impossibility. I am now quoting the average length of their peals on twelve bells, which is 22½ changes a minute, in all of which the tenor has weighed almost a ton less than Redcliffe tenor, and they ring fast too. Your readers will just notice the comparison of the average times. Stedman Cinques, twenty-four changes a minute, and the last peal rang on those bells, namely Grandsire Triples, occupied the time 3 hrs. 39 mins., and averages 23 changes a minute. Now for a little question. Can Stedman Cinques be rang in less time than Grandsire Triples? I say with many others, certainly not. Well then how do you account for this? If any company were to state that they rang a

peal of Stedman Cinques at St. Paul's under 4 hrs., would Mr. May or any twelve-bell ringers believe them? No. Do your readers think the company can ring a quarter-peal of Stedman Cinques in 52 mins.? It cannot be done. Again he says if I publish my name and address, he will be pleased to answer my questions. Now I think it is time some of these things were shewn up, as we are hearing such tales now about conductors that a good many people would like to say something about peals that are published, and don't like to because they are quiet sort of people, and don't like their names banded about in a paper. For my own part I do not want a cheap advertisement from this discussion, so I will now beg leave to sign myself

W. R.

Obituary.

ARTHUR W. MATTHEWS.

We regret to have to relate the decease of a brother-ringer, Arthur W. Matthews (of Loughborough), who died on January 23rd, 1900, aged thirty-nine years. The deceased had been a member of the All Saints' society for about twelve years; also a member of the Midland Counties' Association, to which he contributed a good number of peals. He was buried in the cemetery, and four ringers formed a bearer party. After the interment the handbells were struck round over his grave. A beautiful wreath was placed upon the grave by the ringers of the All Saints' society as a mark of great respect and esteem. On Friday, January 26th, the usual whole pull and stand was rung with the bells half-muffled; and on Saturday, January 27th, a peal of Grandsire Triples with the bells half-muffled, after ringing 1 hr. 30 mins. came to grief owing to the tenor-man getting the rope round his arm. The list of peals rung by the deceased were: Minor, 3; Grandsire Triples, 12; Stedman Triples, 5; Bob Major, 4; Treble Bob Major, 1; Double Norwich Major, 7; Superlative Major, 2; Grandsire Caters, 8; Stedman Caters, 9; Bob Royal, 1; Forward Royal, 1; Treble Bob Royal, 1; total—60.

HARRY RANDALL.

We much regret to hear of the death of this well-known ringer, which took place on Wednesday, January 31st, at the age of thirty-nine; the cause of death being phthisis. He was a member of the Cumberlands and of the Essex Association. For some years he was was steeple-keeper at All Saints, West Ham, giving up this post on account of business calling him elsewhere. He was an excellent ringer—a fair conductor, and his knowledge of composition was far from despicable. In his death the ringers of East London mourn a genial companion.

MELTON MOWBRAY (Leicestershire).—On Christmas Day, two 518s of Grandsire Triples, being two parts of Holt's ten-part. W. Spiby, 1; J. Barnes, 2; E. J. Gale, 3; W. James, 4; C. Dalby, 5; A. V. Potter, 6; R. H. Bartram (conductor), 7; R. Young, 8. On New Year's Eve, 720 Grandsire Minor. J. E. Goodacre, 1; J. Barnes, 2; C. Dalby, 3; E. J. Gale, 4; A. V. Potter, 5; T. Gillett, 6; R. H. Bartram (conductor), 7; R. Young, 8. On January 23rd, 168 Grandsire Triples. W. Spiby, 1; J. Barnes, 2; J. E. Goodacre, 3; E. J. Gale (conductor), 4; W. James, 5; A. V. Potter, 6; C. Dalby, 7; R. Young, 8. On Monday, January 29th, 518 Grandsire Triples. W. Spiby, 1; E. J. Gale, 2; J. Barnes, 3; W. James, 4; C. Dalby, 5; A. V. Potter, 6; R. H. Bartram (conductor), 7; W. Starbuck, 8.

PETERSFIELD (Hants).—On Monday, December 18th, for practice, 518 Grandsire Triples. W. H. Butler, 1; Rev. C. Edwards, 2; A. Butler, 3; J. Arthur (conductor), 4; W. Butler, 5; T. Cole, 6; G. Barnes, 7; W. Wilkinson, 8. Also 672 in the same method. W. Butler, 1; Rev. C. Edwards, 2; A. Butler, 3; W. Wilkinson, 4; G. Barnes, 5; T. Cole, 6; J. Arthur (conductor), 7; W. Downs, 8. On Sunday, January 28th, after evening service, 350 in the same method. W. H. Butler, 1; Rev. C. Edwards, 2; W. Butler, 3; T. Cole, 4; J. Arthur, 5; W. Wilkinson (conductor), 6; G. Barnes, 7; W. Downs, 8. And 420 in the same method. F. Wilkins, 1; Rev. C. Edwards, 2; W. Wilkinson, 3; T. Cole, 4; W. Butler, 5; G. Barnes, 6; J. Arthur (conductor), 7; W. Downs, 8.

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

Kent County Association.—Canterbury District.—The next meeting of the above (for ringing only), will be held at Hernhill, to-day, Saturday, February 10th, Bells ready at 3 o'clock. E. E. FOREMAN, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

The Heavy Woollen District Association.—A Committee Meeting of the above will be held at The Red Lion inn, Ossett, to-day, Saturday, Feb. 10th, to choose the length of the touch for the eight-bell contest, also the judges for the same. Meeting at 5 o'clock. The usual monthly meeting at 5.30. Subscriptions are now due. All members who intend competing at the contest must pay their subscriptions on or before the 1st of March. WALTER IDLE, *Secretary.*
47, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury.

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch.—Monthly meeting at St. Nicholas' church, Liverpool, to-day, Saturday, February 10th. Tower open at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m. The Secretary begs to remind members that their subscriptions are now due, and should be paid as early as possible. G. WOODHALL, *Branch Sec.*
66, Annerley Street, Liverpool.

The Old East Derbyshire Association.—A special meeting will be held at Eckington, to-day, Saturday, February 10th. Important business matters to transact. Members please attend. Meeting at The White Hart inn at 5 o'clock prompt to arrange annual report, etc. E. JAMES, *Hon. Sec.*

The Waterloo Society, London.—The 32nd Anniversary Dinner of the above Society will be held at The York Hotel, Waterloo Road, S.E., on Saturday, February 17th, at 6 p.m. sharp. Tickets, 3s. 6d. each, may be had from Messrs. Barton, Webber, Fussell, Perrin, Hardy and G. E. SYMONDS, *Hon. Sec.*
4, Dockley Road, S.E.
P.S.—Ringing at St. John's, Waterloo Road, from 3.30 till 6 o'clock.

The Essex Association.—A district meeting of the above will be held at Romford on Saturday, February 17th. A brake will leave the parish church at 2 p.m. for Dagenham and Little Heath. Tea and business meeting will be held at The Woolpack inn at 5 p.m. Ringers intending to be present must notify to me before the previous Tuesday. HENRY T. W. EYRE, *Asst. Sec.*
Great Totham Vicarage, Witham.

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at St. Mary's, Rawtenstall, on Saturday, February 17th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. W. CASS, *Branch Sec.*
83, Chesham Road, Bury.

The Winchester Diocesan Guild.—A Quarterly Meeting will be held at Hawley (eight bells), near Blackwater Station, S.E.R. on Saturday, February 17th. Tea will be provided for members. CHARLES E. MATTHEWS, *Hon. Sec.*
Bursledon Vicarage, Southampton.

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch. The next monthly

meeting will be held at Bray, on Saturday, February 17th, beginning at 3 o'clock. Tea will be provided. H. C. BELL, *Branch Sec.*

The Midland Counties Association.—Derby District.—The Annual Meeting for election of officers will be held in All Saints' belfry, Derby, on Monday, February 19th. Ringing from 7.30 to 8.30 p.m. Meeting to follow. T. ANTHONY, *Local Hon. Sec.*

Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Bridgwater on Saturday, February 24th. Fuller particulars next week. HY. TOMKINS, *Hon. Sec. and Treas.*
The Cottage, Old Cleeve, Washford.

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next monthly ringing meeting will be held at St. Thomas's church, Pendleton, on Saturday, February 24th. Bells ready at 3.30 p.m. Unveiling of the new peal-board at 5 o'clock. Tea will be provided for all members sending in their names or numbers to Mr. John Smith, 25, Hope Street, Pendleton, Manchester, not later than Thursday the 22nd inst. Tea at 5.30 p.m. in the Broughton Road Schoolroom. Business meeting immediately after tea. Members not having paid their subscriptions are reminded that they are now due. W. BROWN, *Branch Sec.*
54, Wenlock Street, Hulme, Manchester.

St. Thomas's Guild, Dudley.—The annual meeting will be held at Dudley on Saturday, February 24th. Ringing to commence at 3 p.m. Service in St. Thomas' church at 5, tea and business meeting to follow. All members intending to be present at tea must send their names to me not later than Monday, February 19th. W. MICKLEWRIGHT, *Hon. Sec.*
39, Vauxhall Street, Dudley.

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—A General Meeting will be held at Heighington, on Saturday, February 24th. Ringing at St. Michael's, six bells, tenor 16 cwt. Meat tea at Bay Horse at 5 p.m., 1s. to members, 1s. 6d. to non-members. Committee meeting same place 4 p.m. Will intending visitors kindly send names before February 20th to Hon. Secretary? C. L. ROUTLEDGE.

Tynedale House, Wylam-on-Tyne.

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The monthly meeting of the above society will be held at St. Michael's church, Headingley (eight bells), on Saturday, February 24th. Meeting-house—The Skyrack hotel. Business meeting at 6.30. Handbells provided. All nominations for officers (as per rule 7) will be due at this meeting. HY. GAYTHORPE, *Hon. Sec.*
1, Elm Avenue, Bramley.

The Archdeaconry of Salop Guild.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Shifnal, on Saturday, February 24th. Ringing at 4 o'clock. Business meeting at 5 o'clock. Train leaves Shrewsbury at 2.50 p.m. J. MACKAY, *Hon. Sec.*
Holy Trinity Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—Johnson Commemoration Dinner—Preliminary Notice.—This will be held as usual on Saturday, March 3rd next, and full particulars will be given in next week's issue. W. H. GODDEN, *Hon. Sec.*
61, Roland Road, Handsworth.

The Midland Counties Association.—Preparation of Annual Report.—Members whose addresses are incorrect in last annual report, or who have changed their addresses since election are requested to notify me without delay. Notice of alteration of practice nights and names of correspondents should also if necessary be sent at once; also obituary notices. W. E. WHITE, *Hon. Sec.*
Colgrave, near Nottingham.

The Middlesex County Association.—North and East District.—Owing to the sickness now so widely prevalent, it has not been possible to secure a suitable place of meeting for the monthly meeting proposed to be held in February. There will therefore be no further meeting of the members of this district till March, or possibly April. ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*
18, Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet.

Compositions.

BOB ROYAL.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

5040.

23456	W	M	H
64235	-	-	-
26435	-	-	-
43265	-	-	-
25364	s	-	-
32564	-	-	-
45326	-	-	-
34526	-	-	-
53426	-	-	-
42536	-	-	-
54236	-	-	-
25436	-	-	-
43256	-	-	-
24356	-	-	-
32456	-	-	-

Repeated; the 6th six times wrong and eighteen times right.

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PERMANENT Appointment required as Surveyor or Manager of Works (on Estate or otherwise). Good Accountant, Draughtsman, Timber and Land Surveyor, Drainage, Sanitary Work, preparation of Plans, Specifications, Quantities. Well educated. Photo if desired. Know Standard Methods. "STEDMAN," Hatchgate, Cold Ash, Newbury, Berks.

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THE RINGING-CHAMBER,
THE OFFICE, OR
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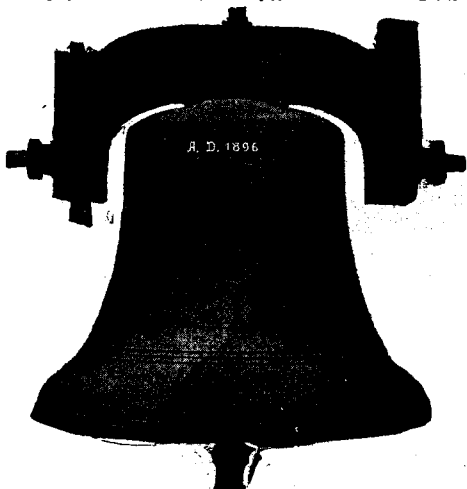
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BECKETT, Bart., Q.C., Times, Nov. 20, 1878.

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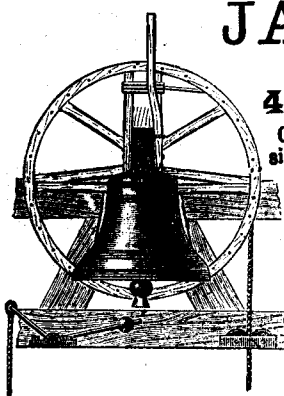
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The above are for 6 ringers with 13 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.A.			
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No. 322.	"The Pilgrim of Love" Galop	"	1 6
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