

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 935.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1900.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

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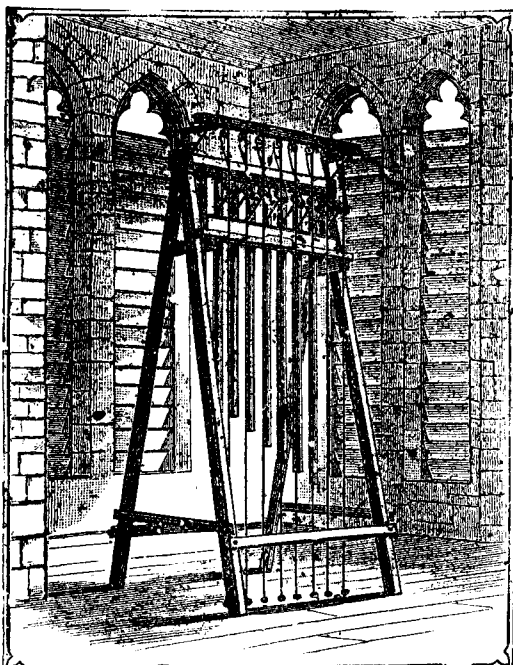
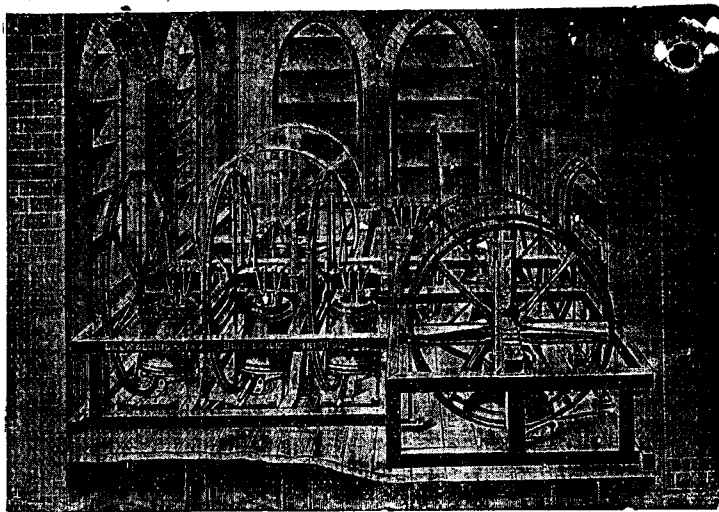
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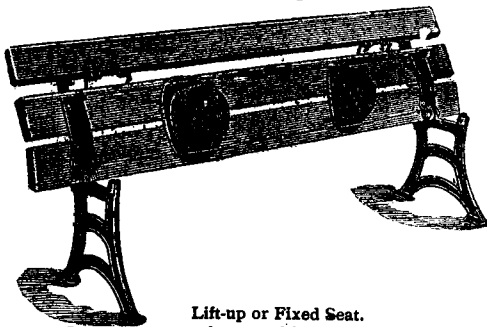
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 935.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1900.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD OF BIRMINGHAM.

THE HENRY JOHNSON COMMEMORATION DINNER.

Saturday last was a busy day for the City of Birmingham, but despite the counter-attractions of the struggle between the two giant football teams at Villa Park, and a race meeting at Shirley, the belfry at St. Martin's attracted relays of ringers during the whole afternoon.

As the hour of dinner—6 p.m.—drew near, the gathering became still larger, and the space at the cosy Temple Dining Room of "Ye Old Royal" was taxed to its limits by a company of about eighty.

Not only was the immediate neighbourhood well represented, but ringers from such distant counties as Yorkshire and Berkshire were also in attendance.

The President of the Central Council—Sir Arthur Percival Heywood—last year gave a provisional promise to preside at this gathering, but was unfortunately prevented by many additional calls upon his time. (We are pleased to state that he has renewed the promise for next year's commemoration). This function however was most gracefully undertaken by the popular Master of the Worcestershire and Districts Association—Mr. S. Spittle—supported by the Vice-Presidents—J. S. Pritchett, Esq., M.A., B.L., and W. S. Pritchett, Esq.—with the other members of the St. Martin's Executive. We were also glad to notice that the authorities of St. Martin's were represented by the Rev. J. D. McCready, M.A., and Mr. Churchwarden Jones.

The dinner, which was excellent alike for quality and manner of serving, seemed to place every one on fairly good terms with himself, and after a short interval the toast list was commenced.

In the toast of "Queen, Church, and State," the Chairman was particularly happy. He reminded the company of the splendid enthusiasm evoked among every class in the Empire by the celebration of the Diamond Jubilee three years ago, and how little one could then have foretold of the sadness which would come to our Empress Queen's declining years through this horrid but—so far as we were concerned—just war in South Africa. Every one too knew and felt the sympathy she always expressed with the sufferings and trials of her subjects.

Passing on to the Church, he stated that we were constantly being reminded by our dissenting friends of the discontent caused by the conflict of opinion within it, but argued that we were bound to believe that every shade of opinion was working to the same end, and such being the case, it was necessary to extend some amount of charity towards the differing views.

As regards the State, he said, it was not long time ago when we were reminded that we were the most bitterly hated of all the nations, and had not a single ally. Well, that undesirable position was by no means a new one in our annals, but we existed to day, and were determined to come out of our present troubles with honour. Even in our gloomiest time, now happily passed, we had one thing on which we could congratulate ourselves, one thing to serve as the cloud's silver lining, and that was the splendid loyalty and devotion of all our Colonies. It had been urged against the present Government that it

had made mistakes, but such an indictment reminded him that the people who never made mistakes never did any real work.

At the close of a highly interesting and telling speech, he coupled with his toast, as representatives of the Church and State, the names of the Rev. J. D. McCready and Churchwarden Jones. The toast was honoured with a verse of "God save the Queen," given as a solo by Mr. H. Manton, the whole audience enthusiastically repeating as a chorus.

The Rev. J. D. McCready expressed regret at the absence of the rector—the Rev. Canon Robinson, and referring to the chairman's remarks on the Church, advised his hearers to judge between the various sects and parties in the Church by the men they produced, and the results obtained.

Mr. Jones also referred to the regrettable absence of the rector. He reiterated his own desire at all times for plenty of ringing, and commenting on that at St. Martin's recently in honour of the relief of Ladysmith and surrender of Cronje, expressed his hope that it might not be long before they were called upon to commemorate the surrender of Pretoria, when he hoped that the ringers would take the initiative and not wait for instructions.

In giving the toast of "The late Henry Johnson," the Chairman referred to the slight knowledge he had of Mr. Johnson, but mentioned the fact that such knowledge included a visit to him at his own home, and from his own experience he found that one could always best judge of a man's character in the surroundings of his own home and family. On this particular occasion he had the pleasure of examining the St. Martin's Youths' old peal-book, with an interesting running commentary by Mr. Johnson. As instancing Mr. Johnson's facility and accuracy in composition he referred to a conversation between the late Messrs. Johnson and Micklewright, and himself as to the possibility of a composition in Caters with certain qualities, and quoted from a letter received from Mr. Johnson a few days later with which were enclosed two peals on this plan, together with very definite remarks as to its possibilities. This toast in accordance with usage was drank in solemn silence.

After the ever popular "Soldiers of the Queen," excellently rendered by Mr. Manton, Mr. J. S. Pritchett proposed "Continued Success to the St. Martin's Guild." He mentioned the fact that it was now some forty years ago since their Presiding Ringing-Master, Mr. Day, and others started a movement to renovate the St. Martin's Society of that day, and pointed to the present meeting as a gratifying result of that effort. Reverting to a similar commemoration meeting of same years back, he then promised that his own band—the King's Norton—should turn their attention to the Surprise methods, and he was now able to announce that not only had they done so, but that they had been able to score for the St. Martin's Guild its first peals of Superlative and Cambridge Surprise while in the immediate future they hoped to excuse the climax of all, "London Surprise."

With this toast he was pleased to couple the healths of the two veterans, John Day and John Perks,

After a very amusing song by Mr. Florry, Mr. Day

responded. Alluding to the satisfaction a man always felt on seeing his work appreciated, he followed the proposer of the toast by a short history of the bells from that period. He particularly mentioned the bequest of a croft of land by one Billingsley for the provision of bell ropes at St. Martin's, which bequest was recorded on a tablet formerly in the tower, but not now in evidence. He was gratified at finding the quality of the ringing at St. Martin's still retained, and hoped that it would ever be so.

Mr. Perks also appropriately thanked the meeting for the way in which his health had been responded to.

Following this, Mr. Churchwarden Jones gave an interesting description of the bequest mentioned by Mr. Day, exactly locating the position of the croft, and detailing its revenue and future prospects on the expiration of its lease in eighteen years.

After an amusing song by Mr. Shenton, the Secretary, Mr. W. H. Godden, proposed "Success to Kindred Ringing Societies." Prefacing his remarks by the statement that Birmingham ringers situated on the confines of three counties—Warwick, Worcester, and Stafford—and within such short distances of others, were generally members of several other Societies, the necessity for which might be doubted were it not that each justified its existence by its health and vigour. He was pleased to couple with his toast the healths of such old friends then present in the room as Messrs. T. Hattersley (Yorkshire Association), S. Reeves (Secretary for the Archdeaconry of Stafford), T. Salter (Worcestershire and Kidderminster Societies), and A. Thomas (Oxford Diocesan Guild).

A course of Stedman Cinques in hand was then rung by W. H. Barber, 1-2; F. Clayton, 3-4; T. Miller, 5-6; W. Kent, 7-8; B. Witchell, 9-10; W. Short, 11-12.

Messrs. Hattersley, Reeves, Salter, and Thomas then responded, the latter referring to his former connection with the St. Martin's Society, and regretting the fact that present circumstances confined him to a district where only six-bell towers existed.

Mr. W. S. Pritchett proposed the health of the Secretary—Mr. Godden—giving his opinion that much of the success of the Guild and such gatherings as the present was due to his efforts and organisation. After a song by Mr. Manton, the Secretary responded, thanking the company for the way in which they had received the toast, and expressing his thanks to each individual officer and member for the assistance they invariably rendered him.

After a capital song by the Chairman, "Success to the Ringing Papers—"BELL NEWS" and *Church Bells*, was proposed by Mr. S. Reeves, and suitably received by the company.

The health of "The Chairman" was given by Mr. T. Russam, who eulogised the manner in which he had performed his duties, and called for a hearty recognition with musical honours.

Throughout the evening other songs were given by the Chairman, Messrs. Manton, H. Knight, Shenton, and Mr. Florry, while Mrs. Painter again laid the Guild under obligation by presiding at the piano throughout.

At the termination of the proceedings Mr. Manton sang "The Absent Minded Beggar," and the Chairman calling for "Pay, pay, pay," the meeting canvassed by Mr. Mulligan (Yorkshire Association), and an unauthorised casual, contributed the sum of £1 4s. 3d. to the Birmingham *Daily Mail* Fund. (Such amount has been duly acknowledged in its columns). The close came all too soon, and every attendant seemed to regret that so pleasant an evening should pass so rapidly

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting of this association was held at Bridgwater on Saturday, February 24th. There was a very good attendance, ringers hailing from Taunton, Wiveliscombe, Norton Fitzwarren, Bridgwater, Huntspill, Stogumber, Old Cleeve, Bristol, etc. The bells of the parish church are a fine ring of eight, recently rehung by Messrs. Taylor, and needless to say their "go" is everything that one could wish.

A short service was held in the parish church at 4 p.m., the Vicar officiating, and a short address was given by the curate, the Rev. W. M. K. Warren. After service the usual business meeting was held in the belfry, when several new members were elected. It was decided to leave the date and arrangements for the next meeting (the annual at Bath) in the hands of the hon. secretary. The usual votes of thanks were passed and the members afterwards sat down to a capital meat tea.

The bells were kept continually in motion in various methods during the evening. It is pleasing to hear that there is some prospect of the Bridgwater ringers becoming change-ringers and members of the association.

The annual meeting of the Bath district of this association was held in the Abbey tower on Monday evening, January 8th, Prebendary W. S. Shaw, the chairman of the district, presiding. A good muster of members was present from nearly all the towns in the deanery. Mr. J. Fussell, the local hon. secretary, presented a very favourable report dealing with the different subjects of bells and ringing, complimenting the ringers on the advance made during the past year. The chairman, in his remarks, was pleased something had been done to St. Michael's bells, and hoped the parishioners of St. Saviour's would have their bells put in order so that they might soon be rung again. The chairman was re-elected, and the Rev. C. C. Parker was elected vice-chairman. The local secretary was also re-elected with thanks for past services. A list of meetings was arranged for the ensuing year on Tuesdays instead of Mondays, and it was decided to hold an annual dinner on similar lines to that of last year, a small committee being elected to make the arrangements. A hearty vote of thanks to the chairman brought the meeting to a close.

The members of the Bath district of the above association held their annual dinner, January 29th, at The Alliance dining rooms, Westgate Street. The chair was occupied by the Rev. C. C. Parker, in the absence of the Rev. W. Stokes Shaw, who was sorry he could not attend, and later in the evening by the Rev. H. E. Tilney-Bassett. There was a large and representative attendance, which included members from the following towers: The Abbey, St. James's, St. Saviour's, St. Andrew's, St. Mary's (Bathwick), St. Mark's, Twerton, and several friends from St. Stephen's (Bristol). The dinner provided was quicker eaten than prepared, and the loyal toasts having been given, Mr. Fussell proposed "Success to the Association." The Rev. T. Bassett gave "the Visitors," which was replied to by Mr. J. Hinton, who said he should like to see his Bath friends compete with the Bristol ringers in the other standard methods of change-ringing. Songs during the evening were contributed by Messrs. Richardson, Rice, May, Goodenough, Bell, A. Hill, Blackwell, Eves, Wake, and Presscott. Mr. Hinton's performance with his handbells was an enjoyable feature of the evening's programme, and a tremendous outburst of applause rewarded his efforts.

JOY-BELLS (AND OTHERWISE).

All over the country, so the daily papers have told us the news of success in Africa has been the cause of much rejoicing. A cutting from a paper sent to us from Loughborough says that on receipt of the news, there was an outburst of enthusiasm. As if by magic flags appeared not only on public buildings and factories, but almost every shop in the business part of the town displayed bunting. At the parish church of All Saints, and also at Taylor's bell foundry, merry peals were rung on the bells; the music at the latter place being particularly admired, Messrs. Taylor having recently hung a splendid set in their new tower. Everywhere friends were shaking hands. The school children were granted a half-day's holiday, and at Church Gate, the principal board school of Loughborough, Mr. J. T. Judges, head master, assembled the children at mid-day and addressed them in the playground. The youngsters made the street ring again with lusty cheers for General Buller. At Shepshed a similar state of things prevailed. The bells were rung at the church, flags were hoisted at the Conservative Club, Messrs. Harriman's factory, and other places, and the school children were granted holiday.

Amid all this we have only one discordant note. The *Bath Herald* says that at the church of Kington St. Michael, near Chippenham, the bellringers have incurred the Vicar's keen displeasure. On receipt of the news of the relief of Ladysmith the leader of the ringers lost no time in hunting up his men, and having assembled in the tower, they sent forth a merry peal. A few minutes had not elapsed, however, before the Vicar (the Rev. Dr. Adrian) put in an appearance and demanded who started the ringing without permission. The leader stated that he was responsible, and at the same time intimated the reason why they were ringing. The Vicar thereupon ordered them to leave the tower, and said he would not allow it. The men consequently left. Great excitement has been caused in the village, as the ringers state they have never been called on by the Vicar on previous occasions to consult him as to when they shall ring the bells. The names of the ringers are as follows: W. Dyer (captain), M. Sealey, F. Sealey, E. Sheppard, S. Doidge, W. Dyer, H. Martin, and J. White. The men were not to be baulked of showing their enthusiasm, however, and subsequently paraded the village playing handbells. The Vicar has also written a letter to the press in reply to a letter expressing surprise that no collection was made at Kington St. Michael Church, on January 7th, for the relief of the war sufferers, in which he says it did not please him to desecrate God's House for the purpose mentioned, notwithstanding the "commands of the Queen and the request of the Bishop." This cursed war, he says, has been forced upon us by a set of gold-grabbers and place-hunters, backed by our ignorant public, without any justification whatever. Therefore let those who call the tune pay the piper. He was not bound by the acts or example of other clergy."

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.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHWICH BRANCH).

The members of the above branch held their annual meeting at Middlewich on Saturday, the 24th February. Ringing on the fine peal of bells was indulged in during the afternoon by the kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. F. Minton. At 6.30 p.m. the ringers partook of tea in the infant's school. Tea concluded, a business meeting was held presided over by Mr. G. H. Mann. Letters of apology for non-attendance were read from Rev. W. H. Binney, Canon Holme, and H. H. Cook, Esq. The minutes of the last meeting and the balance sheet were passed unanimously. The whole of the officers were re-elected. A vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and the infant's school concluded the business. Ringing on the handbells was indulged in until nearly 9 p.m., when the visitors had to leave to catch their train.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(MAIDSTONE DISTRICT.)

The annual meeting of this district was held at Wrotham, on Saturday, February 24th, when forty members attended from Maidstone, Malling, Boxley, Sevenoaks, Bearsted, Rochester, Gillingham, Ospringe, Tottenham, etc. Tea was provided at The George and Dragon, the Rev. L. C. Goodwin presiding.

At the business meeting after tea eleven new members were elected, including the band at Wrotham. It was decided to hold the next annual meeting at Leeds in February 1907, and two other meetings at Linton and Bearsted in April and October. The district secretary and representative were re-elected. A vote of thanks was passed to the Rev. L. C. Goodwin for the use of the bells and for presiding.

Touches in various methods were rung during the afternoon and evening, but it is to be hoped that before another meeting is held here, the cracked bells will be re-cast and other necessary repairs will have been carried out.

BENEFACTIONS OF THE LATE MR. SERJEANT SPINKS.

The late Serjeant Spinks, of Brenley House, near Faversham, who left property valued at £113,721, bequeathed among other legacies £500 to the Association for the Augmentation of Poor Benefices; £100 to the Kent Diocesan Church Building Fund; £300 upon trust to apply the income in keeping in repair the carillon at Chertsey Parish Church; £150 for the purchase of bells for the church at Lavington; and instructed his executors to enter into a contract for the purchase of a peal of bells for Feltham (Middlesex), parish church, the cost to be between £200 and £600. The tenor bell is to bear an inscription that it is the gift of Serjeant Spinks in memory of his father and mother.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GAYTHORPE (Lincolnshire).—On December 26th, an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples came to grief through the 3rd bell casting rope, after ringing 2000 changes. J. Hoyes, 1; E. Holden, 2; J. T. Holmes, 3; T. B. Woods, 4; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 5; H. P. Nash, 6; W. Dickinson, 7; W. Holden, 8.

HOUGH-ON-THE-HILL (Lincolnshire).—On December 26th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. T. Holmes, 1; E. Holden, 2; T. B. Woods, 3; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 4; H. P. Nash, 5; W. Dickinson, 6.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The main topic of the hour is the condition of affairs in South Africa. The surrender of a Boer chief, with nearly 4000 of his followers; the relief of Ladysmith; and the continued forward movement of our forces under Lord Roberts, fill the public mind with satisfaction, and contentment also from the feeling that our soldiers have not deteriorated one jot or tittle. As the leader-writer said last week—"England yet!" In these two words there is a great deal contained. The respectable journalists of oreign growth have echoed them most remarkably. These intelligent gentlemen do not hesitate to point out forcibly what a calamity it would be for humanity did England not hold her present position among the nations of the earth. They imagine, for the sake of illustration, a semi-barbarous power like Russia becoming "Queen of the universe," and then they prognosticate the actual effects of such a calamity. The ringers should make a kind of watchword of the phrase—"England yet!" Can we not call some new method—a method, by the way, which should be perfect in every respect—by the name of "Old England?" Now Mr. Baker, or the brothers James, or Mr. Dench, now's your time.

The writer who penned last week's comment very often gives me a paragraph for this page. He tells me of a discussion he had with a friend at the time when our commanders were being checked. He prophesied that the government would have to send out Lord Roberts to put matters straight; while the friend thought Sir Evelyn Wood was the man. It is somewhat remarkable that in one of the paragraphs handed to me, he stated that Lord Roberts had lost an arm in service, but so far as I have seen, none of the now numerous public prints have ever mentioned it. He maintains the belief still! It would be very remarkable thing if the "B.N." was the only paper who had mentioned such a loss. That is of course, if true. Do any of my readers know?

The gallant veteran is a Napier-like officer. When his biography comes to be written, it will be found that between him and that wonderful soldier, Sir Charles Napier, there is much in common. I am not certain whether he was not one of Napier's lieutenants, for Napier speaks very highly of one of his officers named "Roberts" during the campaign in Scinde. This would be worth substantiating. If any of you have not read of Napier and the Scinde war, do so at once. The whole thing reads like a romance, and gives another of the many instances in which British officers of the correct stamp have added lustre to the glory of their country's arms.

Now I must turn to other matters. Mr. William Wakley, of Burton-on-Trent, has sent the following letter to the Editor, which has been handed to me:—

SIR,—“Plain Speaker” asks why I did not publicly announce at the time that this peal finished with 2M, and in reply I beg to refer him to that paragraph in my letter to Mr. Lindoff in which I say that “so entirely unsuspecting was I of anything being wrong with the peal that it was not until I received your letter that I gave a moment's thought to the possibility of the calling being false.” The statement here made is the absolute truth, and I do not know why I should have been called on by your anonymous contributor to repeat it, nor why I should have been expected to publish “calling” of which I had no suspicion whatever. I am perfectly satisfied that if the significance of these two calls had been realised by the ringers (I am not

speaking for the conductor), the performance would have been quashed at once, and the next day, and if necessary the next again, would have been spent in trying to get a true peal, for not only were the bells at our disposal, but we had the time to spare also, and our rail and boat tickets were available for quite a long time. “Plain Speaker's” claim that to him belongs the credit of bringing this matter to light, is somewhat amusing, seeing that as long ago as October I had given Mr. Lindoff permission to publish my letter, stipulating only that the conductor should first have an opportunity of himself withdrawing the peal, and that I personally on November 25th last, in conversation with Mr. Pates, Mr. S. Reeves, Mr. John Carter, Mr. W. H. Barber, and others, gave to the Birmingham district the information which reached “P.S.” many weeks later, and which he produced with such a flourish of trumpets on January 20th.—WM. WAKLEY.

There is no reply wanted to this letter. If Mr. Wakley supposes for one moment that the least doubt is entertained of the truth of his statement, I hope he will at once disabuse his mind of such a supposition. I hope also no one will think me acting discourteously to my old friend. I thought, and think now, that he or any one else in a peal the very moment they had heard of its falsity would avow it publicly, without waiting more than a week for the admission to that effect by the conductor. My friend says something about “flourish of trumpets.” I heard not the “trumpets” nor saw the flourish. If I had not hammered away at the affair, perhaps the untruth of the peal would not be public property even now. But I claim or desire no credit for performing a duty which others ought to have done months before. *Requiescat in pace.*

PLAIN SPEAKER.

Obituary.

JAMES SMITH FLOWER.

We regret to record the death of the above-named ringer of Twerton-on-Avon, Bath, which occurred on Friday, February 16th, under somewhat sad circumstances. He was a mason by trade, and worked for the Great Western Railway for over thirty years. On the above date he had occasion to cross the line at Bath Station when he was caught in the back by the 9 a.m. up train, severing one foot, fearfully crushing the other and leg; the back of the head was also crushed, causing instantaneous death. He had been a ringer for very many years, and was always in his place when required. He was a member of the Twerton-on-Avon, and of the Bath Abbey company of ringers, and had rung between fifteen and twenty peals, his last peal being a 5056 Bob Major in November 1898, in which he rung the 4th. He also rang the treble in an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Caters at the Abbey in November 1899, which came to grief after ringing over 4000 changes. He was also a member of the Parish Council, and had been a member of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association since its formation, and greatly assisted in the formation of the Association. The funeral took place on Wednesday, February 21st, at the Twerton-on-Avon Cemetery. The bells of the parish church and Bath Abbey were tolled during the service. About thirty of his comrades followed the cortege, and a large number representing the different Associations to which he belonged, viz:—Rev. C. C. Parker (vice-chairman), J. Fussell (local secretary), representing the Bath and Wells Association, Messrs. Temple and Wotton (Twerton-on-Avon), J. N. Wake and C. Goodenough (The Abbey), J. Hinton and F. May (Gloucester and Bristol Association). Six of his comrades bore the coffin which was of polished oak with brass fittings. The inscription was “James Smith Flower, aged 59.” The Rev. Prebendary W. Stokes Shaw, Vicar, and chairman of the Bath district society, officiated. A beautiful everlasting wreath under a glass shade was sent as a tribute of respect from the Bath district of the Bath and Wells Association, and a similar one from his comrades of the Great Western Railway.

THE ST. THOMAS'S GUILD, DUDLEY.

The annual meeting of this Guild was held on Saturday. The bells commenced ringing at four o'clock, and at five o'clock a short service was conducted in the church and an interesting address given by the president of the Guild (Rev. A. Gray Maitland). After service the members adjourned to the Barn schoolroom, where a substantial tea was provided by Mrs. Maitland, who presided at the table, assisted by Mrs. W. H. Thompson, Mrs. T. Rhodes, Miss Benbow, and Miss Sissons. After tea a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mrs. Maitland for her kind hospitality, and the ladies who assisted her. The business meeting followed, the Vicar in the chair. The whole of the officers were re-elected, including the Rev. A. Gray Maitland (president), and the Rev. S. J. Marriot (vice-president.) Ten new members were added to the roll. The secretary's report showed that the work of the Guild was satisfactory. The meetings had been well attended, the clergy at each place of meeting being present to take an interest in the proceedings, and to extend their hospitality. Financially the balance was on the right side. A number of attempts for peals had failed, but nine were satisfactorily accomplished during the year. Votes of thanks were given the officers for their services during the past year, and to the Vicar for presiding. A move was made to the belfry where touches of Grandsire, Plain Bob and Stedman were rung. About forty members were present, representing Netherton, Tipton, Old Hill, Coseley, Halesowen, Lichfield, Solihull and Dudley.

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."

BARNSBURY COURT BOB MAJOR.

SIR,—I am reminded that I have not yet replied to Mr. John Carter's query under the above heading, viz.—"Are we to accept the above method as an old or a new one?" see "BELL NEWS" for December 9th, 1899. I am vexed to have so long delayed, but my reply shall be as follows, and I hope Mr. Carter and your readers generally will forgive my apparent indifference to this question. When publishing Barnsbury I thought I was introducing quite an innovation into the Court Bob system, the novelty being the positions in which places are made, viz., all upon one side of the lead perpendicular as it were, and although these places are made both before and after meeting the treble, it is in my opinion quite different from the position of places made in Double Court, which are at opposite corners of the lead, or as it were diagonally. Mr. A. Craven in "THE BELL NEWS" of December 16th, 1899, says "if this method is not a double one, then it must be single Norwich." The wonder is what these gentlemen will make of it. I wish however to point out that places in single Norwich and also the reverse Norwich are not made in adjoining positions as in Barnsbury, but in 6ths, 4ths, 3rds and 5ths, or as it is when in position, the bells apart. But, Sir, perhaps it will be best, and indeed I for one shall be quite contented to leave this matter in the hands of the members of the Central Council as to whether I have pointed out another to the several numbers of the Court Bob system. Perhaps Messrs. Carter, Cartwright, and Craven will kindly bring forward this matter, as at the present moment I really cannot say if I shall be present at the next Council Meeting. I really don't know if the author of Canonbury is willing to agree to this proposition, as I have not asked him the question, neither did I get his permission for publishing it, and so perhaps Mr. George Baker, of Hove, Brighton, would like to speak for himself on this matter. In conclusion I give another variation. It contains all Barnsbury Court Bob changes, obtained by means of 7th and 2nd places, and exactly in the same manner as Oxford

Bob Minor comes from Double Court Minor, no more or less, see page 3 *Standard Methods*. By the way while upon the subject it seems to me that this Double Court Bob Minor is more like Double Norwich Major than any other of the Court Major methods. Let readers compare these for themselves.

HIGHBURY BOB MAJOR.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7
2 4 1 3 5 6 7 8
4 2 3 1 6 5 8 7
2 4 3 6 1 8 5 7
4 2 6 3 8 1 7 5
4 6 2 8 3 7 1 5
6 4 8 2 7 3 5 1
4 6 2 8 3 7 5 1
6 4 8 2 7 3 1 5
6 8 4 7 2 1 3 5
8 6 7 4 1 2 5 3
6 8 7 1 4 5 2 3
8 6 1 7 5 4 3 2
8 1 6 7 4 5 2 3
1 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

Plain 1 8 6 7 4 5 2 3 Lead

Bob 1 7 8 6 4 5 2 3 Lead

Single 1 8 7 6 4 5 2 3 Lead

The calls now are before, wrong, middle, and home.

H. DAINS.

ST. STEPHEN'S SURPRISE.

SIR,—I am sorry to inform Mr. Dench that the method he published in last week's "BELL NEWS" is not a new one. I got it myself four years ago; both Mr. Lindoff and Mr. Knights can testify to the truth of this statement. The latter gentleman also received the same method from Mr. C. Severn as his composition some two years ago. The name I gave the method was Yorkshire Treble Bob, as it most certainly does not merit the name of Surprise, and Mr. Dench must forgive me for saying that he must have very little respect for the Surprise methods proper to attempt to include such a method with them, as it is only Woodbine Treble Bob Major with the slow work put into 3-4. I have also another method on the same plan, all single dodging and Kent Treble Bob places, which has been rung at Burnley two or three years ago. As both methods were got at the same time, Mr. Dench will see that my claim is fair. I have also to call your attention to the 5184 of Double Norwich published in your last issue as the composition of J. H. Banks. This peal I published three years ago along with eight others on the same plan. Mr. Banks will find it very difficult to get others.

ARTHUR CRAVEN.

THE DUBLIN PEAL.

SIR,—A short time ago Mr. Willson informed us that Mr. Washbrook was capable of composing peals as he was ringing. Many of us have given him credit of doing this for years, but it is Mr. Wakley and Mr. Pye we have to thank for informing us what properties these peals contain. Now it appears over the above peal Mr. Washbrook has decided to remain silent after his contradictory statements in his last attempt at putting wrongs right. It's just as one might expect; the only surprise is that he should try his mixture with such a band of ringers, some of whom being conductors of great ability, and that he is not man enough to disclaim the peal. I should advise him to keep these kind of peals for his old friends, and then he will be able to tack a bit on or off, turn the ends into the middle, or introduce a few courses of another variation, or anything in the shape of a peal. Now Sir, you allowed one gentleman to give his and others' opinion on Mr. Pye's peal having yet to be beaten, perhaps you will allow me to give mine and others opinion that the record peal of London Surprise has yet to be rung, which may account to some extent for one gentleman being anxious to wash Mr. Washbrook at the other conductors' expense, and for another gentleman's sence

T. NEWMAN.

Caversham.

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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, MARCH 10, 1900.

NEARLY all this week's ringing records, both peals and touches, have been rung to celebrate the relief of Lady-smith, and the escape of our countrymen and countrywomen from the further horrors of a siege which was unbearable even unto death. The intrepid general conducting the relieving army; the brave and long-suffering commander who maintained his defence for so long; the men who fought so grandly for the honour of the flag; all will have the plaudits and rewards which a generous country can give.

The perusal of the records in this number affords a very good indication that patriotism is far from being an unknown quantity among the members of the Exercise. There may be several different opinions among ringers as to the origin of the war: there may be those who think with some men of note that it ought never to have been

entered upon, in fact that statemanship should have been able to prevent it. But while our armies are engaged in actual warfare, is there one church bell-ringer in existence who wishes, because from his point of view the war is wrong, that the "soldiers of the Queen" may not in the conflict gain any and every advantage over their opponents? We think not, most decidedly.

The footnotes to the peals this week are not, we venture to say, to be looked upon as a matter of course, and regarded as the mere pursuance of custom. These peals have been rung from a feeling of patriotism, from a desire not only that the success of our armies shall be heralded and voiced by the Church's loudest cymbals, but that in connection therewith the brave deeds shall be recorded in legible and durable characters for the benefit of future generations of ringers. We, as the representative of the ringing Exercise all over the world, congratulate the noble victors and patriots who have shown very plainly that Britain is yet the first power in the world. "England yet!"

It will please our readers to know that we shall take all necessary steps to ensure that copies of this number shall reach the hands of those generals whose names are at the present moment so prominently before us. We are under the impression that the records will be read by them with no small degree of wonder and interest. Some of our ringing friends have relatives or friends on one or other of the scenes of action. We suggest that they should let their kindred see what the church bell ringers at home think of their bravery, pluck, and resolution.

To the proposal we made a fortnight ago to publish a list of clergymen who are ringers, several flattering commendations have been received. Various suggestions have been submitted, therefore it will be as well to define what is at present intended. The name of every parson who can ring a bell in rounds is permissible, also of those who are able to ring a half-pull method upon handbells. Those who have rung peals will have the number of such, and the methods, added. We shall refer to the matter again next week; in the meantime we hope to receive many more names and addresses. We must not trust to memory in an affair of this kind.

The Metropolis.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1900, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH, LEWISHAM.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 22½ cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. .. Treble.	WILLIAM BOND 5.
WALTER J. SMITH 2.	THOMAS TAYLOR 6.
EDWIN BARNETT, JUN. .. 3.	HARRY WARNETT 7.
PERCY E. BEX* 4.	JOHN H. CHEESMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by A. KNIGHTS and Conducted by EDWIN BARNETT, SEN.

*First peal of Major. This peal was rung to commemorate the relief of Ladysmith.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, EDMONTON,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 17 cwt.

PERCY J. DARLINGTON .. Treble.	ISAAC G. SHADE 5.
RICHARD GOODCHILD 2.	LEWIS J. DARLINGTON .. 6.
ALFRED W. DARLINGTON .. 3.	*JOHN R. SHARMAN 7.
JAMES PARKER 4.	WILLIAM BENNETT .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN R. SHARMAN.

*First peal in the method as conductor; and was rung in honour of the relief of Ladysmith.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 3, 1900, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MATFELON, WHITECHAPEL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 20 cwt.

JAMES SCHOLLES Treble.	THOMAS H. TAPPENDER .. 5.
EDWARD WALLAGE 2.	HENRY SPRINGALL 6.
ARTHUR BARKUS 3.	JOHN W. GOLDING 7.
HARRY R. PASMORE 4.	EMANUEL HALL Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY SPRINGALL.

This peal was rung by request of the Rev. J. A. Faithfull, M.A., Rector, to celebrate the relief of Ladysmith. Firing of the bells followed.

The Provinces.

WITNEY, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

On Thursday, March 1, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE.

FREDERICK POUNDS Treble.	FRANCIS P. POWELL 5.
HARRY BROOKS 2.	JOHN MONK 6.
GEORGE ROOM 3.	REV. CYRIL W. O. JENKYN .. 7.
THOMAS BULL 4.	JESSE BROOKS Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN MONK.

Rung to commemorate the relief of Ladysmith.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.—SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 1, 1900, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

GEORGE SMART Treble.	FRANK BENNETT 5.
KEITH HART 2.	GEORGE A. KING 6.
ARTHUR A. FULLER 3.	JAMES N. FROSSELL 7.
ROBERT J. DAWE 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

Rung in honour of the relief of Ladysmith.

SPROUGHTON, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 1, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Superlative Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Double Court Bob, Double Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

DAVID SOUTHGATE Treble.	EDGAR RIVERS 4.
GEORGE W. MEE 2.	ALFRED G. RIVERS 5.
FRANK ROLFE 3.	CHARLES MEE Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES MEE.

Rung in honour of the relief of Ladysmith.

NORTON FITZWARREN, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 1, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being Forty-two 6-scores. Tenor 16 cwt.

JOHN SLOMAN Treble.	HENRY CHAPLIN 4.
FRANK WYATT 2.	ISAAC CREED 5.
HENRY J. CREED 3.	PETER B. WILLIS Tenor.

Conducted by ISAAC CREED.

First peal by the tenor-man, who was proposed a member of the above Association before starting. Rung to celebrate the relief of Ladysmith.

DERBY.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(DERBY BRANCH.)

On Thursday, March 1, 1900, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

GEORGE WARD* Treble.	EDMUND WILLIS 5.
CHARLES DRAPER 2.	ALBERT E. THOMPSON 6.
CHARLES E. HART 3.	SAMUEL MASKREY 7.
JAMES W. DENT 4.	GEORGE WHEELDON Tenor.

Conducted by A. E. THOMPSON.

*First peal. Rung in honour of the relief of Ladysmith.

BOLTON.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Friday, March 2, 1900, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE SAVIOUR,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
REEVES'S TEN-PART. Tenor 20½ cwt.

WILLIAM GRUNDY Treble.	A. EDWARD WREAKS 5.
THOMAS PEERS 2.	JAMES CALDERBANK 6.
JOHN MOSCROP 3.	TITUS BARLOW 7.
ROBERT FIDDIES 4.	EDMUND HEWITT Tenor.

Conducted by A. EDWARD WREAKS.

This peal was rung in commemoration of the relief of Ladysmith by Sir Redvers Buller.

SEDBERGH, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, March 2, 1900, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.
Tenor 16 cwt.

JOHN W. HARRISON* .. Treble	JOHN E. SENOGLES 5.
JOHN J. EADEN 2.	WILLIAM PENNINGTON 6.
EDWARD PENNINGTON .. 3.	F. SEYMOUR J. PILE 7.
ROBERT IBBOTSON 4.	GEORGE F. WOODHOUSE .. Tenor.

Composed by F. MEADOWS, and
Conducted by GEORGE F. WOODHOUSE.

†First peal. This peal was rung to commemorate the relief of Ladysmith by Sir Redvers Buller.

BATTLE, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1900, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs.

JEHU SINDEN* Treble.	CHARLES HYLAND 5.
WALTER FRANKS 2.	CHARLES R. CARTER 6.
ALBERT EDWARD BARROW .. 3.	WILLIAM J. THOMAS 7.
FREDERICK LOCK 4.	WILLIAM H. ELDRIDGE .. Tenor.

Conducted by WALTER FRANKS.

*First peal away from the tenor. Rung in honour of the relief of Ladysmith.

KELSEALE, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1900, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND PETER.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

FREDERICK MEE Treble.	EDGAR RIVERS 5.
FRANK ROLFE 2.	WILLIAM DREW 6.
HARRY JAMES MEE 3.	ALFRED G. RIVERS 7.
GEORGE THOMPSON 4.	GEORGE HARDY Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK MEE.

This peal is taken from the Clavis. Messrs. Thompson, Drew and Hardy hail from Kelsale, the rest are members of the Sproughton company. This peal was rung in honour of the relief of Ladysmith.

DEANE, BOLTON.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BOLTON AND MANCHESTER BRANCHES.)

On Saturday, March 3, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DUFFIELD MAJOR, 5000 CHANGES.
Tenor 14 cwt.

THOMAS PEERS Treble.	TITUS BARLOW 5.
HENRY MOSS 2.	A. EDWARD WREAKS 6.
JOSEPH POTTER 3.	RICHARD RIDYARD 7.
ALFRED POTTER 4.	JOHN POTTER Tenor.

Composed by SIR A. HEYWOOD, and Conducted by JOHN POTTER.

This peal was rung in commemoration of the relief of Ladysmith, South Africa. The composition will be found in Sir A. P. Heywood's 'Duffield,' page 55.

GREAT ADDINGTON, NORTHANTS.

On Saturday, March 3, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven 720's, each called differently. Tenor 12 cwt.

ARTHUR HUDSON* Treble.	DANIEL REDHEAD 4.
JAMES NICKERSON 2.	*FREDERICK TINEY 5.
JAMES HUDSON 3.	REGINALD LOVEDAY Tenor.

Conducted by REGINALD LOVEDAY.

*First peal. *First peal on the bells.

HALLIWELL, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 3, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE. Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 25 lbs.

W. THORNLEY Treble.	P. NUTTALL 5.
J. E. FLEETWOOD 2.	*R. BARLOW 6.
G. PINCOTT 3.	W. PENNINGTON 7.
R. HOLDEN 4.	†P. HARGREAVES Tenor.

Conducted by W. THORNLEY.

*First peal away from the tenor. †First peal. This peal was rung in honour of the relief of Ladysmith and was much appreciated by the inhabitants.

APPLETON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD,

On Monday, March 5, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

CHARLES HOUNSLOW .. Treble.	G. H. PHILLOTT, ESQ. .. 5.
F. W. WADE 2.	REV. C. W. O. JENKYN .. 6.
FREDERICK WHITE 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
FRANK TUBB 4.	JOHN MONK Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

Rung to celebrate the eighty second anniversary of the Appleton Society of change-ringers.

ROLVENDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 5, 1900, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

VICARS'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

EDGAR BURDEN Treble.	ROBERT EDWARDS 5.
ALFRED HINDS 2.	BENJAMIN BASSETT 6.
FREDERICK G. BURDEN .. 3.	GEORGE NEVE 7.
CHARLES TRIBE 4.	HARRY HOLDSTOCK Tenor.

Conducted by B. BASSETT.

This was to have been rung on the relief of Ladysmith, only meeting short was rung on this date.

CAVERSHAM, OXON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

(THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY.)

On Monday, March 5, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR,

5056 CHANGES;

JOHNSON'S VARIATION OF MIDDLETON'S PEAL.

H. W. SMITH Treble.	J. HANDS 5.
G. E. HARBOUR 2.	G. ESSEX 6.
E. W. MENDAY 3.	R. T. HIBBERT 7.
E. J. MENDAY 4.	T. NEWMAN Tenor.

Conducted by T. NEWMAN.

ALDENHAM, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 6, 1900, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS'S FOUR-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt.

BERTAM PREWETT* Treble.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 5.
HUBERT EDEN 2.	WILLIAM HEWITT 6.
WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD .. 3.	†ERNEST HOLLOWAY 7.
ERNEST E. HUNTLEY .. 4.	FRANCIS A. SMITH Tenor.

Conducted by BERTRAM PREWETT.

*First peal as conductor. †First peal of Stedman.

DARLINGTON, DURHAM.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(THE ST. JOHN'S GUILD.)

On Tuesday, March 6, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

FREDERICK C. NAISBITT* Treble.	THOMAS CRAWFORD 5.
JAMES BAXTER† 2.	WILLIAM H. PORTER 6.
WILLIAM PATTON 3.	THOMAS CLARK 7.
WILLIAM D. LISTER† .. 4.	G. F. WILLIAMS Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES BAXTER.

*First peal. †First peal in the method as conductor. ‡First peal in the method Rang as a thanksgiving for the recent victories of our troops in South Africa.

Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

PONTEFRAC (Yorks).—On Monday, February 19th, for practice, a date touch of Stedman Triples in 1 hr. 9 mins. T. Watkinson, 1; G. Spurr, 2; A. Walker, 3; S. Brook, 4; W. Pearson (conductor), 5; J. Jackson, 6; C. Watts, 7; F. Moody, 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

BEBINGTON (Cheshire).—On Monday, February 26th, for practice, a date touch in 59½ mins., being 100 Grandsire, 720 Plain Bob, 360 Canterbury, 360 Oxford Single, and 360 College Single. J. Millington, 1; E. Breeze, 2; G. Breeze, 3; J. Cliffe, 4; J. Dillon, 5; H. E. Hough (conductor), 6.

Miscellaneous.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

DERBY.—Recently, in the belfry of St. Andrew's church, on hand-bells, retained in hand, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original. W. Wallace, 1-2; H. P. Harman (conductor), 3-4; A. H. Ward, 5-6; C. Draper, 7-8. This was rung after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CRAYFORD (Kent).—On Sunday evening, February 11th, for Divine Service, 504 Stedman Triples. E. Audsley, 1; G. Conyard, 2; E. Barnett, jun., 3; *J. Saxby, 4; P. E. Bex, 5; W. Bond, 6; E. Barnett, sen., 7; †H. Audsley, 8. *First touch in the method. †Longest touch.

DEPTFORD (Kent).—On Thursday, March 1st, on the occasion of the relief of Ladysmith, several touches were rung. The bells were fired, concluding with 518 Grandsire Triples. W. Jeffries, 1; J. Rose, 2; T. Deal, 3; J. Law, 4; G. H. Daynes, 5; E. H. Nixon, 6; W. J. Jeffries (conductor), 7; H. Young, 8. On Sunday, March 4th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 41 mins. W. Bedwell (conductor), 1; E. H. Nixon, 2; T. G. Deal, 3; A. C. Bedwell, 4; J. Davis, 5; W. J. Jeffries, 6; G. H. Daynes, 7; J. Law, 8.

CRAYFORD (Kent).—On Thursday, March 1st, a peal of Treble Bob Major was attempted to commemorate the relief of Ladysmith, but was unfortunately lost after ringing 1 hr. 50 mins. E. Audsley, 1; G. Conyard, 2; E. Barnett, jun. 3; J. H. Cheesman, 4; E. Barnett, sen. 5; E. Wightman, 6; W. J. Smith, 7; C. Wilkins (conductor), 8.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

WHITWICK (Leicestershire).—On Thursday, March 1st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. W. Fern, 1; S. W. West, 2; J. Rawson, 3; A. Whitmore, 4; H. Partridge, 5; B. West, 6; J. A. Mould (conductor), 7; F. Boame, 8. The bells were afterwards fired and brought down in peal. Rung in honour of the relief of Ladysmith and Kimberley.—"God save the Queen."

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday evening, February 25th, for Divine Service at St. Michael's church, 800 Bob Major. C. H. Howard (conductor), 1; W. Farrow, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; W. Moore, 4; A. Shuffebotham, 5; P. Holmes, 6; W. Grimwade, 7; E. F. Slade, 8. On Thursday, March 1st, to celebrate the relief of Ladysmith, a peal of Treble Bob Major was attempted, which ended after ringing 2 hrs. 5 mins., owing to the 5th rope breaking. H. Coote, 1; W. Farrow, 2; C. H. Howard (conductor), 3; A. Shuffebotham, 4; H. E. Hammond, 5; E. F. Slade, 6; W. Hammond, 7; W. Webb, 8. On Sunday morning, March 4th, 784 Bob Major. H. Coote, 1; W. Farrow, 2; G. W. Piper, 3; C. H. Howard (conductor), 4; H. Pilcher, 5; P. Holmes, 6; W. Hammond, 7; E. F. Slade, 8. For evening service, 1008 Kent Treble Bob Major. H. Coote, 1; W. Farrow, 2; *G. W. Piper, 3; A. Shuffebotham, 4; C. H. Howard (conductor), 5; P. Holmes, 6; H. E. Hammond, 7; W. Webb, 8. *First attempt at Treble Bob.

STISTED (Essex).—On Sunday afternoon, March 4th, for Divine Service at All Saints' church, 720 Bob Minor. F. Webb, 1; E. Radley, 2; E. Chaplin, 3; E. Chaplin, 4; J. Fluty, 5; G. W. Piper (conductor), 6.

BISHOPS STORTFORD (Herts).—On Thursday, March 1st, at St. Michael's church, in commemoration of the relief of Ladysmith, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples. W. Rickett, 1; A. Tucker, 2; T. Newman, 3; W. Watts, 4; W. Prior, 5; W. W. Tucker, 6; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 7; J. Sampford, 8. Also 630 in the same method. H. J. Tucker, 4; W. Watts, 7; the rest as before. Another quarter-peal in the same method (Johnson's). W. Rickett, 1; A. Tucker, 2; T. Newman, 3; W. Prior, 4; W. T. Prior, 5; W. W. Tucker, 6; W. Watts (conductor), 7; H. J. Tucker, 8.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CRAWLEY (Sussex).—On Thursday, March 1st, at the church of St. John the Baptist, 504 Grandsire Triples. T. Lee, 1; J. Newnham, 2; G. Attfield, 3; J. Rice, 4; G. Paice, 5; A. D. Mills, 6; R. Jordan, 7; F. Merritt, 8. Longest touch in any method by T. Lee. Also 504 in the same method, with G. Ward, 1; the rest as before, conducted by J. Rice. The above touches were rung in honour of the relief of Ladysmith.

BATTLE (Sussex).—On Tuesday, February 20th, at the parish church, 720 Oxford Bob. W. H. Eldridge, 1; W. J. Thomas, 2; F.

Mathis, 3; C. J. Hyland, 4; J. Livermore, 5; C. R. Carter, 6; W. Franks (conductor), 7; A. Saunders, 8. On receipt of the news of relief of Ladysmith, the Union Jack was hoisted on the parish church, and the bells were fired 120 times, being the number of days which the siege had lasted, finishing with a well-struck touch of Grandsire Triples. In the evening a peal was rung, an account of which appears in its proper place.

ST. LEONARD'S-ON-SEA.—On March 1st, to celebrate the relief of Ladysmith, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at Christ Church, in 46 mins. J. Stone, 1; F. Lock, 2; T. Waterhouse, 3; F. Medhurst, 4; J. Livermore, 5; G. Watson (composer and conductor), 6; F. Kennett, 7; H. Denman, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

LITTLE KIMBLE (Bucks).—On Thursday, March 1st, to laud the good news from the front, the local company rang Grandsire Doubles and 180 Bob Minor. F. Darvill, F. Eldridge, A. Darvill, G. Darvill, Albert Darvill, E. Davey. Conducted by J. W. Wilkins. This was the first attempt at Minor by the band.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWPORT (Monmouthshire).—On Thursday, March 1st, at St. Woolo's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. T. Butler, 1; F. Green, 2; H. Millard, 3; J. W. Jones, 4; H. Russell, 5; J. Butler, 6; F. Atwell (conductor), 7; G. Pippin, 8. Rung on receipt of the news of the relief of Ladysmith.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EAST BERKS. AND SOUTH BUCKS. BRANCH.)

HIGH WYCOMBE (Bucks).—On Thursday, March 1st, to commemorate the relief of Ladysmith, the local company, assisted by J. W. Wilkins rang 720 Grandsire Doubles, 4-6-8 covering. During the day other 6-scores were rung. J. W. Wilkins (conductor), Page, Hayes, Aitchin, Atkins, Neighbour, Wootton, Dart, Coles and Wheeler.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

EWELL (Surrey).—On February 27th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. H. Sycamore, 1; H. Pedrick, 2; H. Beams, 3; E. Grove, 4; H. Kenton, 5; H. Greenhill, 6; C. Read, 7; G. Price, 8. Conducted by C. Read. First quarter-peal by 1, 4 and tenor. Rang in honour of Lord Roberts's great victory over General Cronje on that day. Also on March 1st, 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Worsfold, 1; J. Beams, 2; H. Sycamore, 3; H. Pedrick, 4; E. Groves, 5; H. Greenhill (conductor), 6; H. Beams, 7; G. Price, 8. A 672 in the same method. W. Worsfold, 1; G. Scowen, 2; H. Pedrick, 3; G. Peuderick, 4; H. Beams, 5; H. Greenhill, 6; C. Read (conductor), 7; W. Poplett, 8. Rung in honour of the relief of Ladysmith. Also on Sunday, March 4th, for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Price, 1; J. Beams, 2; H. Sycamore, 3; H. Pedrick, 4; H. Beams, 5; H. Greenhill, 6; C. Read, 7; W. Poplett, 8.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ICKLETON (Cams).—On Thursday, March 1st, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Doubles, being seven 6-scores of Grandsire. and four 6-scores of Old Doubles, each called differently in 50 mins. A. Page, 1; E. Webb, 2; P. Webb (conductor), 3; A. Lilley, 4; J. Webb, 5; F. Crick, 6. Rung to commemorate the relief of Ladysmith.

ALDINGTON (Kent).—On Sunday, January 21st, after morning service at St. Martin's church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). C. Slingsby, 1; W. Sharwood, 2; P. Hodgkin, 3; F. Wanstall, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; F. Hodgkin, 6. Another 720 in the same method (nine bobs and six singles), in 28 mins. C. Slingsby, 1; W. Sharwood, 2; T. Post, 3; G. Hooker, 4; P. Hodgkin, 5; F. Hodgkin, 6. And another 720 in the same method (fourteen singles and four bobs), in 29 mins., both conducted by P. Hodgkin.

EARL'S BARTON (Northants).—On Tuesday, December 26th, at the parish church, a 720 of Oxford Bob (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). F. Jones, 1; C. Swann, 2; J. Hudson, 3; J. Nickerson, 4; L. Chapman, 5; R. Loveday (conductor), 6.

GREAT YARMOUTH (Norfolk).—On March 1st, for the relief of Ladysmith, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 55 mins. W. Lee, 1; R. Christian, 2; W. Blyth, 3; D. Hayward (conductor), 4; W. Secrett, 5; A. Webber, 6; J. Matthews, 7; F. Pestell, 8. Afterwards, with the assistance of the probationers, rounds and call-changes were rung on the twelve.

HANDSWORTH.—On Thursday, March 1st, on the occasion of the relief of Ladysmith, 720 Grandsire Minor. F. Banks, 1; A. Smith,

2; R. Faux, 3; T. Westwood (conductor), 4; T. Verry, 5; W. Verry, 6. On Sunday evening, March 4th, for Divine Service, 1008 Grandsire Triples. R. Faux, 1; W. Verry, 2; J. Sanders, 3; B. Starkey, 4; T. Verry, 5; T. Westwood (conductor), 6; A. Smith, 7; — Jones, 8. Composed by the late Henry Johnson.

HEADCORN (Kent).—On Saturday, February 3rd, 720 Bob Minor, in 28 mins. C. Slingsby, 1; W. Sharwood, 2; G. Hooker, 3; H. Brown, 4; D. Hodgkin, 5; P. Hodgkin, 6. Also another 720 in the same method (eighteen bobs and two singles), standing as before. And 720 in the same method (fifteen bobs and six singles), in 29 mins. C. Slingsby, 1; W. Sharwood, 2; G. Hooker, 3; D. Hodgkin, 4; P. Hodgkin, 5; F. Hodgkin, 6. And another 720 in the same method (fourteen singles and four bobs), all conducted by P. Hodgkin.

RANMOOR, SHEFFIELD (Yorks).—On Tuesday, February 27th, previous to the annual social tea, to celebrate the victory of Paardeberg, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. C. Haynes, 1; W. Goodwin, 2; F. Allen, 3; J. Evinson, 4; S. Thomas (conductor), 5; T. Sawyer, 6; W. S. Plant, 7; H. Allen, 8. First quarter-peal by the ringers of the treble and tenor.

RUGBY (Warwickshire).—On Thursday, March 1st, at St. Andrew's church, to commemorate the relief of Ladysmith, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins. A. Coleman, 1; R. Watson, 2; A. Gillings, 3; C. J. B. Cook, 4; A. Dubber (conductor), 5; T. Holmes, 6; H. King, 7; J. W. Shotton, 8. Composed by J. George. On Sunday evening, March 4th, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples, in 21 mins. A. Coleman, 1; R. Watson, 2; A. Gillings, 3; C. J. B. Cooke, 4; A. Dubber (conductor), 5; J. W. Shotton, 6; T. Holmes, 7; C. Rowbottom, 8.

SPELDHURST (Kent).—On Sunday, January 28th, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 38 mins. F. Still, 1; A. T. Godley, 2; R. Pelling, 3; G. Turbey (conductor), 4; J. Maynard, 5; H. Seal, 6; G. Izzard, 7; J. Humphries, 8.

THORNHAM MAGNA (Suffolk).—On Sunday, February 25th, for children's service at St. Mary's church, 480 changes of Doubles, being 120 each of Stedman's Slow Course, New Doubles, St. Simons, Morning Star. E. Youngs, 1; H. Symonds, 2; W. Rose, 3; E. Buckingham, 4; A. Symonds (conductor), 5. Also 120 each of Canterbury, Evening Star, Grandsire. W. Lummis, 1; E. Youngs, 2; H. Symonds, 3; A. Symonds, 4; E. Buckingham (conductor), 5. On March 1st, the bells were kept going in the afternoon, 120 each of Grandsire, Plain Bob, April Day and the Dream being rung. W. Rose, 1; E. Youngs, 2; C. Nunn, 3; H. Symonds, 4; E. Buckingham (conductor), 5. Rung in commemoration of the relief of Ladysmith. On Sunday, March 4th, for Divine Service, 720 of Doubles, being 120 each of St. Simons, Canterbury, Grandsire, Plain Bob, Morning Star and the Dream. W. Rose, 1; E. Youngs, 2; C. Nunn, 3; J. E. Buckingham, 4; A. Symonds (conductor), 5.

TAUNTON (Somerset).—Recently, 504 Stedman Triples. J. Maddock, 1; G. H. Yendall, 2; H. J. Poole, 3; F. Millard, 4; W. Gillard, 5; A. Doble, 6; A. Evans (conductor), 7; E. E. Burgess, 8. Also 840 Grandsire Triples. H. Hayward, 1; J. Maddock, 2; A. Doble, 3; F. Millard, 4; A. Evans, 5; H. J. Poole (conductor), 6; S. Wyatt, 7; W. Cording, 8. On January 14th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins. H. J. Poole, 1; T. Doble, 2; H. Pearce, 3; A. Doble, 4; W. H. Gillard, 5; E. E. Burgess, 6; A. Evans (conductor), 7; W. Pearce, 8.

WALTHAMSTOW (Essex).—On Thursday evening, March 1st, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, 1259 changes, in 46 mins. H. Scarlett, 1; F. Rumens, 2; G. Grimwade, 3; R. Maynard, jun. (first quarter-peal), 4; R. Maynard, sen., 5; T. Maynard, 6; C. Hopkins, 7; W. Manning, 8; F. A. Nunn, 9; T. Watson, 10. Composed by Cornelius Charge, and Conducted by F. A. Nunn.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, February 25th, morning service, 720 Bob Minor. J. Dines, 1; W. Wellington, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; A. Tarbun, 4; W. J. Piper, 5; G. W. Piper (conductor), 6. On Friday, March 2nd, 720 Bob Minor. H. Head, 1; A. Shuttleworth, 2; W. Newman, 3; W. Wellington, 4; A. Tarbun, 5; G. W. Piper (conductor), 6. Rang in honour of the relief of Ladysmith. It was intended to ring Triples, but meeting one short the above was rung.

BOOT TRADE, good opening for beginner; chiefly repairing; at Farnham Royal. Good peal of eight bells.—Apply, J. J. PARKER, Farnham Royal.

CARMAN WANTED.—Good Wages. Change-ringer. Permanency to steady man. Good peal of eight bells. J. J. PRATT, Contractor, Hillingdon, Uxbridge.

Compositions.

TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By G. LINDOFF, *Dublin.*

5040.

23456	M	W	H
52364	2	2	2
32654		2	I
56234		2	2
24365	I	I	2
34625		2	I
43526	2		2
25346		2	2
34256		I	I
32436		2	2
23456		2	

5000.

23456	M	W	H
52364	2	2	2
32654		2	I
36524		I	2
32465	2	I	I
34625		I	2
43526	2		2
25346		2	2
34256		I	I
52436		2	2
23456	2		

TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By ARTHUR CRAVEN, *Chesterfield.*

7456.

23456	M	B	W	H
54326	I	—		2
42563		—		
64235		—		2
36452		—		2
62453	2	—	I	2
64523	I	—	2	2
36245		—	2	2
24365	I	—	2	I
45362	2	—	I	2
52364	I			2
53624			I	2
32465	2	—		
63254		I		2
35642		—		
25346		—	I	
25463		—		I
62534		—		2
24536	2	—	I	2
53246	I	—	2	I
56342	2			I
65243		—	I	2
46532		—		2
34625		—		2
23456		—		2

This peal is in twenty-four courses, and is the first obtained in that number.

THE SIXTY COURSE-ENDS.

8288.

23456	M	B	W	H
43526	I	—		—
32465		—		
26435	I	—		
68254		—		
35642		—		
54326		—		
25463		—		2
56234		—		
59342		—		I
64524		—		
64235		—		I
36452		—		2
32654	2			I
25349		—		
62453		—	2	2
45623	I	—	2	I
53624	2	—	I	2
62534	I	—	2	I
24536	2	—	I	2
53246	I	—	2	I
36245	2	—	I	2
24365	I	—	2	I
45362	2	—	I	2
52364	I			2
65243		—		2
46532		—		2
34625		—		2
23456		—		2

8288.

23456	M	B	W	H
54326	I	—		2
42563		—		
26435		—		
63254		—		
35642		—		
25346		—	I	
25463		—		I
56234		—		
56342		—		I
64523		—		
64235		—		I
36452		—		2
62453	2	—	I	2
45623	I	—	2	I
53624	2	—	I	2
32465	2	—		
32654		—		I
62534		—	2	I
24536	2	—	I	2
53246	I	—	2	I
36245	2	—	I	2
24365	I	—	2	I
45362	2	—	I	2
52363	I			2
65243		—		2
46532		—		2
34625		—		2
23456		—		2

By FRED ROBINSON, *Mirfield.*

5088.

23456	M	B	W	H
23564	2		2	I
34562	I			2
52643	I		I	2
23645	2	—	I	2
65432	I		I	2
56234		—	I	2
64235	I			2
36452		—		2
62453	I			2
26354	2			2
53624			2	2
35426	2			2
24536			2	2
25346			I	2
23456			I	2

This peal has the 5th and 6th each their extent at home.

BOB ROYAL.

By C. R. LILLEY.

5040.

23456	W	M	H
64325	S	—	—
36425		—	—
43625		—	—
62435	—	—	—
46235		—	—
24635		—	—
63245	—	—	—
26345		—	—
23645		S	—
56324	S	—	—
35624		—	—
63524		—	—
52634	—	—	—
65234		—	—
26534		—	—
53264	—	—	—
25364		—	—
23564		S	—
45326	S	—	—
34526		—	—
53426		—	—
42536	—	—	—
54239		—	—
25436		—	—
43256	—	—	—
42356		S	—
34256		—	—
23456		—	—

ADDRESS WANTED.—Mr. A. Fowler, of 101, George's Road, Holloway, wishes for the address of E. N. Aldridge, late of 25, Brahmes road, West Green Road, London, as he wishes to communicate with him at once.

Notices.

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

Halifax and District Association.—The next meeting of this Association will be held at Sowerby, to-day, Saturday, March 10th. Bells ready from dinner time. Business meeting in schoolroom 6 p.m.

WRIGHT INGHAM, Sec.

The Heavy Woollen District Association.—The next monthly meeting of this society will be held at Kirkburton to-day, Saturday, March 10. Meeting at 5.30 at The George hotel. There was a little uncertainty whether the usual eight-bell contest could be held owing to outside interference, but the obstacle has been removed, and the contest will be held as usual. All members who intend competing must pay their subscriptions on or before March 1st. W. IDLE, Sec.

47, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury.

Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting of this Branch will be held at St. Saviour's, Bacup, to-day, Saturday, March 10th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6.30. W. CASS, Branch Sec.

83, Chesham Road, Bury.

The Sussex County Association.—Eastern Division.—The next meeting will be held at Seaford, on Saturday, March 24th. Bells available from 4 to 9. Tea provided by the kindness of the Vicar. Members intending to be present will greatly oblige by sending word to the undersigned not later than the 21st inst. Will local Secretaries please forward all subscriptions in arrears at once.

S. SAKER, Hon. Sec. Eastern Division.
Arran, Baldslow Road, Hastings.

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.

Cotgrave, near Nottingham.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Saturday, February 17th, the members of this Society held their annual dinner at The York hotel, Waterloo Bridge Road, S.E., when a company of twenty-six sat down to an excellent table, comfortably arranged and suitably appreciated.

The ex-Master, Mr. H. Barton, took the chair at 6 o'clock, Mr. Wm. Baron occupying the vice-chair.

Letters of apology were read expressing regret at being unable to attend from various members of the Society. Mr. H. N. Davis heartily started a well-arranged programme, which was well sustained throughout by the various musical gentlemen present, who kindly gave their services, a programme which was enlarged upon considerably by volunteers and encores. In referring to the Society's past year the Master reported progress. The list totalled thirteen peals, equal to the highest ever performed. Performances—Grandsire Triples, 3; Grandsire Caters, 2; Bob Major, 3; Bob Royal, 1; Treble Bob Major, 1; Treble Bob Royal, 1; Stedman Caters, 2;

(one false). Towers—Walworth, 2; Epsom, 2; Walthamstow, 1; Brixton, 1; Ashted, 1; Camberwell, 1; Westminster, 5. Some notable attempts were made at Fulham for Johnson's short-course composition of Stedman Caters, and at St. Albans Cathedral twice for Bob Major, lasting about 3 hrs. each.

The thanks of the company were due to Mr. G. Wild for providing a gramophone and manipulating the same, as well as accompanying many of the songs upon the piano-forte.

"The Visitors" was responded to by Sergt. C. A. West, of the Surrey Rifles, F Company, while the clever feats of the Catinelli brothers were much appreciated. The handbells used were a good peal belonging to the Society, tenor 18 size in G, by Stockham, 1876. Mr. Symonds' unmusical, but humorous song, created much mirth, particularly that which concluded the programme.

During the afternoon the tower of St. John's was open for ringing, by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. C. Barnbridge Bell, M.A., and touches of Grandsire and Stedman were rung, the latter consisting of one of Mr. Fussell's "Walworth touches."

A long evening passed away only too quickly for those friends thus joining in harmony, and midnight arrived when a thoroughly enjoyable sedate old annual was closed once more.

ST. SEPULCHRE, LONDON.

On Saturday, March 3rd, the bells were muffled and rang as a last token of respect to Mr. James Wheeler, for upwards of twenty years a ringer at this church, and a member of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths. Also in respectful memory of the late J. T. Bedford, Esq., formerly deputy of the Ward, and for many years a prominent and highly-esteemed member of the Vestry. J. Barry (conductor), 1; A. E. Church, 2; A. Reed, 3; J. Lewis, 4; A. Vincent, 5; G. Watkins, 6; F. Ford, 7; R. Matthews, 8; W. Matthews, 9; D. Lovett, 10. Tenor 32 cwt.

ARMLEY, LEEDS, YORKSHIRE.

On Monday evening, February 19th, at Christ Church, previous to the service for the dedication of a new organ, 600 changes of Woodbine were rung. J. Hey, 1; F. Blacketh, 2; R. Thomas, 3; J. Thackray, 4; M. Broadbent (conductor), 5; J. Heckingbottom, 6. The ceremony of dedication took place in the presence of a very large congregation, all the available space being occupied. The instrument, built by Mr. J. J. Binns, of Bramley, near Leeds, is a three-manual organ, fitted throughout with the builder's patent tubular pneumatic action, and the wind is generated by a hydraulic engine placed in the vestry. The specification further shows nine stops in a great organ, eleven in a swell organ, seven in a choir organ, five in pedal organ, with eleven coupling stops and eleven pedals. Fitted in a pitch-pine case of Gothic design, the organ has an attractive appearance. The tone of the new instrument is remarkable for quality rather than power—a feature which would be appreciated in many churches, where more organ than choir is usually heard. The dedication service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. H. M. Cox) and the Rev. G. Atkinson (curate). An exceptionally interesting and well-varied programme, eminently calculated to display the best qualities of the instrument, was gone through by Dr. A. L. Peace (organist of St. George's Hall, Liverpool), which included the March of the Crusa-

ders, from the "Legend of St. Elizabeth," introducing the beautiful melody known as the Crusader's hymn, by Frank Liszt, the piano-forte virtuoso. The total cost of organ is about £1050, of which £900 was subscribed prior to the dedication service. The offertory at the service amounted to £22 14s. 6d.

The bells at this church, six in number, have been hung twenty-eight years, and would do with overhauling, while at the same time adding two new trebles they would make a capital ring of eight, the tenor being 16 cwt. and of good tone. The subject has already been mooted and received with favour in certain quarters, and it is hoped that when the organ fund is cleared up the authorities will see their way to have the augmentation carried out, an item which would bring pleasure to both ringers and people in the neighbourhood.

On Sunday evening, March 4th, 360 Oxford Treble Bob. Jos. Thackray (conductor), 1; W. Walker (longest length away from the treble), 2; J. Whitaker, 3; Jno. Thackray, 4; J. Heckingbottom, 5; J. Guy, 6. Also 120 Violet and 72 Kent. W. Walker, 1; J. Whitaker, 2; Jos. Thackray, 3; the others as before.

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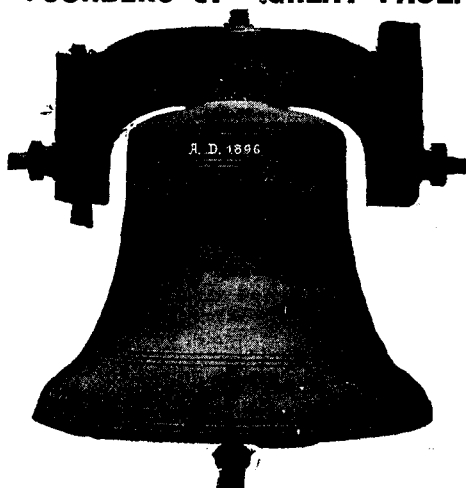
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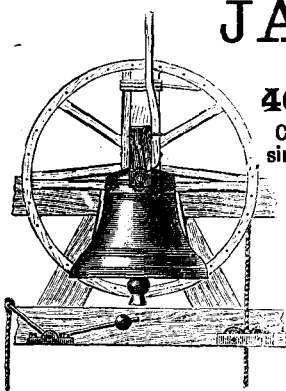
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