

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record :

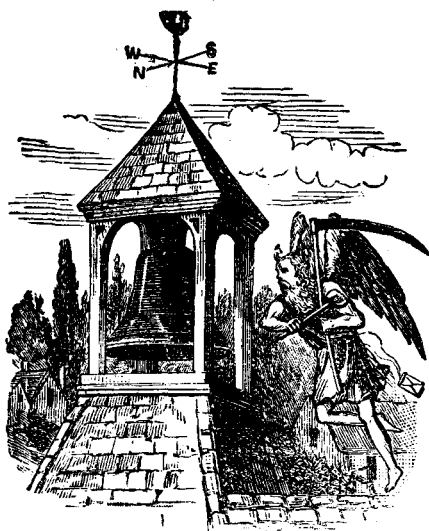
A Weekly Journal of the Ringing Exercise ; and Compendium of Information for the Clergy and Churchwardens.

No. 938. - VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1900.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

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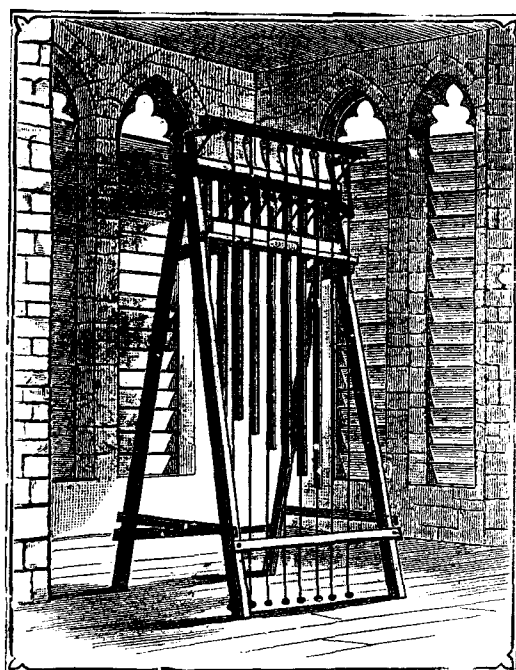
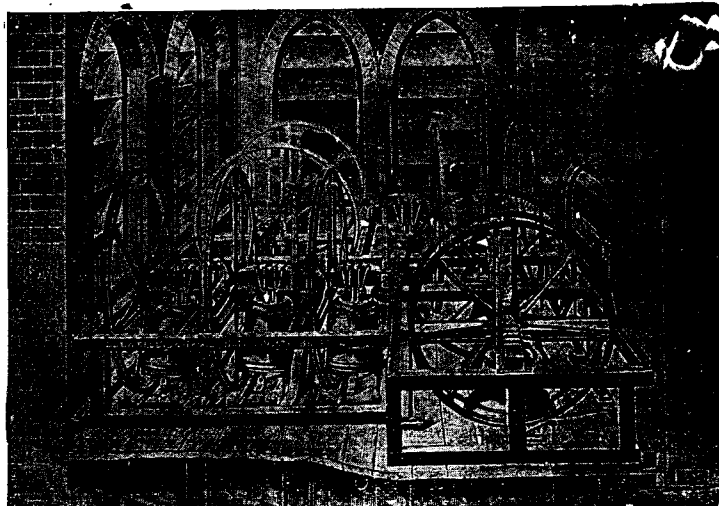
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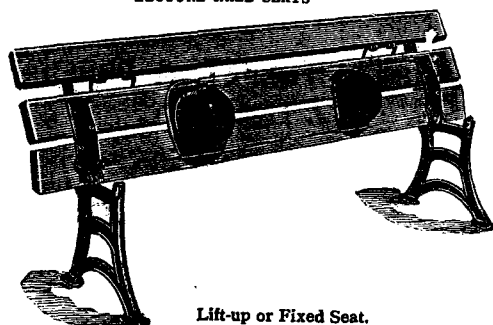
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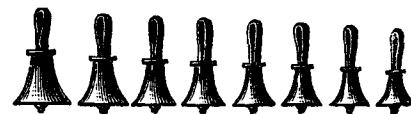
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 938.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1900.

[Vol. XVIII.]

A SHORT MEMOIR OF THE LATE CHARLES PAYNE, OF NORFOLK.

By SAMUEL SLATER, of Glemsford, Suffolk.

Then I went to Norwich, where the dons do dwell,
For some of the ringers I knew very well,
There was Hurry he railed against Thurston and Payne,
And swore he never would ring with them again.

Such is part of an old Norfolk doggrel ballad, which was written in the days of these Norfolk ringers. Having given a memoir of the late Samuel Thurston, I now wish to do the same of Charles Payne, Thurston's chief laborer, who like his master was a most enthusiastic ringer, and a man who was held in the greatest respect and esteem by all who knew him. He was born in the village of Blo-Norton, in Norfolk, about the year 1791. The parish church of Blo-Norton has a ring of five bells, and it was here that Charles Payne commenced his ringing life. The local company of this village appear to have been most enthusiastic ringers about the period of Payne's early years, as another verse in the old ballad respecting Blo-Norton and ringers ran thus:—

Then I went to Blo-Norton and there rung on five,
With some as good old ringers as any alive,
They were lovers of ringing as well as strong beer,
And to practise their science they went far and near.

Payne, however, learned to ring Minor at the neighbouring village of Garboldisham, and it was here that he rung his first peal, viz.: 5040 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in the year 1821. This he conducted; and the record shows that four of the band were named "Payne." I have been able to gather from one James Chinery some interesting particulars respecting these Paynes. (Chinery is a native of Blo-Norton, and was residing last year at Redgrave, Suffolk.) He remembers all these Paynes very well, and they were four brothers. The brothers Thomas and John he remembers better than he does Charles and Stephen. Charles left the parish, and ultimately, he thinks, died at Yarmouth. John Payne (upon the same authority) was a jobbing gardener, and Thomas Payne was parish clerk. A man named John Andrews, a hay-trusser, of Blo-Norton, was also a ringer. He and Tom Payne taught this James Chinery and Henry Eavis, Robert Fordham, and John Nolley, of Blo-Norton, to ring, as according to the saying, "they Paynes were getting old, and wished to teach some young men before they died." When he got old, Tom Payne used to assist Andrews in his hay-trussing, but the poor old man fell down dead one day while walking to his work. One of the above-named young men succeeded him as parish clerk.

About the year 1821 Charles Payne left his native village, and went to reside in Norwich. He joined the Norwich Scholars, and became a close companion of his master, Samuel Thurston, taking part in nearly all the latter's best peals, including Double Oxford Major, Double Norwich Court Major, and Superlative and London Surprise. Mr. Payne was one of the company who rung on the Cathedral bells at Norwich the last time they were

rung; he was also one of that company of Norwich ringers that embarked on a long ringing tour, which I think was the very journey during which Thurston and Payne visited Lavenham (Suffolk) on the anniversary of the bells there, about the year 1827. This tour is noted as being the one wherein the financial department of the travellers got hopelessly out of course, and necessitated, in order to procure funds for the return home, the sale of their watches and part of their clothing, by which cause they arrived in the city in a very destitute condition.

The last day of the year 1831 the Norwich Scholars attempted a peal of Stedman Cinques at St. Peter Mancroft, but the bells came round a course too soon, owing to an error on the part of the conductor, when 4884 had been rung. The subject of this memoir rang the 10th in this attempt, which shows that he could ring Stedman although he never rung a peal in the method.

After taking an active part in ringing matters with the Norwich Scholars for several years, shortly after Thurston's death Payne removed to Yarmouth, and there joined the St. Nicholas' company, taking part in three peals rung by that society, viz.: Grandsire Caters, Treble Bob Royal, and Treble Bob Major. Several anecdotes are recorded of him, one is this: On one occasion the members of the company had a very disagreeable meeting, and after getting to high words with each other they appealed to Payne, who had sat very quietly all the time, to decide who was in the wrong. His reply was:—

"You are all wrong, and a lot of fools for kicking-up all that noise."

Payne was asked once how many methods he knew. "Ask me how many I do not know, and then perhaps I can tell you," was his reply. I am informed that there was not a method known but what he could exhibit a diagram of its working.

I possess a list of steeples wherein Payne rung. They number 160, and are nearly all in Norfolk and Suffolk, the majority being sixes and fives, and even going as low as three-bell steeples, of which I find there are eight included in the list. He was a double-handed ringer, capable of ringing a pair of bells in various methods. A peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major was rung in hand by the Norwich Scholars, 5088 changes, on the 24th of August, 1826; in this Payne took part. With three members of the Yarmouth company he rung a long touch of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 1680 changes, which so far as I know is the first instance of this method being rung double-handed. The following is the record of this touch, as taken from the local newspapers of that day:—

YARMOUTH.—(*Handbell Ringing.*)—On Tuesday, February 1st, 1848, a true and complete touch, containing 1680 changes of Double Norwich Court, was rung upon handbells by the under-mentioned persons: Thomas Fox, 1-2; Frederick Watering, 3-4; James Burman, 5-6; Charles Payne, 7-8. Conducted by Charles Payne.

The last time Payne rung was with the Yarmouth company, his eyesight was so bad that he had to be led up to his rope, and after ringing led back to his seat again, but although he could not see he was still an excellent striker,

He died at Yarmouth on the 4th of December, 1866, and lies buried in Yarmouth churchyard. A fine gravestone marks the spot, erected by the Yarmouth society as a last mark of respect and esteem to their departed brother. The following is a copy of the inscription:—

Sacred To The Memory of Chares Payne, the beloved husband of Martha Payne, who departed this life, December 4th, 1866, in the 75th year of his age. He was upwards of 48 years a member of the Norwich and Yarmouth Societies of Change Ringers. He was of unimpeachable Integrity and enjoyed the highest respect and esteem of all who knew him. This Stone was erected by The Yarmouth Society.

The Norwich Scholars shewed their respect to their departed brother-ringer by ringing a muffled peal, as the following paragraph, taken from a local paper of the day, will shew:—

OBITUARY.—On Thursday evening, December 13th, 1866, St. Peter's Mancroft Ringers, rang a muffled peal in commemoration of the death of Mr. Charles Payne, for many years a member of their Society.

I cannot close this brief account of Charles Payne without returning my most sincere thanks to Mr. D. Hayward and Mr. Secrett, both of the Yarmouth company, for their very able assistance and kindness in helping me to compile this account of one who was a good follower of our Art in bygone days. While compiling this memoir I have received a letter from Yarmouth informing me that Mr. Thomas Fox (mentioned therein) is still alive and residing in the United States. This I am pleased to hear, as I have met Mr. Fox on several occasions, therefore personally know him.

THE ST. MARY'S WOOLWICH COMPANY.

During the past month in connection with the War in South Africa the church bells have given expression to the feelings of the people by being rung on the following occasions.

On Sunday, March 4th, at the close of the evening service, simultaneously with the singing of the National Anthem, consequent upon the relief of Ladysmith, and on Thursday, March 15th (by request), in honour of Lord Roberts' entry into Bloemfontein, when a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), was rung in 52 mins. A. R. Sandiford, 1; G. E. Beaver, 2; H. G. Hill (conductor), 3; W. Watchorn, 4; R. G. Carter, 5; A. Phillips, 6; W. J. Aldrige, 7; H. Beckford (first quarter-peal in the method), 8; followed by 504 of Oxford Bob, and other touches.

On Thursday, March 22nd, when Queen Victoria visited the wounded at the Herbert Hospital, the bells rang out merrily on the arrival of Her Majesty at the Royal Arsenal, at 3.35 p.m., and were kept going until 5.45 a.m. The other members who took a part (not mentioned above) were G. Carter, C. Goodbody, E. Medhurst and E. O. Masters.

STISTED (Essex).—On Sunday afternoon, March 4th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor in 20 mins. F. Webb, 1; E. Radley, 2; E. Chapman, 3; E. Chapman, 4; —. Flutey, 5; G. W. Piper (conductor), 6.

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THIRSK, YORKS.

The church of St. Mary the Virgin is a large and handsome embattled structure in the Perpendicular style, consisting of chancel, clerestoried nave of six bays, aisles, south porch and an embattled western tower eighty feet in height, containing a clock and eight bells, one of which bears the inscription "Jesus, 1410," in antique capitals, and is supposed to have been brought from Fountains Abbey; the interior has superb open roofs of Irish oak, enriched with carved bosses and cusped ornament at the intersections. At the east end of the north aisle is a screen, open above and panelled below, inclosing one bay, which forms a chapel and retains a piscina. The font retains its original Perpendicular cover, twenty-one feet in height, and adorned with crocketed pinnacles. On the north side of the chancel is a panelled doorway, with square padlock, and on the south side three sedilia and a piscina. The Communion table, of carved oak, is said to have belonged to Ryland Abbey. On either side of it is a trefoiled niche; between the clerestory windows are wall paintings of large figures; the east end of the north aisle, formerly a chantry chapel, is now occupied by a fine organ. The whole exterior is surrounded by pierced battlements, relieved by crocketed pinnacles. Above the porch is a parvise in which a hermit, named Parkinson, resided about the year 1513. The eastern window was painted by Lady Walsingham and her four sisters. The west window is a memorial to the late Frederick Bell, Esq. The east window of the south aisle contains Perpendicular glass, with figures of Our Lord and various saints, besides numerous shields of arms, including the royal coat of the Plantagenets and that of Mowbray. The chancel was restored in 1844, by Thomas, fifth Baron Walsingham, and Sir Robert Frankland Russell, Bart., in memory of Augusta Louisa, daughter of Sir R. F. Russell, and wife of Lord Walsingham, died 1844. The rest of the church was restored in 1877, at a cost of £6400, under the direction of the late G. E. Street, Esq., R.A., and re-opened October 2nd in that year by the Archbishop of York. There are 1000 sittings. The register dates from the year 1536.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRISTOL BRANCH.—This branch held a very successful meeting at Henbury on Saturday, March 24th, when about thirty attended. A short service was held at 5 p.m., conducted by the curate of the parish church. A business meeting was afterwards held in the belfry, presided over by the Rev. H. Courtney. It was resolved to hold the next meeting at St. George's, Bristol. Five new members were elected. A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and also to the curate for the service conducted by him. Several touches of Plain Bob, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, also Plain Bob and Forward Major were rung on the bells.

KNARESBOROUGH (Yorks).—On Tuesday, February 27th, at St. John's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 53 mins. F. Sewell, 1; F. Smith, 2; E. Watson, 3; F. Thompson, 4; J. Watson, 5; F. Luty, 6; W. Swires (conductor), 7; M. Styles, 8. Rung to celebrate the surrender of General Cronje. On Thursday, March 1st, to celebrate the relief of Ladysmith, a quarter-peal in the same method. E. Watson, 1; F. Smith, 2; F. Thompson, 3; B. Pearson, 4; J. Watson, 5; F. Luty, 6; W. Swires (conductor), 7; M. Styles, 8.

A BRIGHTON RINGER'S WEDDING.

On Wednesday, March 21st, the marriage took place of Keith, second son of the late Isaac Hart, of Brighton, and Ada, eldest daughter of the late Henry Baker, of Lewes. The ceremony was performed at the Church of St. Thomas-a-Becket, Cliffe, Lewes, and considerable interest was centred in the happy event, especially in local ringing circles, inasmuch as the bridegroom is a well known member of the St. Peter's Society, Brighton. The Rev. W. C. E. Soughton officiated, and a very large gathering of friends and well-wishers assembled at the church to witness the ceremony. The bride, who was given away by her brother, Mr. William Baker, was charmingly groomed in white cashmere, trimmed with chiffon and myrtle and orange blossoms. She wore, also, a wreath and veil, and carried a bouquet of choice exotics. She was attended, as bridesmaids, by her sisters, the Misses E. and N. Baker, who were becomingly attired in cream corduroy dresses. They wore picture hats and carried shower bouquets of margerites and daffodils. Mr. Henry Hart attended his brother as best man.

Subsequently about fifty guests partook of breakfast at the West-street Hall, and the health of the newly wedded pair were drunk with enthusiasm. Later in the day the party was joined by a number of Brighton and Lewes ringers, Mr. Hart being quite as popular among the Lewes band as with the members of the St. Peter's Society. On behalf of the ringers, Mr. J. Jay, sen., proposed "Health, happiness and Prosperity to Mr. and Mrs. Hart," and the toast was drunk with musical honours.

The evening was pleasantly spent with song and dance, while tunes and touches were also rung upon handbells—without the latter, no celebration could be called complete, when the happy couple, who have been made the recipients of many handsome and useful presents, left for Brighton. They departed amid a shower of congratulations and good wishes for their future welfare.

ARELEY KINGS, WORCESTERSHIRE.

On Tuesday, January 2nd, the local ringers were entertained at supper by the Rector.

The second annual meeting of this branch of the Worcestershire and Districts Association was held on Saturday, March 10th, all the members being present. Mr. T. Elcox was elected chairman, and he reported to the meeting that thirty 720s had been rung during the past year, but no peals had been rung.

It was proposed that the society should have an outing on Whit-Monday.

Mr. J. Reynolds was elected captain, and Mr. T. Griffiths secretary and delegate to the Association.

Mr. W. Martin proposed a vote of thanks to the officers for the past year, which was seconded by Mr. Mapp, and a vote of thanks to the chairman brought the meeting to a close.

ROYDON (Essex).—At the church of St. Peter, on Friday, February 9th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. J. Sewell, 1; W. Marrable, 2; A. Pearman, 3; J. Crabb, 4; W. Littlechild, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. A 720 in the same method. J. Sewell, 1; W. Marrable, 2; M. Pullett, 3; A. Pearman, 4; J. Crabb, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, March 6th, 720 and 360 Plain Bob Minor. J. Sewell, 1; W. Marrable, 2; J. Crabb, 3; I. Cavill, 4; H. Shuttlewood, 5. Also three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. J. Sewell, 1; W. Marrable, 2; I. Cavill (conductor), 3; J. Crabb, 4; W. Littlechild, 5; F. Cass, 6.

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."

WHAT CONSTITUTES A "SURPRISE" METHOD?

SIR,—The controversy between Messrs. Craven and Dench about "St. Stephen's Surprise," and especially Mr. Craven's last contribution to it, gives me an opportunity of discussing the above question with the whole Exercise, as well as with the members of the Committee on Technical Terms. I am the more anxious to do so, because it is evident that something must be done at once to clear the air of the fogs surrounding "Surprise" and "Court" methods; and the intention has long been formed to deal with the matter in the Appendix to the Glossary, which I am now preparing.

Mr. Craven is quite right in saying that no rule at present exists for discriminating between a "Surprise" method and one of ordinary "Treble Bob"—nor, for that matter, between "Court" and "Plain Bob." I may say that the need of some definite rule, with the basis on which it should be framed, are points that have long engaged my attention; and, after careful examination and comparison of all the existing methods, I have come to the conclusion that no mere feature of work, such as a "slow hunt," the amount and incidence of place-making, the extent of dodging, and so forth, will supply a reliable test. I am sure that the criterion we ought, and shall have, to adopt is some definite principle of construction; and existing methods must go up or climb down on the scale of Classification according as they stand the test, or fail under it.

To make this clearer, I may be permitted for a moment to examine the feature-tests which Mr. Craven advocates. We can readily do this by applying them to one or two methods which have been more or less practised within recent years, and, therefore, cannot be conveniently ignored.

A "slow hunt" or "slow work," consists in the lingering of a bell in one or more of the "positions"; place-making, or dodging, or both; for a whole lead, or the greater part of a lead. The "position" in which "slow work" occurs, whether it be 1-2, or 3-4, or 5-6, or 7-8, or one, or more than one, or all of them, is a matter of indifference; it is in any case "slow work"; and the construction of it, however it may be varied, does not make it any the less "slow work" while it lasts. Now if the presence of "slow work" in a method is to deprive it of its claim to the title of "Surprise," we may as well rule out "Superlative" and "Cambridge" at once; and also "Gloucester" and "Westminster." "Superlative" is essentially a "slow work" method. It possesses, certainly, a straight run through, once up and once down; but beyond this a working bell in "Superlative" does "slow work" almost continuously. In "Cambridge" the "slow work" in 1-2 occupies twenty-six changes out of the lead-complement of thirty-two. On the other hand, "Albion Major," which has never, so far as I know, pretended to be other than an ordinary "Treble Bob" method, has no "slow work" at all; and under this test should be promoted into the "Surprise" family.

Mr. Craven's other test is "extended placemaking"; by which I understand him to mean that there should be placemaking in both intermediate positions in Major; that is to say, both in 3-4 and 5-6. This would not be so fatal to existing "Surprise" methods as the other. It would certainly rule out "St. Stephen's"; but, on the other hand again, it would exalt "Albion" to a position of great dignity.

Neither of these tests appear to me to hit the mark. The true test, I am convinced, does not lie in the features of the work, but in a general principle of construction. In a method deserving the title of "Surprise," no section of a working bell's path, comprised between the full lead, and the first whole pull behind (if there be more than one), or, as far as it goes in that direction, should be exactly repeated in the same course in the same direction. There should be something in the nature of a diverse arrangement of work, or an added detail, which should distinguish every passage of the bell from the front to the back, or as far as it goes—and vice versa—from every other passage in the same direction, within the limits of the same course; judged, that is, by the plain course work, and not by the effect of a bob. Every passage will be repeated in the opposite direction; there-

fore, it is only necessary to examine one set of sections, either the upward or the downward ones, to see if any one of them repeats.

Under this test both "Albion" and "St. Stephen's" fail to make good a claim to the "Surprise" title; and so (I am sorry to have to say it) does "London." The test however, is a sound one; and, indeed, the only sound one I can find: and it ought not to be rejected merely because it impugns the claim of a method so singular as "London Surprise." "London" is a *surprising* method truly: but as a member of the "Surprise" family, I am satisfied that it is an intruder: and its whole behaviour is so eccentric, that it should not surprise anyone if, for the future, it were compelled to assume an *alias*.

I must not take up more of your space, Sir, now: otherwise I should have liked to have had a tilt at certain methods of (so called) "Court." For the present, perhaps, I have raised sufficient dust.

H. EARLE BULWER.

OLD ENGLAND COURT BOB MAJOR.

SIR,—My letter in last week's issue is a sufficient reply to the Rev. Bulwer and Messrs. Cartwright and Groves, *re* Old England Court Bob Major, and I think they will find it difficult to prove that the method is anything different to what I claim for it, the proper extension of Court Bob Minor to Major, Royal and Maximus. With regard to adjoining or contiguous places (perhaps consecutive would be better) my dictionary tells me that adjoining means "to be contiguous to" and contiguous means "adjoining," therefore I cannot see anything wrong in the expression used to demonstrate my meaning, and what is more to the point, Mr. Bulwer used the same expression "contiguous places" in the same sense that I do previous to my doing so (see "THE BELL NEWS," December 25th, 1897, page 418), and he is not the only writer besides myself to use the expression in the same sense, so Mr. Bulwer's conversion must be a latter-day affair.

In regard to the method called Yorkshire Court, in the first place it is not a Court method because it contains 2nds place (which is contiguous or adjoining) and secondly it is not what would now be classed as a legitimate method, the places in the first half of the lead are not duplicated in the second half, so I should certainly rule this method out of Court altogether.

GEORGE BAKER.

11,328 LONDON SURPRISE.

SIR,—I declare that on September 17th, 1896, from 4 to 10.10 p.m. there were eight ringers only in Drayton tower—that each ringer rang one bell and one bell only during the whole of that period—that there was no general "muddle" in the ringing at all, that while bells, including the sixth (rung by Mr. Payne), were occasionally held up for an instant, no bell was ever set up, the hesitator in each case being promptly told what to do, and doing it. That in 6 hrs. and 10 mins. 11,328 true changes of London Surprise came round, having been rung and conducted correctly according to the rules of the method. As Mr. Newman has publicly impugned the correctness of this most excellent performance, I hereby call on him, as a man of honour, publicly to admit that he has been mis-informed, and publicly to withdraw his inuendo "that the record peal of London Surprise has yet to be rung."

F. E. ROBINSON,

Master Oxford Diocesan Guild.

CONGRATULATIONS.

SIR,—In "THE BELL NEWS" March 17th, appeared a very interesting account of the proceedings of the local company of ringers at Witney Oxon, and I write this note with a double object in view. The first is, with your kind permission, personally to congratulate the band (most of whom I have had the pleasure of knowing) on their achievement in scoring three peals, which success is well described by the worthy Rector as encouragement for still further progress. The second is, to my mind, one of public interest, and which induced me to pen these lines thereon. We read that the Rev. Cyril W. O. Jenkyn was elected secretary, treasurer and *steplekeeper*. Well, sir, the last of these offices undertaken by the rev. gentleman indicates the thoroughness in which our clergy can officiate, not only by ringing and acting as the secretary and treasurer of a band, but as the *steplekeeper*. Surely this example at Witney is worth

emulating by many of our brethren, the clergy, who we as ringers delight to see in their belfries, and this I venture to think would obviate the neglect oftentimes apparent with beautiful peals of bells, and still further assist the efforts of ringing progress and belfry reform.

J. W. WILKINS.

TREBLE BOB COMPOSITIONS.

SIR,—The peal of 5088 Treble Bob Major by J. Noonan, in Shipway's work, is false. This is the composition I called at St. Mark's, Leicester, on December 26th last, and therefore I withdraw it. I am indebted to Mr. A. Knights, of Chesterfield, for this information. The figures are also found in Oxford Guild Report, No. 559, and the peal has been rung by that Society on several occasions, hence I had no doubt as to its truth.

While on the matter I should like to say that some appreciative work might be done by a committee of Central Council composers in investigating Shipway's standard work. I have pointed a few false peals out myself a year or two ago, but the task is greater than any one man could find time for.

The peal of 5088 Treble Bob Major in last week's "BELL NEWS," under the name of J. Wilson, is a variation of Sottan-stall's and Reeves's. [Several other writers have also made a similar statement.]

WILLIAM WILLSON.

THE DUBLIN PEAL.

SIR,—I quite agree further correspondence on the above is unnecessary after the letter of Mr. Wakley and the silence of Mr. Washbrook. I hope Mr. Lindoff will excuse me making one or two remarks on what I consider the crucial part of my question in my letter of the 17th instant, to shew plainly the justification of making them:—

September 28th, 1899.

Mr. Lindoff gave us 63254 as the last course-end (not a natural course-end), but one in this said peal, saying "I put it down on paper to make sure of no mistake." The remark on seeing it has already been given.

October 23rd, 1899.

Mr. Wakley says, in his letter to Mr. Lindoff, "at the finish the bells were called into the plain course by two bobs at m."

In your issue of Saturday last Mr. Lindoff says of the course-end (shewn him at Arklow by one of the Loughborough ringers on August 12th) "All the notice I took was of the two bells upon which the whole matter rested, viz.: 3rd and 5th being in their own places." This does not seem to clear matters up, as I should have wished, but having stated my reasons for troubling you as plainly as possible on this subject, I will let the matter drop.

GEORGE WILLIAMS.

MR. WASHBROOK AND HIS CRITICS.

SIR,—I must first of all apologise to the Exercise for not answering the letters of our various friends which have of late been taking up your valuable space, but I have been too unwell to attend to the matter till now.

First of all I will take the subject of the Dublin peal. It seems to me that this is cut and dried, the whole thing having been carried through without my being asked for any explanation; others who should certainly not have had a voice in the matter seems to have managed the settlement of affairs. The only correspondence I have had asking me to give an explanation was of a private character from a very influential member of the Exercise. Now, Sir, I think it would have been only fair to me, if what Mr. Lindoff says concerning a few words he had with a member of the band at Arklow is to be thought worth considering, that the same gentleman might have ventured the question in my presence, and spoken plainly, too, seeing that I was also there on that occasion. Why, I ask, should I have had the cold shoulder on such an important subject, and such a favourable opportunity? Even while the subject was a matter of talk in Birmingham and London and other places, I heard nothing of it.

Even Mr. Wakley did not ask for any explanation beyond his objection to the composition, and asking me to withdraw it. Of course it is too long for one to remember any very minute details of the peal. It seems that someone of the company are in possession of the last course-end but one, and swears that the 3rd and 5th were home. If that gentleman was either Mr. Tay-

lor, Mr. Willson, or Mr. Wakley, well, it corks up the bottle at once, for they are men who would be likely to know the effect of such a thing; but I doubt very much indeed if any of the others would lead anyone to believe that their powers of observation were so far reached (judging from the little I remember of their exhibition on that occasion) to allow of their being likely to mind such a thing. Neither of the three gentlemen above-mentioned have to my knowledge given anyone to believe that they were in possession of any course-ends. I will admit that I was very much off my guard at the time of the peal, and was very much worried with family matters. I also remember that I missed a call in Grandsire Caters on the same day, and thereby caused a stoppage of the peal, but this other affair I do not understand. I do think that I should have noticed that 3-5 were home, and that it was no good proceeding, but I did not; and if those gentlemen whom I mentioned say it was, I have nothing to do but to bow to the inevitable, which I may say I have already done in the proper quarter, but it will always remain a mystery to me why this simple thing should have remained so long before it was thought of, and eventually to be worked up by people who were closely concerned in hauling down a man's hard-earned reputation. Now as to the assertions of Mr. T. Newman I can afford to leave them and let them mature. It is only another link to the chain by the party above-mentioned. Get a good heat, Thomas? "Do you want a striker, old boy? if you do, get the man that told you those tales to strike for you and make him see pretty stars." "Good Maun" good on yez; so it is"; "How long did that chap set his bell?" oh! well; yes; it's all right, only I stand by my remarks made concerning the ringing of the peal and published in "THE BELL NEWS" with the record of the performance.

Now Sir, I should like to mention one other thing which I know may perhaps be of interest, it was stated in one letter to you recently, that Mr. Hounslow being so quiet on a previous occasion, could only be accounted for by the peal of London being wrong. Now, Sir, this is a piece of my mind and not hasty either. That gentleman's extraordinary behaviour on that occasion was due to jealousy and nothing else, he waiting for me to ask him to give his opinion and he also thought that he should have been approached beforehand, but I would not ask such a favour, and if anyone is backed by right, it is might you inherit, so it is.

J. W. WASHBROOK.

ST. STEPHEN'S SURPRISE.

SIR.—Mr. Craven's excuse for not publishing the above method is that your columns have many to serve. I am quite aware of this, but he could have sent it to the office of "THE BELL NEWS," which would have secured for him the authorship, and no doubt would be published in its turn. It's been a recognised fact for years, that the one who first publishes a composition is the author, therefore I shall not think of relinquishing my claim to the same. Mr. Craven also gives his opinion of a Surprise method, which I think is very poor according to my own ideas. A Surprise method has always been considered higher than a Treble Bob, because of its intricacy in ringing, not in composing. It's not place-making when regular, that renders a method more intricate, but when broken up by a number of bells, as in St. Stephen's. Two places are made every alternate change, whether it's a Treble Bob or Surprise, and Mr. Attree, who is quite able to judge from his Surprise ringing abilities, has verified the complexity of these places in his valuable analysis of points. So I think myself, if justice is done to the ringing Exercise, it's immaterial what name is applied to a method. I think most of the ringers of the south ring higher methods chiefly for points, to gain for their society a high position in the analysis, otherwise I should never have touched a rope in London Surprise. I have no intention of entering into correspondence on this subject, as it seems useless. Your valuable space could much better be taken up in discussing what should constitute a variation of a method, not a name.

F. DENCH.

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Obituary.

DUNCAN MACDONALD.

We regret to record the death of this old ringer, which took place on Friday, March 16th, in his seventy-eighth year. He was born at Tickhill, near Doncaster, and in very early youth removed to Tong, where he served an apprenticeship with the village carpenter—Wm. Oddy. In the year 1841 when the ring of five bells in Tong church was augmented to six, he commenced learning to ring. His associates were George Carter, Edward Oddy, Edward Webster, Richard and George Oddy (brothers), and under the tuition of Wm. Dumbleton, of Pudsey, they made such progress, that in nine months they rang a 5040 in seven methods, viz., Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Violet, New London Pleasure, Duke of York, Morning Pleasure, and College Treble. (During this period, and for nearly two years, the treble-man—Carter—walked each morning and night to and from his home and work—as a mason at Woodhouse church, a distance of eighteen miles—in order to attend the practices.) Mr. Macdonald remained a member of the band for some years, until his removal to Bradford (where he established the firm of Duncan Macdonald and Sons, Joiners and Builders), but he continued to pay periodical visits to his old comrades until death one by one removed them, and he was left the last of the original company. In 1896 when the idea was mooted to have a collection of the old ringers' portraits formed, he took great interest in the matter, obtained a copy of the picture, and attended the opening ceremony, but his affliction—deafness—prevented him handling a rope on that occasion. The interment took place at Scholemoor cemetery on Monday, March 19th, when Mr. George Bolland attended as representative of the Tong company, who on Sunday rang muffled touches on the bells to his memory.

P.S.—It is recorded that on one occasion whilst paying a visit to Ilkley church with his friends, he attempted to ring the 5th without a stay. The bell went over, talking him to the ceiling and back to the floor with a thud, injuring his shoulder, which necessitated a week's enforced idleness.

REV. T. C. HILLS.

We are also sorry to notice the death of the above rev. gentleman, Vicar of Bolsover, and who at the time of his death was President of the East Derbyshire Association. At the interment which took place on Monday, March 26th, the bells were deeply muffled, and twelve 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles was rung, each called differently. S. Coupe, 1; S. Coupe, 2; J. Flint (conductor), 3; F. Wagstaff, 4; J. Severn, 5; R. Coupe, 6.

DORKING (Surrey).—On Thursday, March 1st, as sign of rejoicing at the relief of Ladysmith, 504 Grandsire Triples. H. Dobinson, 1; W. Boxall, 2; H. F. Songhurst, 3; W. J. Songhurst, 4; E. E. Dodd, 5; H. Boxall (conductor), 6; J. White, 7; W. Lynch, 8. Also 392 Grandsire Triples. J. Presland, 1; H. Dobinson, 2; H. F. Songhurst, 3; W. J. Songhurst, 4; E. E. Dodd, 5; H. Boxall (conductor), 6; J. White, 7; W. Lynch, 8. Also 336 Grandsire Triples. T. J. Songhurst, 1; W. Boxall, 2; H. F. Songhurst, 3; W. J. Songhurst, 4; E. E. Dodd, 5; H. Boxall (conductor), 6; J. White, 7; W. Lynch, 8.

HARPENDEN (Herts).—On Tuesday, March 6th, for practice at the church of St. Nicholas, 480 Bob Doubles, each 6-score called differently. B. Jarman, 1; L. Dunckley, 2; W. H. Newell, 3; H. Dunckley, 4; G. Newton, 5; D. Deller, 6. On Sunday evening, March 11th, for Divine Service, 480 Bob Doubles. H. Burgess, 1; the rest as before. On Tuesday, March 13th, for practice, 960 Bob Doubles, standing as before, with W. Newell (conductor). Longest touch by all except the conductor.

HENFIELD (Sussex).—On Sunday evening, January 28th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 504 Stedman Triples. W. A. J. Ives, 1; L. Payne, 2; S. Burt, 3; A. E. Lish, 4; H. Markwell, 5; G. Payne (conductor), 6; A. Heasman, 7; A. Hodges, 8. On Sunday, February 11th, 504 Stedman Triples. W. A. J. Ives, 1; L. Payne (conductor), 2; S. Burt, 3; A. E. Lish, 4; H. Markwell, 5; G. Payne, 6; A. Heasman, 7; A. Hodges, 8. On Tuesday, February 27th, for practice, 504 Stedman Triples. W. A. J. Ives, 1; L. Payne, 2; S. Burt, 3; A. E. Lish, 4; G. Payne, 5; H. Markwell, 6; C. Tyler (conductor), 7; *P. Brooks, 8.

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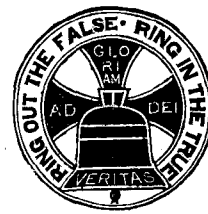
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Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of 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, MARCH 31, 1900.

THE circumstances attendant on the recent correspondence which has appeared, has led several of our most influential private correspondents to consider whether some means cannot be adopted for the settlement of such a question as a doubtful peal in a much better way than by letters to our journal. It is objected that correspondence upon such a subject is not of the kind it ought to be. Too much splenetic feeling or other untoward conduct is said to animate some of the writers, and it is considered by those competent to judge that some other and more rational mode should be brought into play to effect the objects in view. None of our readers doubt the advisability of preventing the record of peals appearing until any doubts which may exist concerning them are solved. But at present the records of doubtful performances are first suffered to appear, followed by a voluminous corres-

pondence not often clear to the average mind. Some persons unfortunately are found who bespatter a performance with doubt and invective, but have not the courage to append their names to their written opinions. Two cases of this sort come under notice this week, relative to a peal rung last Saturday. To pen such effusions as these is worse than useless. We shall not aid any one who condemns a performance under the shelter of anonymity.

To recur to the effort to adopt some approved plan by which the effect desired may be obtained. Let us imagine the performers of a 5000 or more being met on their egress from the tower by several who have heard the ringing, and who from ample data object to its being recorded in this paper until its truth or value has been established by some competent authority.

There may be great difficulties in such a mode of settlement, but not of an insurmountable nature. The authority could be determined by the President of the Council in any mode which approved itself to his mind. He may appoint some one to hold an enquiry, whose report or judgment should be final. Anything would be better than the present manner of condemnation. Those who enter the lists of a wordy war are frequently swayed by *ex parte* opinions, if not by partisanship pure and simple. Some other method can surely be devised for the prompt settlement of such questions, and it would be well if the Council could at their next meeting entertain its consideration.

The Metropolis.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 24, 1900, in Four Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL, CORNHILL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5040 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 41 cwt.

ERNEST PYE Treble.	ARTHUR R. JACOB 7.
HARRY HOSKINS† 2.	†JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. .. 8.
CHARLES T. HOPKINS .. 3.	*HARRY FLANDERS 9.
JOHN H. CHEESMAN .. 4.	†THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE .. 10.
CHARLES WILKINS 5.	†JOHN R. SHARMAN 11.
ISAAC G. SHADE† 6.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by the late JOHN REEVES, and
Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

†First peal of Maximus. *First peal on twelve bells. The above is the first twelve bell peal by the Association.

The Provinces.

ALDENHAM, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. ALBANS CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, March 20, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 15 cwt.

A. HALLET Treble.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 5.
J. EARWICKER 2.	W. HEWETT 6.
H. PARKINS 3.	T. WALLER 7.
E. WHITBREAD* 4.	G. WRIGHT Tenor.

Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

*First peal.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 22, 1900, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 17 cwt.

WESLEY WATSON Treble.	HARRY F. DAWKINS 5.
WILLIAM J. LAXTON* .. 2.	WILLIAM PYE 6.
WILLIAM H. DORAN 3.	ERNEST PYE 7.
GEORGE R. PYE 4.	LEONARD W. COPSEY .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE R. PYE.

*First peal. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late T. Bird, Esq., J.P. and sidesmen at the above church, who was buried on that day.

WORTLEY, NEAR SHEFFIELD, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 24, 1900, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES. Tenor 12½ cwt.

EDWARD ROBBINS Treble.	THOMAS ROBBINS 5.
CLIFFE DRONFIELD 2.	JOHN PARKIN 6.
THOMAS WHITWORTH .. 3.	GEORGE W. DRONFIELD .. 7.
REGGIE DYSON 4.	DAVID BREARLEY Tenor.

Composed by WALTER S. WISE, of Salisbury, and
Conducted by DAVID BREARLEY.

This peal was arranged for Thos. Whitworth, from Treeton.

LITTLE MUNDEN, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 24, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES; Being 720 each of College Single, Canterbury Pleasure, and Grandsire, and two each of Oxford and Plain Bob, each called differently. Tenor 13½ cwt.

HENRY CARTER Treble.	GEORGE H. BARKER 4.
GEORGE CARTER 2.	ALBERT PHIPPS 5.
ALBERT LAWRENCE 3.	WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE.

G. H. Barker from Ware; the rest belong to the local company.

WICKHAM SKEITH, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 24, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of Double Bob, and Two 720s each of College
Single, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

HENRY COLLINGS* Treble.	HARRY CATTERMOLLE 4.
GEORGE KEMP 2.	FREDERICK POTTER 5.
THOMAS DAVEY 3.	GEORGE CATTERMOLLE .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE CATTERMOLLE.

*First peal.

LEATHERHEAD, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 24, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt. in E flat.

JOHN WYATT Treble.	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 6.
HARRY BARTON 2.	WILLIAM PICKWORTH .. 7.
DR. A. B. CARPENTER .. 3.	CHARLES R. LILLEY .. 8.
REUBEN CHARGE 4.	CHARLES BANCE 9.
ARTHUR HARDY 5.	ARTHUR DEAN Tenor.

Composed by W. H. INGLESANT, and
Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

First peal of Royal by Messrs. Wyatt and Dean. First peal of Bob Royal by Messrs. Wyatt, Carpenter, Pickworth, Bance, and Dean, and is also the first peal of Royal on the bells. This is the first peal in the method by the Association, and also in the county of Surrey.

MITCHAM, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 24, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

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

JOSEPH FAYERS Treble.	ALFRED CLAYTON 5.
JAMES D. DREWITT 2.	ALBERT CALVER 6.
JOSEPH A. LAMBERT 3.	WILLIAM S. SMITH 7.
THOMAS GWYNN 4.	LEWIN C. FERRIGE Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM S. SMITH.

FAREHAM, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 24, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOHN W. WHITING Treble.	ALFRED MILLARD 5.
CHARLES GROVES 2.	GEORGE GRAHAM 6.
JOSIAH HARRIS 3.	CHARLES GILES 7.
JOHN SYMONS 4.	ALFRED E. REEVES Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by CHARLES GILES.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. J. W. Whiting, and to celebrate the coming of age of Miss Edith Whiting.

WOODCHURCH, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 24, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, College Single, Oxford Single, Plain Bob, Grandsire and Canterbury Pleasure.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

ROBERT GEORGE LEWIS .. Treble.	*JOSEPH HUGHES 4.
JOHN MEALOR 2.	*GEORGE R. NEWTON† .. 5.
HARRY THOMAS MOSTON .. 3.	FREDERICK T. SPENCE .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE R. NEWTON.

*First peal in seven methods. †First peal as conductor. First peal in seven methods on the bells. Rung to celebrate the birthday of Mr. C. R. Greenall, late of Grappenhall.

ROTHWELL, NEAR LEEDS, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 24, 1900, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt.

JOSEPH HAIGH Treble.	WALTER CHAPMAN 5.
ALFRED CHAPMAN 2.	WILLIAM ABBISHAW 6.
JOSEPH C. ABBISHAW .. 3.	STEPHEN STACEY 7.
GEORGE W. STEEL 4.	JOHN M. CHADWICK Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and

Conducted by JOHN M. CHADWICK.

The 6th her extent each way in 5-6.

FARNWORTH, NEAR BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 24, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt

ALFRED POTTER Treble.	*WILLIAM LEVER 5.
JOHN LEVER 2.	*THOMAS PEERS 6.
JOSEPH POTTER 3.	JOHN POTTER 7.
HENRY MOSS 4.	*THOMAS LEVER Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY MOSS.

The brothers Lever belong to the local company; the brothers Potter from Walkden; Peers from Dean; Moss from Bolton.

CAVERSHAM, OXON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 25, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs. in F sharp.

HARRY SIMMONDS Treble.	ERNEST W. MENDAY .. 5.
GEORGE E. HARBOUR .. 2.	EDWIN J. MENDAY .. 6.
GEORGE BODDINGTON .. 3.	GEORGE ESSEX 7.
JOSEPH HANDS 4.	HARRY W. SMITH Tenor.

Composed by C. H. MARTIN, of Hendon, and

Conducted by ERNEST W. MENDAY.

Rung as a birthday compliment to G. Boddington, who was made a member of the above society before starting, all wishing him many happy returns.

OSWALDTWISTLE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BLACKBURN BRANCH.)

On Sunday, March 25, 1900, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE IMMANUEL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being Three 720s Plain Bob, Two 720s College Single, and Two 720s Oxford Single, each called differently.

SETH COLLISON* Treble.	JOHN BENTLEY 4.
THOMAS HAWORTH* .. 2.	CHARLES SHARPLES .. 5.
RUFUS SHARPLES† .. 3.	JOHN JAMES HAWORTH .. Tenor.

Conducted by C. SHARPLES.

*First peal. †First away from the tenor.

ERITH, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 27, 1900, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES. Tenor 18 cwt.

WALTER J. SMITH Treble.	JOHN H. CHEESMAN .. 5.
GEORGE CONYARD 2.	CHARLES WILKINS .. 7.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE 3.	EDGAR WIGHTMAN .. 7.
ISAAC G. SHADE 4.	HARRY FLANDERS Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by EDGAR WIGHTMAN.

This peal which is now rung for the first time, has the full combinations of the 4th, 5th, and 6th, and the 3rd six times each way in 5-6, and the 2nd never there, and is in six equal parts.

Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SHIPLEY (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, March 11th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major in 1 hr. 9 mins. E. Keighley, 1; W. Fox, 2; B. Emmott, 3; W. Gill, 4; J. Broadley, 5; T. B. Kendall (conductor), 6; J. A. Ross, 7; G. A. Nettleton, 8. Tenor 13 cwt. 6 lbs.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

NORTHAMPTON.—On Monday, March 12th, at St. Giles's church, a date touch of 1900 Grandsire Caters, in 1 hr. 17 mins. W. Allen (first attempt on ten bells), 1; T. Harris, 2; A. Moore, 3; E. Haxley, 4; W. Farey, 5; F. Wilford, 6; A. Arnold, 7; H. Blundell, 8; A. Stewart (conductor), 9; E. James, 10. Composed by Edgar Bennett.

Miscellaneous.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

WITNEY (Oxon).—Recently, for practice, on handbells, in the Secretary's rooms, three 6-scores of Doubles, in different methods. F. P. Powell, 1; T. Bull, 2; H. Brooks, 3; Rev. C. Jenkyn, 4; J. Monks (conductor), 5.6. Stedman—T. Bull, 1; Rev. C. Jenkyn (conductor), 2; F. Powell, 3; H. Brooks, 4; J. Monk, 5-6. For practice on March 12th, at St. Mary's church, 120 Stedman Doubles. T. Bull, 1; Rev. C. Jenkyn (conductor), 2; F. Powell, 3; H. Brooks, 4; J. Monk, 5; J. Brooks, 6. The first on tower bells by members of the Society.

READING (Berks).—On Sunday, March 11th, for evening service at St. Giles's church, 560 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. H. Dibley, 1; A. E. Reeves, 2; A. W. Reeves, 3; F. Sweetzer, 4; A. E. Evans, 5; A. Osborne, 6; C. Giles, 7; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 8.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LITTLE MUNDEN (Herts).—On Thursday, February 14th, 360 Oxford Bob Minor. A. Wright, 1; G. Carter, 2; G. Smith, 3; W. H. Abbey, 4; A. Phillips (conductor), 5; A. Lawrence, 6. Also 216 Grandsire Minor. C. Gale, 1; G. Smith, 2; G. Carter, 3; W. H. Abbey, 4; A. Phillips, 5; A. Lawrence (conductor), 6. On February 27th, on handbells, three courses of Grandsire Triples. C. Gale, 1-2; W. H. Lawrence, 3-4; A. Phillips, 5-6; A. Lawrence, 7-8. Also three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. A. Phillips, 1-2; W. H. Lawrence, 3-4; A. Lawrence (conductor), 5-6. On Thursday, March 1st, on receiving the news of the relief of Ladysmith, three six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles and 108 Grandsire Minor. J. Smith 1; A. Gale, 2; G. Carter, 3; W. H. Lawrence, 4; A. Phillips, 5; A. Lawrence, 6. On Saturday, March 17th, 720 each of Canterbury Pleasure, Grandsire, and College Single. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; G. H. Barker, 4; A. Phillips, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 18th, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Oxford Bob, standing as before, conducted by A. Phillips. For afternoon service, 216 Grandsire Minor. C. Cole, 1; W. H. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; G. Carter, 4; A. Phillips, 5; A. Lawrence (conductor), 6.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRISTOL.—On Thursday, January 25th, at St. Michael's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob in 25 mins. S. Thomas, 1; F. Isaacs, 2; J. Thomas, 3; W. H. Thomas (conductor), 4; J. Burford, 5; A. M. Isaacs, 6. First attempt as conductor. And 360 Grandsire Minor. F. Cullen, 1; W. W. Lea, 2; S. Thomas, 3; A. H. Lea, 4; J. Thomas, 5; W. H. Thomas, 6.

WOOTTON-UNDER-EDGE (Gloucestershire).—On March 1st, in honour of the relief of Ladysmith, 1260 Grandsire Doubles, in 58 mins. with 7-6-8 covering. W. Jones, 1; F. E. Webb, 2; F. Oakhill, 3; J. Parker, 4; S. Jones (conductor), 5; A. Hughes, 6; H. Plumb, 7; T. Grimes, 8. On March 25th, 742 Grandsire Triples. W. Jones, 1; S. Jones, 2; J. Parker, 3; F. Oakhill, 4; F. E. Webb, 5; A. Burcombe, 6; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 7; A. Harding, 8. Also 168, standing as before, conducted by S. Jones.

NIBLEY (Gloucestershire).—On the occasion of the Branch meeting, two 720s of Bob Minor. J. Parker, 1; T. Prout, 2; G. Prout, 3; F. Oakhill, 4; H. Fussell, 5; S. Jones, 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Monday, March 5th, for practice at St. Michael's church, 928 Kent Treble Bob Major. H. Coote, 1; W. Farrow, 2; E. Chaplin, 3; A. Shufflebotham, 4; H. Pilcher, 5; P. Holmes, 6; C. H. Howard (conductor), 7; E. F. Slade, 8. On Sunday evening, March 18th, 640 in the same method. C. H. Howard (conductor), 1; W. Farrow, 2; E. F. Slade, 3; E. Chaplin, 4; W. Grimwade, 5; P. Holmes, 6; E. Radley, 7; W. Webb, 8. For practice on Monday, March 26th, 720 Bob Major. G. Williams (first touch on eight bells), 1; C. H. Howard (conductor), 2; E. F. Slade, 3; A. Shufflebotham, 4; H. Pilcher, 5; P. Holmes, 6; H. Coote, 7; W. Hammond, 8.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

FELSHAM.—On Friday, February 16th, on handbells at the residence of Mr. W. Kinsey, 720 College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). C. Adams, 1; J. Horrex, 2; E. Kinsey, 3; H. Gladwell, 4; W. Kinsey (conductor), 5-6. On Sunday, February 18th, on the tower bells, 720 Double Court. C. Adams, 1; J. Horrex, 2; H. Gladwell, 3; E. Kinsey, 4; H. Horrex, 5; W. Kinsey (conductor), 6. On Friday, February 23rd, 720 Grandsire Minor, standing as before. This is the first in the method by all, and the first on the bells.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

PORTSEA (Hants).—On Sunday evening, February 4th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. J. Harper, 1; C. Groves, 2; W. J. Pickard, 3; J. J. Symons, 4; J. Harris, 5; A. C. Collins, 6; E. C. Newman, 7; F. S. Bayley (conductor), 8. On Sunday evening, March 4th, 504 Stedman Triples. F. S. Bayley, 1; J. Harper, 2; P. M. Hannam, 3; J. J. Symons, 4; J. Harris, 5; J. T. Matthews, 6; E. C. Newman (conductor), 7; H. C. Ingram, 8.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, February 11th, 336 Grandsire Triples. H. Head, 1; G. Foster, 2; H. Hutton, 3; A. Pulling, 4; G. Gunner, 5; R. Wood (conductor), 6; B. Chorley, 7;

E. Pulling, 8. On March 1st, 336 Grandsire Triples. J. Burgess, 1; G. Foster, 2; G. Reading, 3; H. Hutton, 4; B. Chorley, 5; R. Wood (conductor), 6; W. Groves, 7; T. Maynard, 8. On March 2nd, 210 Grandsire Triples. J. Burgess, 1; A. Pulling (conductor), 2; G. Gunner, 3; R. Wood, 4; G. Foster, 5; B. Chorley, 6; J. Hunt, 7; C. Willshire, 8. Also 336 in the same method. G. Foster, 1; G. Gunner, 2; A. Pulling, 3; J. Hunt, 4; B. Chorley, 5; R. Wood (conductor), 6; W. Groves, 7; C. Willshire, 8. On March 6th, 742, taken from Holt's Original. H. Head, 1; G. Foster (conductor), 2; G. Reading, 3; A. Pulling, 4; B. Chorley, 5; W. Groves, 6; C. Willshire, 7; T. Maynard, 8. Also 574 in the same method. J. Burgess, 1; G. Foster, 2; H. Hutton, 3; A. Pulling, 4; R. Wood, 5; W. Groves, 6; C. Willshire (conductor), 7; B. Chorley, 8. On March 6th, 350 Grandsire Triples. H. Head, 1; G. Foster, 2; G. Reading, 3; H. Hutton, 4; B. Chorley, 5; R. Wood, 6; W. Groves (conductor), 7; A. Pulling, 8. And 336 in the same method. H. Head, 1; C. Willshire (conductor), 2; G. Reading, 3; G. Foster, 4; E. Pulling, 5; R. Wood, 6; A. Pulling, 7; B. Chorley, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

DEPTFORD (Kent).—On Thursday, March 8th, for practice at St. John's church, 336 Double Norwich. A. C. Bedwell, 1; J. Rose, 2; W. Weatherstone, 3; T. G. Deal, 4; J. Hack, 5; J. Davis, 7; W. Bedwell (conductor), 7; W. J. Jeffries, 8. On Sunday evening, March 11th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 42 mins. W. Bedwell, 1; J. Rose, 2; T. G. Deal, 3; E. H. Nixon, 4; J. Gollop, 5; J. Dains (conductor), 6; J. Law, 7; W. J. Jeffries, 8.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Tuesday, March 13th, at the church of St. George-in-the-East, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, taken from Thurstan's one-part, in 51 mins. T. H. Taffender (conductor), 1; W. Truss, 2; H. R. Pasmore, 3; J. Scholes, 4; J. Scholes, 5; H. Torble, 5; W. H. Pasmore, 6; E. Hall, 7; J. Jones, 8. Arranged by J. Waghorn, jun..

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL (Yorks).—On Thursday, March 1st, at the church of The Holy Trinity, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters. F. Merrison, 1; J. Highfield, 2; W. Southwick, 3; R. Chaffer, 4; T. Stockdale, 5; W. T. Verity, 6; D. W. Brown, 7; G. Miller, 8; C. Jackson (composer and conductor), 9; J. W. Dale, 10. Tenor 26 cwt. Rung in honour of the relief of Ladysmith.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

OXHEY (Herts).—On Sunday, March 18th, on handbells in the belfry of St. Martin's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. C. George, 1-2; G. N. Price (conductor), 3-4; B. Martin, 5-6; J. B. Bates, 7-8. First quarter-peal in the method on handbells by all.

ALFRETON (Derbyshire).—On March 11th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. W. Burnham, 1; J. M. Brook (conductor), 2; A. Brookbank, 3; F. Hillyer, 4; R. Hutchinson, 5; G. Pipes, 6. On March 12th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. W. Burnham, 1; J. M. Brook, 2; A. Brookbanks, 3; F. Hillyer, 4; R. Hutchinson, 5; F. Theobald, 6. In the evening, another 720. W. Burnham, 1; A. Brookbanks, 2; F. Hillyer, 3; F. Theobald, 4; R. Hutchinson, 5; G. Pipes (conductor), 6.

ARMLEY (Yorks).—On Sunday morning, March 11th, for Divine Service at Christ Church, 720 Oxford. Jos. Thackray (conductor), 1; *W. Walker, 2; J. Heckingbottom, 3; Jno. Thackray, 4; M. Broadbent, 5; J. Guy, 6. *First 720 away from the treble.

BRETENHAM (Suffolk).—Recently on handbells in the parish room 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Manning, 1; J. Francis, 2; G. Levett, 3; F. Pearl, 4; A. Grimwood, 5; W. Proctor (coconductor), 6. On Tuesday, March 13th, 720 Kent. T. Levett (conductor), 1; J. Francis, 2; G. Levett, 3; F. Pearl, 4; J. Manning, 5; A. Grimwood, 6. Also 720 Double Court. A. Grimwood, 1; J. Francis, 2; J. Manning, 3; F. Pearl, 4; G. Levett, 5; W. Proctor, 6.

BRISTOL.—On Saturday, January 27th, at St. Werburgh's church, 720 Grandsire Minor in 23 mins. W. Bevan, 1; S. Thomas (conductor), 2; A. Stowell, 3; W. Tilley, 4; A. Parrish, 5; W. Stowell, 6. Another 720 Grandsire Minor. W. Bevan, 1; S. Thomas (conductor), 2; W. Tilley, 3; A. Stowell, 4; R. Channings, 5; W. Stowell, 6.

CHESHUNT (Herts).—On Tuesday, 13th, at the parish church, 720 Plain Bob Minor, and two attempts for a 720, which was lost half-way. J. Sewell, 1; W. Marrable, 2; A. Pearman, 3; J. Crabb, 4; G. Dent (conductor), 5; I. Cavill, 6. Also three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. I. Cavill (conductor), 1; W. Marrable, 2; G. Dent, 3; W. Littlechild, 4; H. Shuttlewood, 5; A. King, 6.

Compositions.

SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE.

By G. LINDOFF, *Dublin.*

5632.

23456	B	M	W	H
52436			-	
64235	-		-	
26435			-	
63254	-			
56234			-	
42635	-		-	
62534	-			
35426	-		-	
42356	-		-	
54326	.	-		
34625	-			
64523	-			
32546	-	-	-	

Repeated.

5440.

23456	B	M	W	H
54632		-	-	
54326	-			
35426			-	
43526			-	
65324		-	-	
36524			-	
53624			-	
46325	-		-	
34625			-	
63425			-	
63254	-		-	
26354			-	
32654			-	

Repeated.

5248.

23456	B	M	W	H
54632		-	-	
43526	-			
65324		-	-	
35426		-		
52364	-			
36524		-	-	
53624			-	
46325	-		-	
34625			-	
63425			-	
63254	-		-	
26354			-	
32654			-	

Repeated.

5056.

23456	B	M	W	H
54632		-	-	
54326	-			
25346			-	
35642	-			
35426	-			
43526			-	
24536			-	
53246		-	-	
45236		-		
25634	-			
25346	-			
32546			-	
24365	-			

Repeated.

5056.

23456	B	M	W	H
54632		-	-	
43526	-			
65324		-	-	
35426	-			
52364	-			
36524		-	-	
53624			-	
63425	-			
63254	-		-	
56234		-		
26435	-			
26354	-		-	
32654			-	

Repeated.

BOB MAJOR.

By JOHN D. MATTHEWS, *Bath.*

5152.

23456	W	M	H
64235	-	-	-
26435			-
43265	-		-
24365			-
32465			-
46325	-		-
34625			-
62345	-		-
36245			-
23645			-
56234	-	-	-
25634			-
63254	-		-
42356		-	-
34256			-
25346	-		-
32546			-
53246			-
24536	-		-
52436			-
43526	-		-
45326			S
32456	-		-

Repeated.

CANTERBURY PLEASURE TRIPLES.

By WM. WALMSLEY, *Macclesfield.*

5040.

23456	W	M	R
64523	-	-	
32564	-	-	S
35264			S
42635	-	-	
62345	-		
53462	-	-	
24653	-	-	
36524	-	-	
56234	-		
42356	-	-	

Five times repeated. Single half-way and end.

BOB TRIPLES.

(By THE SAME AUTHOR.)

5040.

23456	M	W	R
64235	-	-	-
26543	-	-	
52364	-	-	
34526	-	-	S
53642	-	-	
65234	-	-	
42653	-	-	-
36425	-	-	-
45362	-	-	S
34256	-	-	

Five times repeated. Single half-way and end.

720 BOB MINOR.

By W. BARER, *North Wingfield.*

23456

35264
56342
64523
S 46235
S 64352
45623
S 54236
43562
S 34625
42356

Five times repeated; single mid-way and end.

The 5024 London Surprise published by Mr. Dench in our issue of Saturday last, is the composition of the Rev. H. Law James, and was published in this paper on November 17th, 1894, and rang at St. Peter's, Brighton, by members of the Sussex County Association, on November 19th, 1894, conducted by G. Williams.

The 5152 Bob Major by J. Matthews, published last week, is false.

Notices.

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

The Middlesex County Association.—South and West District.—The next meeting of this branch will be held by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. J. T. Jemmet, at the church of St. Catherine, Feltham, to-day, Saturday, March 31st. Ringing to commence at 4.30 p.m. Members and friends are cordially invited.

C. EDWARDS, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The Annual Meeting of the above Society will be held at Leeds, to-day, Saturday, March 31st. Meeting house The Nag's Head, opposite the church. Ringing from 2 to 4, and 6 till 9. Business meeting at 7.0. Handbells provided. H. V. GAYTHORPE, *Hon. Sec.*
1, Elm Avenue, Bramley.

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Brookfield church, Gorton, to-day, Saturday, March 31st. Bells ready at 3.30 p.m. Business meeting at 7 p.m. A good attendance of members is requested.

W. BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

The Kent County Association.—Ashford District.—A District Meeting (without allowances), will be held at Charing to-day, Saturday, March 31st, at 4 o'clock.

C. WILFRID BLAXLAND, *Dis. Sec.*

Sussex County Association.—Western Division.—Next meeting at Arundel to-day, Saturday, March 31st. Tower open at 2.30; tea, etc., at 5 p.m. Visiting branches to send numbers by March 29th.

J. W. G. LODER COTTER, *Hon. Sec.*
Yapton Vicarage.

The Royal Cumberland Society.—On Friday, April 6th, at the society's headquarters, a special meeting will be held to consider the election of representatives on the Central Council. It is earnestly requested that members will make it convenient to attend.

A. JACOB, *Hon. Sec.*
10, St. Ann's Road, Hornsey.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Norton, on Saturday, April 7. Members intending to be present are requested to give notice to Mr. E. Glover, Dog Croft, Smallthorne, not later than Wednesday, April 4th.

W. TWIGG, *Hon. Sec.*

Sheffield and District Society.—The next meeting of this society will be held at Ecclesfield on Saturday, April 7th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. All ringers welcome.

R. HARRISON, *Sec.*

The Surrey Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Leatherhead parish room, on Easter Monday next. By kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. Canon F. E. Utterton, the bells (10), at the parish church will be available from two o'clock. Tea will commence at six o'clock sharp in the parish room, and the Vicar will preside at the subsequent meeting. Local representatives must inform Mr. William Marks, of 24, Church Walk, Leatherhead, not later than the previous Tuesday, the number of their members likely to be at the tea. Non-members, who will be cordially welcomed, can be

supplied with tea at 1s. 6d. per head by giving notice to Mr. Marks previously. The local sports will be held during the day, and there will be a torchlight procession in the evening.

CHAS. DEAN, JUN., *Hon. Sec.*

72, Lansdowne Road, Croydon.

The Midland Counties Association.—Election of representatives to Central Council.—The election of the four representatives will take place at the annual meeting on Easter Monday next at Nottingham. Nominations for each delegate, duly signed by two members, must reach me not later than April 2nd next. Voting papers will then be prepared, and the delegates balloted for at the meeting. It must be distinctly understood that only the names of the nominees forwarded to me in accordance with the above notice will appear on the voting papers.

W. E. WHITE, *Hon. Sec.*

Cotgrave, near Nottingham.

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The annual meeting of this Association will be held at Dudley on Easter Monday, April 16th. There will be a special service in St. Thomas's church at 4 o'clock, conducted by the Rev. A. Gray Maitland, Vicar of Dudley, who will also preside over the business meeting in King Street schoolroom. A meat tea will be provided in this schoolroom at 5 o'clock. Secretaries and unattached members must send in number of members intending to be present at tea to me not later than Wednesday, April 11th, so that proper provision may be made. The bells of St. Thomas', Dudley (10 bells), will be open to members for ringing touches all day from 11 o'clock. The bells of St. Andrew's, Netherton (8 bells), All Saints, Sedgley (8 bells), St. Michael's, Brierley Hill (8 bells), St. Martin's Tipton (8 bells), Christ Church, Oldbury (8 bells), and Holy Trinity, Old Hill (8 bells), will be available from 11 o'clock till 3 o'clock for peal-ringing. Any band wishing to start for a peal, will please communicate with the secretary, stating which of the above churches will be most convenient. Members of companies desirous of standing in a peal, must send their names and the method they wish to ring at once to the secretary, so that arrangements may be made to form bands and provide conductors. Precedence will be given to the methods which are most desired. Members will be advised at which church to attend. All peals must be finished by 3 o'clock, the time asked for the use of the bells. It is particularly requested that all will make an effort to be present at the service at 4 o'clock. All contributions should be paid at this meeting. The Annual Report, etc., will be ready for distribution at this meeting.

JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

36, Simms Lane, Netherton, Dudley.

The Midland Counties Association.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Nottingham on Easter Monday, April 16th. The bells at St. Mary's (10), St. Peter's (8), and All Saints (8), churches will be open for ringing from 10 a.m. Further particulars in next week's issue. W. E. WHITE, *Hon. Sec.*
Cotgrave, near Nottingham.

The Bedfordshire Association.—Annual Meeting at Bedford on Easter Monday. Further particulars next week.

W. W. C. BAKER, } *Hon. Secs.*
I. HILLS, }

The Essex Association.—A District Meeting will be held at Braintree on Easter Monday, Braintree (8), Bocking (6), Stisted (6), and Rayne (5), will be available for ringing

the whole of the day. Tea at The Horn hotel at 4.30 p.m., business meeting to follow, when the question of dividing the county into districts will be brought forward for discussion. Members wishing to be present should notify the same to me not later than Monday, April 9th.

H. T. W. EYRE.

Great Totham Vicarage Witham

The Old East Derbyshire Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Staveley on Easter Monday, April 16th. A dinner will be provided for members who send their names to the secretary not later than Monday, April 9th. Further particulars will appear in "THE BELL NEWS" of Saturday, April 14th. It is to be hoped that members will make an effort to attend.

E. JAMES, *Hon. Sec.*

18, Meersbrook Bank Road, Sheffield.

The Hertfordshire Association.—Annual Meeting at St. Albans on Easter Monday. Further particulars next week.

E. P. DEBENHAM, *Hon. Sec.*

The Llandaff Diocesan Association.—The Quarterly Meeting will be held on Easter Monday, April 16th, at 2.30 p.m., at the Schoolroom, Caerleon. "To consider proposition that the annual meeting for the future shall be held on Boxing Day," and other customary business. Bells will be available for ringing.

REV. MINOR CANON PRICE, *Hon. Sec.*

J. H. ALDRIDGE, *Ass. Hon. Sec.*

St. Mary's, Lewisham.—No more practice till after Easter Monday, April 23rd, when all ringing friends will be welcomed.

H. WARETT.

9, Harvard Road, Lewisham, S.E.

Handbells for Sale.

SET of 15 Handbells, tenor 18g, viz., 13 consecutive notes, with semitone 12p and 2c sharp. By Mears and Stainbank. No reasonable offer refused. Apply to Mr. T. Hattersley, 79, West Street, Sheffield; or the Rev. F. G. Sandford, Sharrow Vicarage, Sheffield.

FOR SALE. Set of 8 Handbells in key of C. Only used twice. As good as new. Offered for £2. Address—Rector, Rammore, Dorking.

CLOCKS,

Striking the quarter, half-hour or hour, made specially for
THE VESTRY
THE RINGING-CHAMBER,
THE OFFICE, OR
THE HOUSE.

WATCHES,

NO BETTER MADE ANYWHERE,
AT VARIOUS PRICES.

Our Watches are to be depended on for workmanship and accuracy.

JEWELLERY

Of every conceivable description—English manufacture all made in our own factories.

WEDDING, SIGNET AND
FANCY RINGS

POTTS & SONS,

Church and Turret Clock Makers,
GUILDFORD STREET, LEEDS.

Church Items.

Sir Francis Jeune has restored Chieveley church, Berks., of which he is churchwarden, in memory of his father, the twenty-fifth Bishop of Peterborough. Lady Jeune and her daughter, Miss Stanley, have presented curtains and carpets in memory of the Hon. Hubert Howard (nephew of Lady Jeune), who was killed at the taking of Khartoum.

The Rev. T. C. Hills, Vicar of Bolsover, died on Saturday in London, where he had undergone an operation. He was ordained in 1862 to the curacy of St. Werburgh's, Derby, and in 1867 became Vicar of Bolsover.

Another outrage is reported to have been perpetrated at St. Aidan's, Boston. It has been discovered that some persons entered the church and smashed the processional crucifix and the processional cross, and tore the banner of St. Aidan to ribbons.

The incumbent, the Rev. N. Green-Armytage, and the church officials are investigating the affair, which has caused widespread indignation.

The benefice of Coln St. Aldwyn has become vacant by the death of the Rev. W. P. L. Hand, B.A. He graduated at Trinity College, Dublin, in 1871, and was ordained the following year to the curacy of Moulsham, Essex. He was Vicar of Taynton, Oxon, and Vicar of Great Barrington, Gloucestershire, from 1873 to 1896, removing to Coln St. Aldwyn in the latter year.

Mr. Green, who for nearly thirty years fulfilled the duties of Dean's Verger of St. Paul's and Ostiarius of the Lower House of the Convocation of Canterbury, has been compelled from failing health and increasing infirmities, to retire from both positions. The members of the Lower House have presented him with an easy chair, which has been specially made by Messrs. Shoolbred, and bears a suitable inscription.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED

CHIEF OFFICE: HOLBORN BARS, LONDON.

Summary of the Report presented at the Fifty-First Annual Meeting, held on 1st March, 1900.

ORDINARY BRANCH.—The number of Policies issued during the year was 65,470, assuring the sum of £6,355,850, and producing a New Annual Premium Income of £352,003.

The Premiums received during the year were £3,144,464, being an increase of £176,963 over the year 1898.

The claims of the year amounted to £1,225,906. The number of Deaths was 5,809 and 3,063 Endowment Assurances matured.

The number of Policies in force at the end of the year was 570,414.

INDUSTRIAL BRANCH.—The Premiums received during the year were £5,168,958, being an increase of £208,202.

The Claims of the year amounted to £2,059,340. The number of Deaths was 209,807 and 2,239 Endowment Assurances matured.

The number of Free Policies granted during the year to those

Policyholders of five years' standing, who desired to discontinue their payments, was 72,611, the number in force being 663,250. The number of Free Policies which became Claims during the year was 14,531.

The total number of Policies in force at the end of the year was 13,433,785; their average duration exceeds eight and three-quarter years.

The assets of the Company, in both branches, as shown in the Balance Sheet, are £36,832,059, being an increase of £3,232,351 over those of 1898. A supplement, shewing in detail the various investments, is published with this Report.

The Staff Provident Fund, which was founded two years since for the benefit of the outdoor staff, shows a very satisfactory increase for the year, the total amount standing to the credit of the Fund being £73,085.

General Balance Sheet of the Prudential Assurance Company, Limited, on the 31st December, 1899.

LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.			
		£	s. d.			£	s. d.
Shareholders' Capital		1,000,000	0 0	British Government Securities (£3,180,000 Consols)		3,179,333	6 11
Ordinary Branch Funds		19,150,020	17 0	Indian and Colonial Government Securities		3,659,943	10 8
Industrial Branch Fund		15,708,695	17 8	Railway and other Debentures and Debenture Stock		2,175,734	12 6
Reserve Fund		800,000	0 0	Loans on County Council, Municipal and other Rates		7,048,287	10 8
Claims under Life Policies admitted		173,342	7 9	Freehold Ground Rents and Scotch Feu Duties		3,034,321	9 1
				Freehold and Leasehold Property		2,019,809	11 8
				Mortgages		4,870,960	2 6
				Railway, Gas, and Water Stocks		6,090,274	6 7
				Suez Canal Shares		168,369	5 8
				Telegraph and other Shares		72,532	8 3
				Metropolitan Consolidated Stock & City of London Bonds		355,645	12 6
				Bank of England Stock		200,559	18 6
				Foreign Government Securities		1,046,970	14 2
				Reversions and Life Interests		738,486	14 11
				Loans on the Company's Policies		818,128	3 6
				Rent Charges		143,073	1 8
				Outstanding Premiums		372,987	12 5
				Cash in hands of Superintendents & Agents' balances		46,679	3 4
				Outstanding Interest and Rents		275,591	0 8
				Cash--On deposit, on Current Accounts, and in hand		514,370	16 3
		£36,832,059	2 5			£36,832,059	2 5

THOS. C. DEWEY,
WILLIAM HUGHES,
FREDERICK FISHER, } *Joint General Managers.*
W. J. LANCASTER, *Secretary.*

EDGAR HORNE. *Chairman.*

HENRY HARBEN, } *Directors.*
PERCY T. REID. }

We have examined the Cash transactions, Receipts and Payments, affecting the accounts of the Assets and Investments for the year ended December 31st, 1899, and we find the same in good order and properly vouched. We have also examined the Deeds and Securities, Certificates, &c., representing the Assets and Investments set out in the above account, and we certify that they were in possession and safe custody as on December 31st, 1899.

14th February, 1900.

DELOITTE, DEVER, GRIFFITHS & CO.

ROPES.

BEST QUALITY IN EVERY
RESPECT, AT
REASONABLE PRICES.

IRONMONGERS'

ROPE WORKS,

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Wolverhampton.

ESTABLISHED 1745.

ROPES.

Established 1851.

BIRKBECK BANK

Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London.
TWO AND-A-HALF per CENT. INTEREST allowed on
DEPOSITS, repayable on demand
TWO per CENT INTEREST on CURRENT ACCOUNTS
the minimum monthly balances when not drawn below
STOCKS, SHARES, and ANNUITIES purchased and sold.

SAVINGS DEPARTMENT.

For the encouragement of Thrift the Bank receives small sums of
posit, and allows Interest, monthly, on each completed £1

BIRKBECK BUILDING SOCIETY
HOW TO PURCHASE A HOUSE
FOR TWO GUINEAS PER MONTH.

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FOR FIVE SHILLINGS PER MONTH.

THE BIRKBECK ALMANACK, with full particulars, can be
obtained post free, on application to
FRANCIS RAVENSCROFT, Manager.

Peal Boards

"MARBLETTE"

Is the very best possible material for the
above. It is durable, highly polished, and
impervious to moisture.

The letters are incised and gilded on the
"Marblette" tablet, making the most hand-
some Peal Board ever introduced to Bell
Ringers.

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BRITISH PLATE GLASS CO.,
(LTD.)

RAVENHEAD,

St. HELEN'S, Lancashire.

Also Makers of Polished, Silvered,
Chequered and Rough Glass

Benders, Embossers, Brilliant Cutters, &c.

Bell & Brass Founders by Special Appointment to Her Majesty.

JOHN WARNER & SONS, Ltd.

27, Jewin Crescent, Cripplegate, London, E.C.

"THE VICTORIA PEAL" OF EIGHT BELLS.



TENOR 25 cwt. WEIGHT OF PEAL 5 tons 4 cwt. 16 lbs.

Hung in the 'Victoria Tower,'
ST. MARY'S CHURCH, CHATHAM.

H.R.H. PRINCESS CHRISTIAN ATTENDED, at the DEDICATION SERVICE by the
BISHOP OF ROCHESTER, Feb. 2nd, 1898;

In Commemoration of Her Majesty's Jubilee, 1897.

JOHN SULLY,
Church Bell Hanger
Zinch, Stogumber, Somerset.

Rings of Bells to any number hung on the most approved
principles. Old Bells re-cast. New Bells supplied.

J. S., having had considerable experience in Church
Bell hanging, with confidence solicits the patronage of
the clergy, churchwardens and ringers generally.
THE ELLACOMBE CHIME HAMMERS FIXED
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(Successor to George Stockham)
HANDBELL FOUNDER.

51, Bankside, Southwark, London, S.E
Musical Handbells to any size or key—Chromatic or
Diatonic Scales.

Old Bells repaired or augmented to any size, on the
most reasonable terms.

PRICE LIST ON APPLICATION.

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CHURCH BELL HANGER
SHEEP STREET, BURFORD,
OXFORDSHIRE.

For Church Bells, Turret Bells, House Bells, Clock
Bells, and Bells of every description. Bell Ropes of the
best quality supplied. The Ellacombe Chime Hammers
accurately fixed.

HURN,
CELEBRATED CHURCH BELL
ROPE MANUFACTURER,

Maker to the principal Churches in Norfolk
Suffolk, Warwickshire, &c.

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ASTLEY'S head spinner has had FORTY YEARS' experience making their
Speciality Bell Ropes.

Send number, weight of tenor, and length to

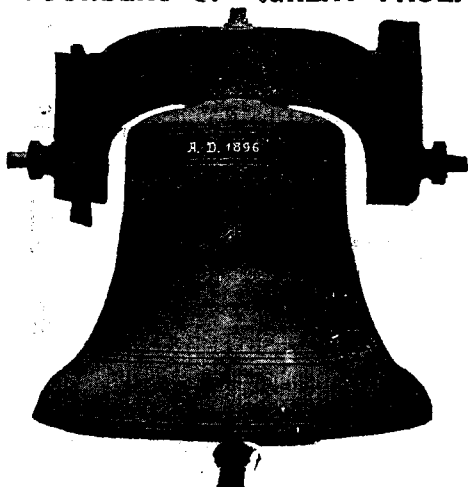
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ROPE SPINNERS,
Established 1730. **COVENTRY.**

JOHN TAYLOR & CO.,
Bell Founders,
LOUGHBOROUGH.

Founders of the New Ring of Bells for ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, the HEAVIEST Peal of 12 Ringing BELLS in the COUNTRY.

"This is unquestionably the greatest ringing peal in England, and therefore in the world."—SIR EDMUND BECKETT, Bart., Q.C., Times, Nov. 20, 1878.

FOUNDERS OF "GREAT PAUL."



New Tenor Bell St. Paul's Church, Bedford.

Also founders of the noted peals of bells at the cathedrals of Worcester, Newcastle-on-Tyne, St. Mary's, Edinburgh, St. Patrick's, Dublin, Christ Church, N.Z., and Singapore; the Town Halls of Manchester, Bradford, Rochdale, Halifax, Wakefield, and Kendal, and the Adelaide and Sydney Post Offices in Australia.

Founders of the "Alexandra" Peal of Ten Bells for the Imperial Institute, London.

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Church Bell Hanger, &c.,
WOODBURY, EXETER.

HARRY STOKES having had a considerable number of years' experience in Church Bell Hanging, with confidence solicits the patronage of the Clergy, Churchwardens, and Ringers generally. The Ellacombe Chiming Hammers fixed.

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Before sending for Bell-ropes, write to

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CHURCH BELL-ROPE MAKERS,
11, MARKET STREET, OXFORD,
Who manufacture Bell-Ropes of the very best quality.

GOLD MEDAL, EXHIBITION 1851.

The late Rev. H. T. ELLACOMBE, in writing to a distinguished ringer, said:—"The best maker of bell-ropes DAY, of Oxford."

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Church Bells for {RINGING
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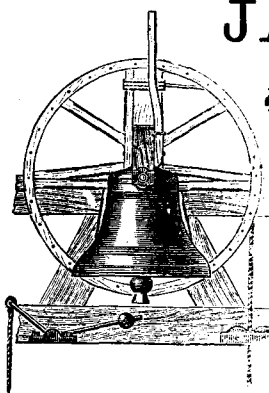
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CHURCH BELLS, with all requisite Fittings and Framework, singly or in Peals. CLOCK and CHIME BELLS to any size and note.

SCHOOL BELLS with ringing arrangements, suitable for any position.

Existing Peals economically and efficiently restored.

CRACKED BELLS recast, and ANCIENT INSCRIPTIONS reproduced in fac-simile when required.

Men who are ringers sent to inspect Towers and report upon the tune and condition of Bells and Fittings.

MUSICAL HANDBELLS tuned in Diatonic and Chromatic Scales in sets of any numbers.

THOMAS MALLABY & SONS,
Church Bell Hangers,
MASHAM, YORKSHIRE.

RINGS OF BELLS to any number hung on the most approved principles. New Bells supplied. Old Bells Recast or Retuned. MESSRS. MALLABY & SONS are experienced in all matters appertaining to Church Bells, and with confidence solicit the patronage of the Clergy, Churchwardens and Ringers generally.

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| No. 232. | Selection, "Scotland Yet," containing "Kelvin Grove," "Comin' thro' the Rye," and "The Braes o' Mar" | price | 1 6 |
| No. 286. | "Men of Harlech," Welsh Melody | " | 1 6 |
| No. 287. | "Orange and Blue," Scotch Air | " | 1 6 |
| No. 319. | "Hark the bonny Christ Church Bells," varied | " | 1 6 |
| The above are for 6 ringers with 13 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.A. | | | |
| The next are for 6 ringers with 12 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G. | | | |
| No. 320. | "The Mountaineer's Waltz," on Swiss Melodies | " | 1 6 |
| No. 321. | "The Rose of Allandale" March | " | 1 6 |
| No. 322. | "The Pilgrim of Love" Galop | " | 1 6 |
| The next are for 6 ringers, with medium peal, i.e. 3 octaves, C22 to C1, chromatic. | | | |
| No. 217. | "Belfry Chimes and Nursery Rhymes" | " | 3 0 |
| No. 720. | "Her Majesty's Waltz" | " | 3 0 |

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