

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 1014.—VOL. XX.]

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1901.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

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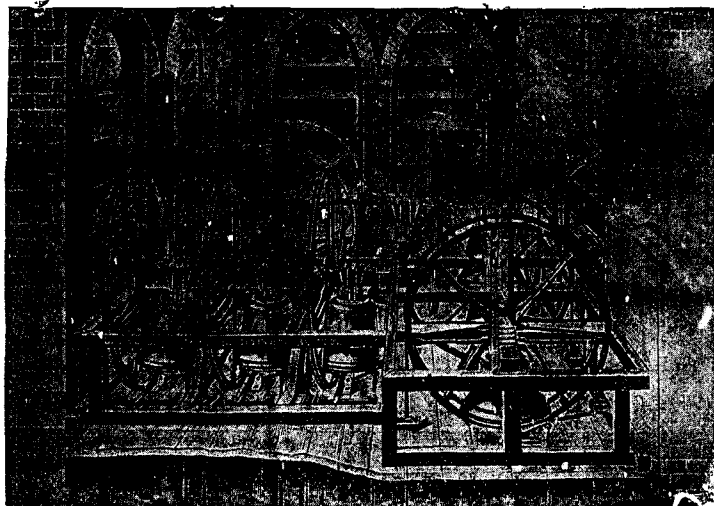
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 1014.]

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1901.

[Vol. XX.]

ON VARIOUS MATTERS.

"THE BELL NEWS" has never been more interesting than it is at present with the excellent discussion that is being conducted in its columns on more than one important subject.

First, I am thankful that the question of the Collection of Peals is being taken up, and I hope that we may see still more letters on the subject, as the Committee will feel much fortified in any line of action that they may adopt if they have assurance that the general feeling of the Exercise is with them.

Regarding the definition of what constitutes a legitimate method I am tempted to say a word or two. It seems to me that Mr. James has given the rein too much, his analytical powers, and has been piling syllogism on syllogism, and deduction on deduction, till he has soared out of sight of the common everyday things of this sub-lunary sphere. He has really got into clouds whither I cannot follow him, and I much doubt it, after all, the question on which he seems to have taken wing is *the* question which the Committee were directed to investigate. Surely that question was not "which is the proper term, 'principle' or 'method,'" but "what rules must be observed in the production of changes on various numbers of bells?" So far as regards "principle" and "method" I agree in general with the various correspondents who have replied to Mr. James, and in particular with Mr. Bulwer. It has always seemed to me that the principles are the abstract rules of which the method is the concrete expression. At any rate, though I fear it will not much comfort Mr. James, I may say that all through the book on Stedman, that particular means of producing changes on odd bells has been called a "method."

Mr. Drake has referred to a former letter of mine on the subject of the Painswick bells. Now that they have been tried on scientific principles and found wanting, the question is of course at an end. I have always been a firm believer in the effect of the tower and surrounding neighbourhood on the tone of bells, and am quite willing to impute much of the charm of the glorious ten at Painswick to the spire and open space around. To me they have always seemed the most joyous bells that I have ever heard. I only hope that Messrs. Taylor may make them better still. Nothing can be right if octaves are wrong, but as regards other intervals I hope the bells will be tuned to the true scale of nature, and not to that unsatisfactory compromise, the scale of equal temperament.

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

THE RINGERS' ONLY TRUE BADGE.—In Gold, Silver or Bronze.—COLDWELL (Ringer), Mirfield, Yorks.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A fine day, and the privilege of visiting one of the most interesting churches in England, and ringing the musical old six bells in its ancient Saxon tower, gave much genuine pleasure to members of the above Association on Saturday afternoon, August 31st. The Rev. R. R. Cobbold, who is one of the oldest honorary members, invited the Association to hold a meeting at Earls Barton in February last, but the death of the late queen caused it to be postponed. An excellent tea was provided in the schoolroom, to which about forty sat down, including the Rev. J. B. Fawcett (Mears Ashby), Rev. W. St. George Coldwell (Wilby), and Mr. John Abbott (churchwarden).

At the business meeting which followed Mr. Abbott presided. The Rev. H. R. Moule, the new Vicar of Bozeat, was elected an honorary member: and a number of ringing members from various places were also admitted. The Secretary referred to the death of two well-known old campanalogists—Mr. John Craddick, of Irchester; and Mr. Carpenter York, of Rothwell. He also spoke of the death of the Rev. F. B. Newman, formerly Rector of Burton Latimer, who was one of the original promoters of the Raunds, Wellingborough and district Association when it was first formed. Mr. R. T. Hensher, the Association's representative on the Central Council, gave his report of the large meeting held at Derby on Whit-Tuesday last, which was of a very satisfactory character.

It was decided that, if convenient, the next quarterly meeting take place at Burton Latimer the last week in October. A vote of thanks was passed to the chairman for the kind interest he had taken in the meeting in every way, which was accorded with musical honours.

Mr. Abbott responded, and expressed his regret that the Vicar, who was away for his holiday, could not have also been present at such a pleasant gathering.

Ringling was continued at the church until eight o'clock, after which a very enjoyable "social" was held, enlivened by songs and handbell music. Members generally were much gratified by the "good going" of the Earls Barton bells. They are an old eighteenth century ring, evidently well looked after by the steeplekeeper. They were rehung in the old oak frame in 1885. A new set of excellent bell ropes has recently been put up. Could two trebles be added to the present six they would make a bright handy octave such as ringers love to handle. The tenor weighs about 14 cwt., and was cast by Thomas Eayre, of Kettering, in 1761. The last meeting of the Association held at Earls Barton was on Whit-Monday, 1891, on which occasion there was a heavy fall of snow in the early morning.

Earls Barton church stands on an eminence, and the view of the Nene Valley from the ringing-room window is most striking and beautiful.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

[From *The Wells Journal*.]

Members of the above Association met on Saturday, August 24th, for their annual festival. During the day touches were rung on the bells of the Cathedral and St. Cuthbert's church, and at half-past one the party, numbering about fifty, assembled at Wickenden's restaurant in High Street for lunch.

After the health of "The King, Queen, and Royal Family" had been drunk at the instance of the Ven. Archdeacon Ainslie, who presided, the business of the annual meeting of the Association was then proceeded with.

Mr. H. W. Tomkins (Williton), Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, read the annual report as follows:—"To those who have watched the work of our Association during the last six or seven years, and compared the result of each year's work, it must be a source of gratification to have noted the steady progress that has been made from year to year, and the past year has proved no exception—on the contrary, in some respects it has excelled in the average rate of progress any previous year. Most noteworthy has been our advance scientifically. Twenty-four peals have been rung, as against eleven in 1899, and the improved quality of those peals have raised us in "THE BELL NEWS" analysis from the 20th position with 120 points in 1899 to the 17th with 317 points in 1900. Twelve peals of Treble Bob Minor (seven in ten methods, four in seven, and one in four methods), one of Stedman Triples, one of Grandsire Triples, and two of Grandsire Doubles, or a total of sixteen peals, are to the credit of the Taunton Deanery. Dunster Deanery comes second with five peals of Grandsire Triples, and the Chew, Frome, and Bath Deaneries have each rung a peal of Grandsire Triples. The very satisfactory position of the Taunton Deanery is due mainly to the success that has crowned the efforts of the Norton Fitzwarren Guild, who have the credit of having the whole of the Treble Bob peals, including a 7,200 in ten methods, the record length by the Association. The Portishead ringers are to be congratulated on ringing their first peal, and the peal on the heavy ring at Mells will result, we trust, in further efforts being made in peal-ringing in the Frome Deanery. Numerically, as well as financially, the condition of the Association is one of absolute soundness. Our balance in hand of £29 6s. 3d. at the beginning of the year has been increased to the amount of £31 19s. 5d. Three successful meetings have been held during the year, viz., at Bridgwater, Bath (the annual), and Yeovil, all of which have been well attended. Our thanks are due to the clergy, organists, choirs, and ringers of those churches where our meetings have been held, and to those members who attended. The local secretaries are thanked for their co-operation with the Master and Hon. Secretary in the management of the Association. The requests from various parts of the diocese relative to belfry rules, condition of bells, etc., show no signs of diminishing, and, whilst replies to these requests give increased work to your secretary, it cannot be regarded as a healthy and satisfactory condition of things. Your Secretary sincerely regrets that during the past twelve months he has been quite unable, owing to the demands of business, to devote that time to the furthering of the interests of the Association that he has been able to in previous years. He feels that the Association must not be allowed in future to suffer on that account, and he therefore asks the members

to accept his resignation of an official connection with the Association which has extended over a period of seven years—a connection that has always been of a pleasant character. In conclusion we would urge each member to do his utmost to further the interests of change-ringing in the diocese, and endeavour to secure more members, both honorary and performing, and in this way make the Association more and more useful each succeeding year."

The balance-sheet showed receipts amounting to the sum of £48 9s. 9d., a balance in hand of £31 19s. 5d. remaining after meeting expenses.

The report and balance-sheet were adopted.

The Secretary read a letter from the Rev. H. C. Courtney, of Westbury, resigning his position as Master, and on the proposition of Mr. Burgess, seconded by Mr. Creed, Mr. C. E. D. Boutflower, of Bristol, was appointed in his place.

Mr. Boutflower, in acknowledging his election, remarked that he was rather a busy man, and he was afraid he should not be able to devote that time to the work of the Association which he was sure it demanded, but sooner than the Association should go begging for a Master he would accept the office for one year. He did not think they should go outside the diocese for a Master, and he should be happy to resign the post if they could find another gentleman to take his place.

The Chairman observed that Mr. Tomkins was pre-eminently fitted for secretarial work, which he understood very thoroughly. Mr. Tomkins, however, said the work was too much for him, and there was no true kindness in pressing a person to undertake a duty when they ought to spare him.

Mr. Tomkins said he was very sorry to have to resign, but it became absolutely necessary. Mr. Iles, of Taunton, had offered to take the office, and he (Mr. Tomkins) proposed that he be appointed as his successor.

Mr. Burgess seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

Mr. Iles, in returning thanks, remarked that with Mr. Tomkins's very able assistance he would do his best to become nearly as good a secretary as he had been.

Seventeen new performing members and one honorary member (the Ven. Archdeacon Bottomley), were elected. It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Frome. The Vicar of Hentstridge wrote inviting the Association to send a band of ringers to his parish on the 25th, the bells of the church having been rehung.

The matter was left to the Master and Secretary.

Upon the motion of Mr. Tomkins, seconded by Mr. Iles, thanks were accorded the Rev. H. C. Courtney for his past services as Master. Mr. Burgess proposed a vote of thanks to the late Secretary, Mr. Millard seconding. Mr. Boutflower, in supporting, said the work that Mr. Tomkins had done for the Association had been simply invaluable. Their late Secretary accepted the duties of his office at a very critical period in the life of the Association, which was in very low water when Mr. Tomkins, nothing daunted, came forward to undertake the secretarial work. The whole of the success of the Association he (Mr. Boutflower) attributed to the honest, hard work Mr. Tomkins had done.

Mr. Tomkins promised to assist his successor as much as possible, and thanked the members for the way they had supported him during the past seven years. He hoped the Association would succeed even better in future than in the past.

The Rev. H. E. T. Bassett (Devizes), proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman for the genial manner in which

he had presided. Mr. Tomkins seconding, the motion was carried.

The Chairman acknowledged the compliment.

During the afternoon a collection, which realised £2 odd, was made on behalf of a member of the Association who has lost one of his legs.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

The annual meeting of this Guild was held at Crewe on Monday, August 5th, when members were present from Chester, Crewe, Bowden, Stockport, Grappenhall, Northwich, Macclesfield, and West Kirby. A special service was held in the parish church at 10.30, prayers being said by an assistant-curate, and the sermon preached by the Rev. G. J. Howson, late Vicar of Crewe, and at present Rector of Salford, who gave so good and really applicable address that he was requested on the motion of the Ven. the Archdeacon of Chester, and carried unanimously, to allow his sermon to be printed in the Diocesan Gazette. After the service all assembled at the Parish Room where the General Meeting was held, and at which there were present: The Ven. the Archdeacon of Chester and Master of the Guild in the chair; the Revs. Canon Holme, H. Leigh Mallory, G. J. Howson, A. T. Beeston, and about 200 ringing members from all the branches, with the two secretaries, Rev. R. Greenall and F. T. Spence. The Secretary then read the minutes of the last meeting which was carried unanimously. The statement of accounts shewed a balance of £65 1s. 4d., and was laid before the committee and passed.

The Rev. G. J. Howson then proposed, and Mr. Bethell seconded that the Ven. Archdeacon Barber be re-elected Master of the Guild, which was carried with acclamation.

The Master proposed the re-election of the Rev. R. Greenall as Hon. Secretary and Treasurer with Mr. F. T. Spence as Assistant, which on being seconded by Mr. Holding was carried unanimously.

Seven honorary members were then appointed to serve on the Committee as follows: Rev. Canon Blencowe (West Kirby), Rev. Canon Holme (Great Budworth), Rev. S. A. Boyd (Macclesfield), Rev. H. Leigh Mallory (Mobberley), Rev. J. H. Thorpe (Stockport), Hatt Cook, Esq. (Northwich), J. Stringer, Esq. (Sandbach): and the following change-ringing members were re-elected: R. T. Holding (Crewe), F. T. Spence (Grappenhall), T. J. Bethell (Chester), Jas. Dillon (Bebington), W. Walmsley (Macclesfield), W. Gordon (Stockport), and Jas. Ashmole (Davenham).

Applications for grants of £5 each were then considered on behalf of the Lawton and Norbury towers towards the restoration and enlargement of their bells, which was allowed.

Mr. Norbury then proposed that the next annual meeting be held in Macclesfield on August Bank Holiday, 1902, which was seconded by Mr. Holding, and carried unanimously.

Votes of thanks were given to the chairman for the able discharge of his duties, to the preacher for his excellent address, and the Hon. Secretaries and Treasurers, after which the members adjourned for dinner to The Hop Pole hotel.

In the afternoon the bells of Christ Church, Crewe, were kept merrily going until a late hour in Plain Bob, Grandsire, Stedman, Treble Bob, and Double Norwich, as also the bells of other towers in the neighbourhood, which were kindly placed at the service of the ringers.

SHROPHAM, NORFOLK.

On Sunday, September 8th, on the occasion of the Harvest Thanksgiving, several members of the Thetford St. Peter's Company, by kind permission of the Rev. G. Watson, visited Shropham, and rung several touches on the bells which have recently been rehung by Mears and Stainbank. The first attempt to ring a quarter-peal failed, after ringing seven 120s all called differently. As there was time before service a quarter-peal was rung by Messrs. E. Carter, W. Westlake, W. Everett, E. Dunk (conductor), C. Carter. The visitors beg to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells, and they consider the "go" of the bells to be all that can be desired, and hope the time is not far distant when another bell will be erected in this fine old tower.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRISTOL BRANCH.—A meeting was held at Chippenham on Saturday, August 31st, at which there were about twenty present from the following places: Bristol, Bitton, Devizes, and Swindon. A short service was held in the parish church, after which a business meeting was held in St. Paul's belfry. Several belfry elections were confirmed, and new members elected. Touches of Grand-sire Triples and Bob Major were rung on St. Paul's and the parish church bells. The next meeting will be held at Dursley on the 21st inst.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 7th, the members of the above Association, through the kindness of the Rev. S. Nunn, held a meeting at Lawton, Cheshire. Lawton is a small village on the borders of Cheshire and Staffordshire, and possesses a very nice ring of eight bells, having had two trebles added lately. The ringers are members of the Crewe Division of the Cheshire Association in which district the village is situated, and are also members of the Stoke Association. About forty members were present from the following towers: Audley, Crewe, Fenton, Kidsgrove, Lawton, Norton, Newcastle, Stoke, Tunstall, and also some of the late Bucknall ringers. Ringing commenced about four o'clock, short touches in various methods being rung; and at 5.30 an adjournment was made to the schoolroom where an excellent tea was partaken of, kindly given by Miss Rigby, of Lawton, at which the Rector presided. After tea the Rector in a few choice words gave a hearty welcome to the members saying how pleased he was to meet with the members of the Stoke Archdiaconal Association, and although they came from a different Diocese, County, and Association, they were all members of the same Church, and it shewed that there was a greater feeling of brotherhood amongst ringers to-day than in former times, and he hoped to welcome them on some future occasion.

A vote of thanks to Miss Rigby for so kindly providing tea was proposed by Mr. W. Twigg, seconded by Mr. Vickers (Audley), and was carried with applause.

A hearty vote of thanks was also passed to the Rector of Lawton for so kindly allowing the meeting to be held there, and also to the ringers of Lawton for having everything ready.

Touches of Stedman, and Bob Triples, and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung during the afternoon and evening, and a very pleasant evening was brought to a close about 9.30.

Correspondence.

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

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

THE PAINSWICK BELLS.

SIR,—I never heard Painswick bells; my musical ear is so defective that, if I heard them, I should probably not notice their alleged discord; and I have no interest in Messrs. Taylor's work, which, indeed, needs no recommendation. But it has struck me, in the correspondence about these bells, that it seems generally assumed that bell-tuning is a hap-hazard, risky operation, to which a fine peal ought not to be subjected. That might have been true some years ago; and perhaps it is not yet generally known that following up the researches of the late Canon Simpson, of Fittleworth in Sussex, Messrs. Taylor—and for aught I know, other bell-founders too—have devised machinery by which bell-tuning has become an exact and scientific process. Each bell in a peal can now be brought into harmony not only with the others, but with itself, as regards its "fundamental," "nominal," and "hum" notes. I trust that I shall not be considered an interfering outsider, if I suggest that the Painswick authorities should read Canon Simpson's pamphlet "*Why bells sound out of tune!*" and in the light of it reconsider their decision not to avail themselves of the improvements by which bell-tuning can now be, as I have said, exactly and scientifically carried out.

T. L. PAPILLON,

Master of the Essex Association.

MR. BAKER'S REPLY TO THE REV. H. DRAKE.

SIR,—Since writing last I have obtained a "Glossary," and on perusing the same I have come to the conclusion that the Rev. H. Drake and I had better call a truce, as I find that in the Glossary neither the definitions that I have used, nor those that Mr. Drake would use are given, and if the Glossary is to be our future guide (as it deserves to be), it would be well to accept the definitions given in same, even if we do not altogether agree with them.

GEORGE BAKER.

P.S.—In the Glossary "adjoining" is used to describe places made together by two bells occupying two rows, and "contiguous" is used to describe two places made by a single bell occupying four rows.

SOME CORRECTIONS—AND THE GLOSSARY.

SIR,—Owing probably to my bad writing in my letter on the Painswick bells—I wrote it at intervals while cycling about the country, and in the tower while ringing was going on,—several words have got slightly altered. The most important is "top-note" for "tap-note." The former looked as if I were referring to the "nominal" or the highest of the three octave-notes heard when a bell is struck. This is the one tuned by Continental bell founders; but English ears are accustomed to listening for the "fundamental" or "tap-note,"—the middle octave; and it was this we noted as being so far out of tune with the "hum" or after-note.

"Near" Loughborough—"Sarasate"—and "knows not why" are more obvious corrections in the same column.

During the last three days I have carefully read through the Glossary, now in the hands, I suppose, of all your readers. And although the pages are well marked with ms. notes, etc., already, I could not help marvelling as I read every one of its ninety-six pages, at the amount of accurate and valuable information that has been found room for. I had been expecting so much from it, I was afraid I should be disappointed; but the reality far exceeds my expectations. There is certainly as much information in this book as in any five shilling scientific book I know of, and this book is to be obtained for fivepence or even less. Moreover it is well-written, and this is not always the case with more costly books. The descriptions of methods in the Appendix are remarkable for their clearness and conciseness, and especially those of Surprise and other Treble Bob methods. I notice that on page 10 "lead" and "behind" are excepted from the positions in which places can be made. This is more definite than the statement of mine which was challenged in your columns the other day; (but see pp. 49 and 66). Also I notice on p. 52. that "adjoining places" are those made in

juxtaposition at the same time by two bells, and "contiguous" those in succession by the same bell. This disposes of another controversy. Though, if this definition is still open to criticism, I should be inclined to say these terms are not sufficiently differentiated; it is difficult to remember which is which. If it be not too late for suggestions, and "consecutive" and "adjacent" are ruled out, as having being used in contrary senses, I would propose Mr. Jingle's "concurrent" for places made at the same time; and "successive" for those made in succession. The latter is naturally suggested by the above definition.

I have always had an idea that the origin Mr. Daniell conjectures for Stedman was the true one; and I am glad to see there is good ground for believing it to be so.

Verwood.

H. DRAKE.

EXPLANATORY.

SIR,—Will you kindly permit me to point out that part of my article in your last issue has got wrong in its work, and I find it making a "place" "adjacent" to that to which it is not properly "consecutive"? The first three lines of the first column of page 218 have no business there at all; they should follow the third line of the second column of the preceding page. Probably most of those who have read the whole will have found this out, but any one who has not spotted it will think that in "places" I have not been always "continuous."

R. A. DANIELL.

THE YOUNGEST RINGER.

SIR,—In reply to Mr. Lawrence re youngest ringer, I beg to state my son James R. Mackman when eleven years old (1886), rang three peals of Grandsire Doubles and 336 of Triples. At the age of twelve a 720 Plain Bob, a quarter-peal of Triples, and a 336 of Grandsire Triples on the 2nd.

R. MACKMAN.

SIR,—With regard to the correspondence about the youngest ringer, I should like to say that when I was ten years I rang my first 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. At eleven I could ring Stedman, and rang my first peal of Grandsire Triples with a bob bell at 13.

E. BARNETT, JUN.

ANOTHER CLAIM.

SIR,—Seeing in last week's of "THE BELL NEWS" a claim by the Hatfield College Youths of having rang the first muffled peal for the death of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria, I beg to claim for the Tenterden branch of the Kent County Association (with the assistance of Mr. H. Barton, of Deal), the honour of having rung the first peal in honour of the Accession of His Majesty King Edward VII. to the throne, Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples being rung at Tenterden on Monday, February 4th, 1901, conducted by Harry Barton, and duly published in "BELL NEWS."

C. TRIBE.

BUCKLAND DINHAM, FROME, SOMERSET.

SIR,—Kindly allow me a little space to sincerely thank C. E. D. Boutflower, Esq., Mr. Tomkins, and all the other gentlemen at our annual meeting on Saturday, August 24th, who kindly towards the fund for our afflicted brother-ringer, J. Witchell. I have since then to acknowledge a donation of 2s. 6d. from Mr. J. Sully through our respected Master. The loss of a leg is a serious matter, and if this should meet the eye of any member of the Exercise who would care to contribute a trifle, it will be thankfully received by me as above on his behalf up till September 28th.

F. PRESCOTT.

MAISEMORE (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, May 12th, 720 Bob Minor. A. C. Brunston conductor, 1; G. Condict, jun., 2; R. A. Judd, 3; E. J. Webb, 4; T. Newman, 5; W. T. Pegler, 6. Also four 6-scores of Stedman Doubles, conducted by B. Etheridge.

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Central Council Correspondence.

Re THE REPORT ON A LEGITIMATE METHOD.

SIR,—Mr. James's illustrations of his theory, as given in your last issue, fail him entirely, and if he has no better examples for support, the whole of his argument is worthless.

MINIMUS is an even bell method, the foundation of the Plain Bob system, and is built upon the plain hunt principle. In this method *adjoining* places are made next the treble when at full lead.

GRANDSIRE is an odd bell method, and is the foundation of the twin hunt system built upon the plain hunt *principle* also, and in which method thirds is the only place allowed to be made.

Everybody knows the dodging of Plain Bob is done when treble is at full lead, while the old way to ring Grandsire is to listen or watch for the treble to lead and then dodge, and if Mr. James will continue to confound one method with the other, well Sir, all I hope is that he will find no one to follow him or believe what he says. Why, Sir, by such an argument as he uses, all methods would be alike, and the same rule apply to each.

He also makes a very erroneous statement in saying Group V. is the simplest, and upon which all others are founded. Now I don't like to say this is sheer nonsense, but Sir, the fact remains! and as a practical illustration, ask any ringer who has accomplished Grandsire to try and ring Stedman or Treble Bob without first learning the method, and see how he gets on.

In reference to the term *Grandsire Bob* used by Mr. James, may I ask him to turn to page 25, *Clavis Campanalogia*, and see what the *critical* part of the Exercise there say! viz.: Bob Minor, &c.

I for one am obliged to Mr. R. A. Daniell for his articles upon Stedman, which throw good light upon the subject. I have not yet seen this *Campanalogia* of 1677. Now upon the question of why and wherefore, the method invented by Mr. Stedman and published in this work, has been known as Stedman's Principle. I have a rather different view to that expressed by Mr. Daniell. Now *Tintinologia* was first published by Stedman, I believe, in 1668, and here it is we first find *Grandsire*, the best of methods I suppose up to date, and built upon the *hunt* principle or plan. Now our old friend Stedman may or may not have designed *Grandsire*, but as the old plan of hunts was not of his design he could not say this method was upon his or a new principle. So like a true Briton he again goes to work and invented a new method upon another plan without a hunt bell, and thus earned the honour of entitling the work as built upon his principle, and clearly proving that another principle already existed.

H. DAINS.

SIR,—The value of a term consists in its ability to convey an idea to and from those who use it.

Mr. James admits that the terms "method" and "principle" at present mean something different from what he means by them.

The majority of evidence seems to show that the terms never meant what Mr. James means by them.

Therefore the probability is that many who read any statement containing these terms will have a different idea conveyed to them from what is intended.

This is the case against Mr. James' terms. The rest of his letters for the most part I fully agree with.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

SIR,—I beg to differ from Mr. James in his remarks on Plain Bob and Grandsire. Why not compare them as they are generally rung, not the reverse way?

Mr. James says "it is evident that given any method on six bells, you can increase it to seven by adding a bell in the hunt." Take Bob Minor, and add a bell in the hunt; the working of the bells is the same till a bob or single is made. Then what becomes of the bell in the hunt? And again, bobs and singles in Bob Minor are not anything like Grandsire.

I think we all know that (using the late J. W. Snowdon's

words), the peculiarity of the Grandsire method is—"during the interval between any two calls one bell has a plain hunt with the treble," and this is certainly not found in Plain Bob.

W. R. WARNER.

Obituary.

BENJAMIN CHARLES PRATCHETT.

We regret to announce the death on the 22nd inst. of the above Hendon ringer, at the age of thirty-five years, after a long and painful illness. He was for several years a member of St. Mary's, Hendon, and was buried in the churchyard on Wednesday, the 28th ult., his brother-ringers carrying him to the grave, assisted by two friends of the deceased. As a last tribute of respect to his memory the bells of St. Mary's were half-muffled in the evening, when the whole pull and stand was rung, also a 240 Plain Bob, one of deceased's favourite methods. Mr. King, the Hon. Secretary of the Middlesex County Association, attended the funeral, and also assisted in the ringing. A muffled peal of Treble Bob Major was attempted at St. Anne's, Highgate, on Saturday, August 24th, by members of the Royal Cumberlands, deceased being a member of that society. He had rung nineteen peals, of which two at least were notable peals, one being the only peal rung on handbells by the late George Newson. Also on January 14th, a peal of Bob Major at St. Albans Cathedral, being the first in the method on the bells for over for over 100 years.

WILLIAM BIRKS.

It is with deep regret that we have record the death of one of our most respected ringers of Wath-upon-Dearn, Yorkshire. Mr. Birks passed away on Tuesday, September 3rd, in his seventy-fifth year, and was interred at Wath-upon-Dearn cemetery on September 5th. The deceased, who had a unbroken record of fifty-two years' ringing at Wath parish church, gave up as a regular ringer nearly six years ago, but was always pleased to go when any strangers was here to have a pull with them, his favourite bell of late years being the tenor. The deceased kept no record of his ringing, but in his younger days they often used to ring a 5040 on a practice night, and on one occasion the old company made up their minds to break the record of 15,120 which was rang at Wath on February 27th, 1816. They practised the methods in 120 and 240, and started with 360, and one night they had got to the seventeenth 360, when some one wanted the conductor, and not making them stop by rattling the door, climbed up and got through the window and broke them down, which finished the attempt. To show our respect to Mr. Birks six members of the Yorkshire Association met on Thursday, September 5th, and rang with the bells muffled 720 Oxford, 240 Violet, and 120 New London Pleasure; and with the bells half-muffled, 240 London Scholars' Pleasure. S. Woodcock, A. Crossman, W. Woodcock (conductor), W. Allwood, R. J. Ricketts, W. Morris.

THE ST. PETER MANCROFT SOCIETY, NORWICH.—The annual outing of the above Society took place on August 26th, when London was visited for the third year in succession. Through the kindness of Mr. Winney, the bells of Christ Church, Spitalfields, St. Dunstan, Stepney, and St. Augustine, Kilburn, were at the disposal of the members during the morning. Kilburn, with its Belgian bells, was a decided novelty; the little bells, with their erratic clappers, requiring some careful handling. The remainder of the day was spent at Earls Court, with its manifold attractions. The ringers wish to thank Messrs. Winney and Brighton for their great kindness, and the Rector of Christ Church, Spitalfields, for his hospitality.

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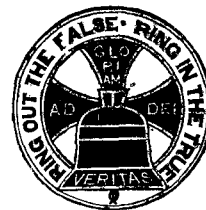
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The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1901.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A meeting was held at Bishops Stortford on Saturday last, September the 7th, for the purpose of electing a Master and Secretary for the north-western division of the county. Thirty-six members attended, the Master of the Association (Rev. T. L. Papillon) in the chair; the Hon. Secretary (Rev. H. T. Eyre) being also present. The new Vicar of Stansted (a well-known six-bell ringing centre), the Rev. G. H. Oakshott, was appointed Master, and Mr. H. J. Tucker, of Bishops Stortford, Secretary for the division. Before and after the meeting touches of Stedman Triples, Grandsire Caters, and Treble Bob Royal were rung.

The new arrangement, by which the county is divided into four districts, each with a local Master and Secretary, will come into force in 1902.

EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting was held at South Normanton on Saturday, September 7th, members being present from Bolsover, Clay Cross, South Normanton, Tibshelf, Pleasley, Shirland, North Wingfield, and Mr. Brown from Spalding.

A splendid tea was provided by the Rector (Rev. J. H. Lewis), to which nearly thirty sat down. Although the Rector was unable to be present, he wrote welcoming the Association to South Normanton, and expressing regret at being absent from home.

After tea the meeting was held, the Rev. J. Evans being unanimously voted to the chair.

The minutes being read and confirmed, votes of thanks were passed thanking the Rector for entertaining the members to tea, also for the use of the room and bells for the day. The ladies who presided at the tables were also thanked for their kind services.

The chairman then gave a very instructive address, which was listened to with rapt attention by all present, and it is much to be wished the useful advice he gave will not all fall to the ground unfruitful.

Mr. Evans was heartily thanked for his address and for presiding, which he duly acknowledged. After a few remarks from Mr. Brown the ringers wended their way to the tower. The bells were kept merrily going till nearly 10 p.m. It is much to be wished these grand old bells were put in proper tune and repair, and if possible another treble added to make six. The tenor weighs about 11 cwt., and goes as heavy as a 30 cwt. bell in good order.

A most enjoyable day was spent by all. The best thanks of the Association are due to the local ringers for making all feel at home and welcome.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, September 7, 1901, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5097 CHANGES.

Tenor 28 cwt.

JAMES PETTIT Treble.	CHALLIS F. WINNEY .. 6.
FERRIS J. SHEPHERD .. 2.	THOMAS LANGDON 7.
WILLIAM SHEPHERD* .. 3.	THOMAS H. TAFFENDER .. 8.
HERBERT P. HARMAN .. 4.	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL .. 9.
HERBERT LANGDON 5.	WALTER PRIME Tenor.

Composed by HENRY W. HALEY, and Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

*First peal of Stedman,

The Provinces.

NEW MILLS, DERBYSHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(STOCKPORT AND BOWDON BRANCH.)

On Thursday, September 5, 1901, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13½ cwt.

JAMES L. ROBINSON .. Treble.	WILLIAM GORDON 5.
REV. A. T. BEESTON 2.	SAM RUTTER 6.
ALFRED BARNES 3.	FRED HOLT 7.
WILLIAM LOWRY 4.	HARRY CHAPMAN Tenor.

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD, and Conducted by HARRY CHAPMAN.

Rung on the occasion of the marriage of Wm. Marshall, a member of the local band, to Miss M. J. Gaunt. The conductor belongs to the Pendleton company; Gordon to Stockport; Barnes to Reddish; the rest are local men.

FEERING, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

(NORTH-EASTERN DIVISION.)

On Saturday, September 7, 1901, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

DAVID ELLIOTT Treble.	JOHN SADLER 5.
THOMAS CRANFIELD† .. 2.	FRANK C. NEWMAN 6.
GEORGE HUMM 3.	ERNEST W. BECKWITH .. 7.
EDWARD HAYWARD 4.	JAMES NEWMAN Tenor.

Composed by E. FRANCIS, and Conducted by DAVID ELLIOTT.

†First peal.

SPELDHURST, KENT.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Friday, September 6, 1901, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

FREDERICK STILL .. Treble.	RICHARD PELLING 5.
JAMES BAKER 2.	ARTHUR GODLEY 6.
JAMES MAYNARD 3.	THOMAS CARD 7.
GEORGE TURLEY 4.	JOHN THORPE Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS CARD.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to Benjamin C. Pratchett.

SONNING, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, September 7, 1901, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS'S FOUR-PART.

Tenor 21 cwt.

ALBERT E. REEVES .. Treble.	ERNEST BRUCE 5.
PHILBERT W. WILKINS .. 2.	WILLIAM HORNE 6.
CHARLES GILES 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
JAMES W. WILKINS 4.	REUBEN SAWYER Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

STREATHAM, SURREY.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 7, 1901, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT IMANUEL CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS'S FOUR-PART.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE Treble.	THOMAS LANGDON† .. 5.
BERTRAM PREWETT 2.	WILLIAM PYE 6.
ARTHUR R. JACOB 3.	ERNEST PYE 7.
ISAAC G. SHADE 4.	ARTHUR T. KING Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

†First peal in the method.

HAILSHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 7, 1901, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5072 CHANGES.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

GEORGE HOWSE .. Treble.	ROBERT J. DAWE 5.
FRANK BENNETT 2.	*ALBERT REED 6.
FREDERICK W. HARDING .. 3.	BENJAMIN HOBBS 7.
HERBERT RANN 4.	ALFRED J. TURNER Tenor.

Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

*First peal of Major. First peal of Major on the bells. This composition, now rung for the first time, is a reduced variation of a 5376 by G. Lindoff, without the 2nd in 5-6.

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BLETSOE, BEDS.—THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.*On Saturday, September 7, 1901, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor about 14 cwt.

FREDERICK J. BIRD ..	Treble.	JOHN W. BARKER ..	4.
CHARLES R. LILLEY ..	2.	WILLIAM FREEMAN ..	5.
THOMAS R. HENSHER ..	3.	CHARLES W. CLARKE ..	Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

WALDRON, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.*On Sunday, September 8, 1901, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS'S FOUR-PART. Tenor 11 cwt.

ROBERT J. DAWE ..	Treble.	FRANK BENNETT ..	5.
GEORGE WILLIAMS ..	2.	ALFRED J. TURNER ..	6.
HERBERT RANN ..	3.	BENJAMIN HOBBS ..	7.
GEORGE SMART ..	4.	WILLIAM H. JENNER ..	Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

First peal of Stedman on the bells; also the conductor's 500th peal, a list of which will appear next week.

WAKEFIELD, YORKS.**THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.***On Monday, September 9, 1901, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,*

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. CARTER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 11 cwt.

W. ENGLAND ..	Treble.	J. T. EASON ..	5.
T. L. MOORHOUSE ..	2.	ALBERT SCOTT ..	5.
JAMES MOORHOUSE ..	3.	F. MOORHOUSE ..	7.
THOS. HY. ORMOND ..	4.	W. PEAKER ..	Tenor.

Conducted by ALBERT SCOTT.

First peal and first attempt by the ringers of the treble and tenor, who were proposed members of the Association the day previous.

Date Touches.**THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

SOMERLEYTON (Suffolk).—On August 15th, a date touch of Minor, consisting of 720 Kent, 720 Oxford, and 471 Bob Minor. D. Hayward, 1; F. Smith, 2; R. Christian, 3; W. Richards, 4; A. Jacob, 5; C. Jackson conductor, 6. This visit was arranged for Messrs. Jackson and Jacob and will not only be remembered by the ringers, but also by many of the inhabitants for the happy moments spent during the evening.

Miscellaneous.**THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**

(STOCKPORT AND BOWDEN BRANCH.)

STOCKPORT (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, June 2nd, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters, 1263 changes. H. Meakin, 1; T. Marshall conductor, 2; J. W. Bayley, 3; J. Barlow, 4; J. A. Gordon, 5; J. Hankinson, 6; A. S. Gordon, 7; W. Gordon, 8; E. Reader conductor, 9; J. W. Bailey, 10. First quarter-peal of Stedman Caters on the bells. The ringers of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 6th, and belong to St. George's, Stockport, the rest are local men.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

GREAT YARMOUTH (Norfolk).—On August 10th, for service 575 Grandsire Caters. H. Wright, 1; J. Godfrey, 2; R. Christian, 3; D. Hayward, 4; W. Secrett, 5; G. Read, 6; C. Jackson conductor, 7; J. Matthews, 8; A. Jacob, 9; F. Pestell, 10. On August 20th, for practice, 1080 Bob Royal. H. Wright, 1; J. Godfrey, 2; R. Christian, 3; W. Blyth, 4; D. Hayward conductor, 5; W. Secrett, 6; G. Read, 7; W. H. Inglesant, 8; G. Orford, 9; A. Jacob, 10.

GORLESTON (Suffolk).—On August 18th, after evening service, a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. A. Fuller, 1; J. Godfrey, 2; W. H. Inglesant, 3; R. Christian, 4; D. Hayward, 5; A. Jacob conductor, 6. Also 720 Bob Minor. A. Jacob, 1; W. H. Inglesant conductor, 2; R. Christian, 3; A. Fuller, 4; J. Godfrey, 5; D. Hayward, 6.

WINTERTON (Norfolk).—After practice, Messrs. Jacob and Inglesant having expressed a desire to see and hear the bells at Winterton with their patent clappers, 1.45 p.m. to-morrow was the order from Boss Hayward, Beach station, but on arriving at the belfry we found only five ropes for six bells, but we soon found the missing link and the bells set going to the tune of Bob Minor and Grandsire. C. Harding, 1; W. Empson, 2; R. Christian, 3; D. Hayward, 4; A. Jacob, 5; W. H. Inglesant, 6. A. Jacob hails from London, W. H. Inglesant from Loughborough.

SPROUGHTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday, June 23rd, for practice, 720 Cambridge Surprise, in 26 mins. C. Mee conductor, 1; G. W. Mee, 2; H. Borrett, 3; F. Mee, 4; A. G. Rivers, 5; F. Borrett, 6. First 720 by H. and F. Borrett. Also 720 Plain Bob. W. Brown, 1; H. Mee, 2; F. Borrett, 3; H. Borrett, 4; H. English, 5; F. Mee conductor, 6. On Sunday, June 30th, for service, nine plain courses in the following methods: Superlative Surprise, London Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Double Court, Double Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Reverse Bob and Plain Bob Minor.

THE STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

KIDSGROVE (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, April 7th, for evening service, 720 Grandsire Minor. F. Johnson, 1; G. Buckley, 2; A. Archer, 3; F. Dean, 4; J. Mason, 5; G. Siddons conductor, 6. On Sunday, April 21st, for morning service, 360 Kent Treble Bob. F. Johnson, 1; G. Buckley, 2; J. Mason, 3; A. Archer, 4; F. Dean, 5; H. Dean conductor, 6. On Wednesday, June 5th, 720 Violet Treble Bob. J. Mason, 1; G. Buckley, 2; A. Archer, 3; F. Dean, 4; H. Dean, 5; G. Siddons conductor, 6. On Sunday, June 9th, for morning service, 360 Violet, standing as above. On Sunday, June 23rd, for evening service, 720 New London Pleasure, standing as before. On Sunday, June 30th, for morning service, 360 Oxford. G. Siddons, 1; G. Buckley, 2; A. Archer conductor, 3; J. Mason, 4; H. Dean, 5; F. Dean, 6. Also for afternoon service, 360 Woodbine Treble Bob. G. Siddons, 1; W. Rigby, 2; G. Buckley, 3; F. Dean, 4; H. Dean, 5; A. Archer conductor, 6. W. Digby hails from Lawson, Cheshire.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

KILLMARSH. —On Saturday, June 29th, at the parish church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. H. Greaves, 1; W. Price, 2; G. Shaw, 3; S. Robinson conductor, 4; G. Marsden, 5; W. Collins, 6. Also 720 Duke of York. W. Collier, 1; C. Fowler, 2; W. Price, 3; S. Robinson, 4; G. Marsden, 5; J. P. Tarlton conductor, 6.

ECKINGTON. —On Sunday, June 30th, at the parish church a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. G. Oates, 1; J. Atkin, 2; W. Bugar, 3; F. Bugar conductor, 4; G. T. Sarel, 5; W. Biggin, 6; J. Allen, 7; G. Butcher, 8. Also 640 Treble Bob Major. A. Slater, 1; H. Madin, 2; E. James, 3; H. Mottershall, 4; A. Worthington, 5; W. Worthington, 6; T. Smedley, 7; A. Knights conductor, 8. Also a touch of Stedman Triples, the first on the bells. W. Bugar, 1; F. Bugar conductor, 2; J. Atkins, 3; J. Mulligan, 4; G. T. Sarel, 5; W. Mulligan, 6; A. Knights, 7; J. Allen, 8. It being Feast Sunday at Eckington twenty-seven ringers paid a visit from the following towers; Sheffield, Chesterfield, Norton, Staveley and Killamarsh.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

WITYCOMBE RALEIGH (Exmouth).—On Tuesday, July 2nd, at the church of St. John, a peal of Grandsire Triples was attempted, but after ringing 2520 changes, it came to grief. G. Stocker, 1; F. J. Shepherd conductor, 2; J. Snow, 3; F. Murphy, 4; F. Shepherd, 5; H. Burch, 6; A. H. Snow, 7; W. Lowton, 8. The ringers of the 2nd, 4th, 5th, and tenor are of the Heavitree Society, the rest belong to the local band, and this is their longest length on an inside bell. The best thanks of the band are due to Mr. A. H. Snow for having everything in readiness and kindly entertaining us to supper afterwards.

HEAVITREE (Devonshire).—On July 4th, 336 Bob Major. T. Bartlett, 1; F. Shepherd conductor, 2; J. Ford, 3; W. Burrough, 4; F. J. Shepherd, 5; J. R. Sandover, 6; W. Modgridge, 7; F. Murphy, 8. On a recent Sunday morning, for Divine Service, the last 742 of Holt's Original. T. Bartlett, 1; T. Laver, 2; F. Murphy, 3; J. Ford, 4; W. Modgridge, 5; F. J. Shepherd, 6; J. R. Sandover conductor, 7; W. Nethercott, 8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(LIVERPOOL BRANCH.)

WARRINGTON (Lancashire).—On June 15th, at St. Paul's church

120 Grandsire Doubles and 120 Stedman Doubles. On a recent Sunday morning, for service, 120 each Bob Doubles, Grandsire Doubles, Stedman Doubles. H. Wilson, 1; G. Edwardson, 2; L. Edwardson, 4; J. J. Wilson, 4; E. Edwardson conductor, 5; H. Flood, 6. First by the ringers of the 1st, 2nd, and 6th. First of Stedman Doubles by all, and probably first ever rung in the tower of St. Paul's.

RIBCHESTER (Lancashire).—On Saturday, June 29th, 720 Plain Bob. T. Strickland conductor, 1; F. Timbrell, 2; D. Sanderson, 3; R. Sanderson, 4; J. Vogwill, 5; W. Timbrell, 6. Also 360 College Single. R. Dewhurst conductor, 1; W. Timbrell, 2; D. Sanderson, 3; R. Sanderson, 4; — Robinson, 5; E. Timbrell, 6. Rung on the occasion of the branch meeting held here on the above date.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Saturday, July 6th, at the church of St. Peter, Walworth, the last 742 of Holt's Original. A. G. H. Newman, 1; E. J. Webb, 2; E. H. Oxenham, 3; T. Langdon, 4; F. G. Perrin, 5; T. Langdon, 6; H. Langdon conductor, 7; W. R. Crockford, 8. The above was rung after an unsuccessful attempt for Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, which was specially arranged to commemorate the 150th anniversary of its first being rung, which took place at St. Margaret's, Westminster, on July 7th, 1751.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

SWINESHEAD (Lincolnshire).—On December 26th, 704 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Houlden, 1; W. Woods, 2; E. Houlden, 3; J. Holmes, 4; F. Warrington, 5; H. Nash, 6; T. Woods, 7; W. Dickinson conductor, 8. First Major on the bells.

HECKINGTON (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday, December 30th, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples and 784 Bob Major. W. Houlden, 1; T. Woods, 2; J. Hilton, 3; E. Houlden, 4; F. Warrington, 5; J. Holmes, 6; J. Clark, 7; W. Dickinson conductor, 8. On December 31st, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples. W. Houlden, 1; T. Woods, 2; J. Hilton, 3; E. Houlden, 4; W. Woods, 5; J. Clark, 6; W. Dickinson conductor, 7; J. Holmes, 8. On Sunday, January 6th, 576 Kent. W. Houlden, 1; T. Woods, 2; J. Hilton, 3; E. Houlden, 4; F. Warrington, 5; J. Holmes, 6; W. Woods, 7; W. Dickinson conductor, 8. On January 10th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. T. Woods, 1; J. Holmes, 2; J. Hilton, 3; E. Houlden, 4; F. Warrington, 5; W. Woods, 6; J. Clark conductor, 7; W. W. Houlden, 8. On Sunday, January 13th, 704 Kent. E. Houlden, 1; W. Woods, 2; J. Hilton, 3; F. Warrington, 4; T. Woods, 5; J. Holmes, 6; J. Clark, 7; W. Dickinson conductor, 8. On Monday, January 14th, 704 Grandsire Triples. W. Houlden, 1; W. H. Woods, 2; J. Hilton, 3; E. Houlden, 4; F. Warrington, 5; T. Woods, 6; W. Woods, 7; W. Dickinson conductor, 8. On Monday, January 21st, 970 Grandsire Triples. W. Houlden, 1; T. Woods, 2; J. Hilton, 3; E. Houlden, 4; F. Warrington, 5; W. Dickinson conductor, 6; W. Woods, 7; A. Sneath, 8. On January 24th, 630 Oxford Bob Triples. W. Houlden, 1; W. Woods, 2; J. Hilton, 3; E. Houlden, 4; T. Woods, 5; J. Clark, 6; W. Dickinson conductor, 7; F. Warrington, 8. On January 27th, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Houlden, 1; T. Woods, 2; J. Clark, 3; E. Houlden, 4; F. Warrington, 5; J. Holmes, 6; W. Woods, 7; W. Dickinson conductor, 8. On Saturday, February 2nd, 420 Grandsire Triples, with the bells deeply-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Queen Victoria. T. Woods, 1; W. Woods, 2; J. Hilton, 3; E. Houlden, 4; J. Clark, 5; J. Holmes, 6; W. Dickinson conductor, 7; F. Warrington, 8.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(WIRRAL BRANCH.)

WOODCHURCH.—On June 11th, for practice, a plain course of Kent Treble Bob. Also 720 Oxford Bob. J. Stanley, 1; J. Johnson, 2; W. Duckers, 3; W. Williams, 4; A. Bennett, 5; J. Dillon conductor, 6. First 720 Oxford Bob by all except the conductor. On June 18th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob. A. Bennett, 2; E. Phillips, 3; W. Duchess, 3; W. Wilcox conductor, 4; J. Dillon, 5; W. Bennett, 6.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CARDIFF.—On Thursday, June 6th, for practice, 518 Grandsire Triples. L. Brooks, 1; D. Thomas, 2; W. B. Biss conductor, 3; H. V. Wilkins, 4; C. Winfield, 5; H. Brown, 6; G. Hardage, 7; H. Day, 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

GREAT BADDOW (Essex).—Recently at the church of St. Mary, on the occasion of the wedding of Miss Gilmore, a quarter-peal composed by the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS." H. Dawson, 1; H. Richell, 2; W. Newman, 3; W. Lily, 4; G. Piper, 5; G. Green, 6; A. Richell, 7; A. Whight, 8. This quarter-peal contains all the different positions of 5-6-7.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Sunday, August 25th, at St. Peter's church, 120 Bob Minor. F. Lowe, 1; M. Smith, 2; A. Robinson, 3; W. Finedon, 4; J. Church, 5; W. Barker conductor, 6. On the following Thursday 120 Grandsire Doubles. A. Robinson, 1; C. Chasty, 2; M. Smith, 3; W. Stapleton, 4; W. Finedon, 5; S. Smith, 6. On handbells, a course of Grandsire Doubles. J. Perkins, 1; A. Robinson, 2; W. Finedon, 3; M. Smith, 4; W. Stapleton, 5-6. A course of Bob Doubles. W. Stapleton, 1; M. Smith, 2; A. Robinson, 3; C. Chasty, 4; W. Finedon, 5; S. Smith, 6. On Sunday, September 1st, a plain course of Oxford Bob Minor. F. Keech, 1; M. Smith, 2; F. Lowe, 3; W. Stapleton, 4; W. Finedon, 5; A. Robinson, 6. A plain course of Bob Minor, standing as before. On the following Tuesday 120 Grandsire Doubles. J. Perkins, 1; M. Smith, 2; W. Finedon, 3; W. Stapleton, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5-6.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

TOWCESTER (Northants).—On Saturday, June 21st, at the church of St. Lawrence, 720 Bob Minor. W. Rogers, 1; F. Hopper conductor, 2; A. Stewart, 3; A. Moore, 4; E. Haxley, 5; F. Wilford, 6. Also a course of Kent Treble Bob. E. Haxley, 1; F. Hopper, 2; A. Stewart, 3; A. Moore, 4; F. Wilford, 5; W. Fairey, 6. And another 720 Bob Minor. St. Lawrence, first 720, 1; A. Stewart, 2; F. Hopper, 3; W. Rogers, 4; E. Haxley, 5; F. Wilford conductor, 6.

CHESTER.—On Sunday, June 18th, on the occasion of the Dedication Festival, at the church of St. Mary Without the Walls, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. Alfred Willcox, 1; John Sconce, 2; William Sconce, 3; Arthur L. Prince composer and conductor, 4; James Moulton, 5; William Moulton, 6; Gilbert Gerrard, 7; John Tomlinson, 8.

EMBERTON (Bucks).—On Thursday, August 15th, at All Saints' church, to celebrate the wedding of Mr. A. Spencer Hogg to Miss Brada Hutton, 720 College Single. J. W. Lett, 1; J. Lovell, 2; F. Mynard, 3; W. Mynard, 4; W. Freeman (conductor), 5; H. Lett, 6. A 720 Oxford Bob. C. H. Lett, 1; J. W. Lett, 2; F. Myers, 3; W. Mynard, 4; J. Lovell, 5; W. Freeman conductor, 6. A 720 Bob Minor. W. Freeman conductor, 1; J. W. Lett, 2; F. Mynard, 3; H. Lett, 4; J. Lovell, 5; F. W. Booth, first 720 with a bob bell, 6. A 360 Bob Minor. F. W. Booth, 1; J. W. Lett, 2; F. Mynard, 3; H. Lett, 4; W. Freeman, 5; J. Lovell conductor, 6. Another 360 Bob Minor. H. Lett, 1; W. Mynard, 2; J. Lovell, 3; F. W. Booth, 4; W. Freeman conductor, 5; F. Mynard, 6. On Friday evening the ringers were entertained at supper by Mr. Hutton, father of the bride, wishing the bride and bridegroom long life and happiness.

LICHFIELD (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, June 23rd, at St. Mary's church, 1008 Bob Major. F. Cope, jun., 1; A. Bowler, 2; T. Meredith, 3; W. Dempster, 4; H. Meacham, 5; P. W. Davies, 6; L. Bullock, 7; F. Cope, sen., (conductor), 8. Messrs. Bullock and Meredith hail respectively from Burton-on-Trent and Barton-under-Needwood.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, July 7th, at St. Edward's church, one of the Editor's 1-peals of Grandsire Triples. W. Watson, 1; G. Roughton, 2; W. Pye, 3; H. Catterwell first quarter-peal, 4; H. F. Dawkins first quarter-peal as conductor, 5; G. R. Pye, 6; E. Pye, 7; R. Vyse, 8.

STOURBRIDGE (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, July 7th, at the church of St. Thomas 720 Plain Bob Minor, Holt's Original. A. Beavan, 1; G. H. Pagett, 2; W. Short, 3; J. Bass, 4; W. A. Pugh, 5; J. Pagett conductor, 6. W. Short hails from Birmingham, J. Pagett from Kidderminster.

WIGSTON (Leicestershire).—On Friday, evening, July 5th, 720 Grandsire Doubles. T. Humberstone conductor, 1; R. Roe, 2; J. W. Sampson, 3; J. Rawlinson, 4; A. Ladkin, 5; H. Vann, 6. Also on Sunday evening, July 7th, after Divine Service, 600 in the same method. T. Humberstone conductor, 1; J. Wilson, 2; J. W. Sampson, 3; R. Roe, 4; A. Ladkin, 5; H. Vann, 6. Rung with the bells muffled in memory of Rev. H. J. Mason, late Vicar of Wigston.

PEACH'S LACE CURTAINS 218. POPULAR PARCEL. 218. DIRECT FROM THE LOOMS. Carriage Paid. Lot 643 contains 2 pairs Dining-room Curtains, same design, superb copy old lace, 3½ yds. long, 60 in. wide; 1 pair Drawing-room Curtains, lacey and rich, 4 yds. long, 2 yds. wide; 1 pair Bedroom Curtains, 3 yds. long, 50 in. wide, ornate design; 1 Lace Tray Cover; 1 Sideboard Cover; also handsome set of Toilet Table Covers, one 45 in. long, 12 in. wide and five smaller. Curtains can be had all same pattern, or Ecru if desired. Carriage paid, 218. Newest Designs for 1901. Used throughout the Empire. SEND YOUR ADDRESS for 1901 Illustrated Catalogue. The most complete List of Lace Goods issued. Lace Curtains, Frilled-Edge, Swiss, Gimpure Curtains, Also Madras Muslins, Black and Creme, Dress Nets, Flouncings, Black and Fancy Laces, Blouses, Laced-edged Roller Blinds, Ladies' and Gent's Hosiery, etc. Prize Medals, Toronto, 1892; Chicago, 1893.—S. PEACH & SONS, Lister Gate Nottingham. (Estd. 1857.)

ST. GILES, NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME.

On Tuesday, September 2nd, an interesting ceremony took place in the belfry of the above church, when the Mayor (Alderman R. B. Mellard), unveiled in the presence of a large gathering of ringers of the Stoke Archdiaconal Association, two peal boards recording a peal of Stedman Triples and a peal of Grandsire Triples. Supporting the Mayor were the Rector of Newcastle, the Rev. W. H. Redknapp, the Rev. W. R. Cole, Alderman T. P. Heath, J.P., Mr. H. Stone, Mr. Skerrett, &c.

The Mayor, in performing the ceremony, referred to the bells having been rehung by Mr. E. Turner, who had also recently had the chimes improved at considerable cost, and regretted that Mr. Turner was unable to be present. He had much pleasure in unveiling the two tablets, and hoped that those who would follow the present ringers would endeavour to emulate the successful efforts that were recorded upon them. His Worship then withdrew the veils amid applause. The inscription on the peal boards are as follows:—

"STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.—ST. GILES, NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME.—On Thursday, April 18th, 1901, the ringers of St. Peter's, Stoke-on-Trent, rang Thurstans' peal of Stedman Triples, 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 56 mins., the first peal in this method on these bells. Conducted by H. Page. Performers—S. Churton, *Treble*; T. Allen, 2; J. Steele, 3; A. Clowes, 4; J. B. Beardmore, 5; T. Mountford, 6; H. Page, 7; T. Rose, *Tenor*. Rev. W. H. Redknapp, *Rector*; F. Allen, W. F. Rennell, *Churchwardens*."

"STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.—ST. GILES, NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME.—On Tuesday, February 19th, 1901, the ringers of St. Peter's, Stoke-on-Trent rang Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040 changes in 3 hrs. and 4 mins. Performers—T. Allen, *Treble*; S. Churton, 2; J. Steele, 3; A. Clowes, 4; T. Mountford, 5; T. Austin, 6; H. Page, 7; J. Tittleton, *Tenor*. Conducted by S. Churton. Rev. W. H. Redknapp, *Rector*; F. Allen, W. F. Rennell, *Churchwardens*."

Mr. Page, who replied, in the course of his remarks, thanked his Worship the Mayor for so kindly coming amongst them that evening. They were well aware that a gentleman in the position of Mayor would have a great number of calls on his time, and therefore they (the ringers) felt that a great honour had been bestowed upon them. He should also like to thank Mr. Stone, who had so kindly given the board for the peal of Stedman. They made an attempt for the peal a fortnight previous to its being rung, and after ringing about an hour and a half they unfortunately broke down. Being in the company of Mr. Stone during the same evening, that gentleman kindly promised them that as soon as the peal was rung he would be most happy to give a board for it. So a fortnight later another attempt was made for the peal, which was successfully accomplished. Mr. Stone had kindly fulfilled his promise as the board hanging up fully testified. As regards the board for the peal of Grandsire that was a matter between the ringers themselves, and they thought it would be as well to have that unveiled at the same time so as to kill two birds with one stone. He hoped that when ringers from other towers came up and saw those boards it would be an inducement for them to go and do likewise, and he trusted that they would be as fortunate as what they, the Stoke ringers, had been, and would have some kind gentleman come forward and present them with a board, and that they would also have the honour of having a Mayor to unveil it.

Mr. Stone, in reply, said he was very pleased indeed to present the board, for though he was not a ringer himself

he was very fond of bells and liked to listen to them, and it had given him great pleasure to do what he had done, and he was very glad the ringers had succeeded in accomplishing the peal.

After some remarks from the rector, Mr. S. Kerrett proposed, and Mr. Riley seconded, that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded to the Mayor for his kindness in coming amongst them that evening, which was heartily given.

After a course of Stedman Triples had been rung and a touch of Grandsire Triples, the ringers being the same who had rung in the peals, an adjournment was made to the Central Hotel, where a good dinner had been provided by the host (Mr. Stone), when 21 sat down, and after being liberally responded to a convivial evening was spent, songs being the order of the day, the chair being taken by Mr. Page. The Mayor being unable to come to the supper dropped in later in the evening, accompanied by Alderman Heath, J.P.

At the close of the proceedings, a vote of thanks having been accorded to Mr. Stone for the capital dinner he had provided, Mr. S. Kerrett rose and said he should like to propose a vote of thanks to the Mayor and also to Alderman Heath for their presence amongst them. It was needless to say they were very glad to have them in their company, and trusted the Mayor would stand in the same capacity as he now stood for the ensuing year.

Mr. Churton, in seconding this proposition, said he should like to say a few words as regards the tower and bells of Newcastle. He assured the Mayor and Alderman Heath that the tower was the finest in the county and would very comfortably hold twelve bells, and he hoped the Mayor would use his influence to have either 2 or 4 bells added to the existing eight as a memorial of the coronation which is to take place next year.

The Mayor, in reply, said he was greatly obliged to them for the reception accorded him. It had given him great pleasure to be amongst them, and as regards the extra bells spoken about by Mr. Churton he would not fail to bear it in mind. Alderman Heath also having spoken a very enjoyable evening was brought to a close by the company singing "God Save the King."

THE EDMONTON SOCIETY.—On Saturday, August 31st, the members of the above society journeyed by brake to Hunsdon, Herts. Leaving Edmonton at one o'clock, Hunsdon was reached at 4 p.m., and having put up at The Turkey Cock, a move was made for the tower of St. Dunstan, where Stedman Triples and Treble Bob was successfully brought round. At 6.30 a move was made for The Turkey Cock, where justice was done to a good meat tea, after which they made another move to the tower and were met by the Vicar, and after a pleasant chat the party returned homeward having thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The ringers wish to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—On Monday, March 11th, at the parish church, for Confirmation Service, the following touches were rung: 168 Stedman Triples, 448 Double Norwich Major, and 608 Superlative Surprise. For practice on Friday, March 15th, two courses of London Surprise Major. The ringers taking part were Messrs. Alcock, Blakiston, Carter, Hall, Jones, Kidd, Metcalfe, McFarlane, Passman, Rudd and Titchener.

FOR the BEST SUITINGS and DRESS PIECES—direct from the looms, send to T. HAIGH, Change-Ringer, 14, George Street Huddersfield.

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 Heavy Woollen District Association.—The next monthly meeting of the above-named society will be held to-day, Saturday, September 14th, at Tong. Meeting to commence at 5 o'clock. **WALTER IDLE, Sec.**
47, *Vulcan Road, Dewsbury.*

The Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Reddish, to-day, Saturday, September 14th. Bells ready at 5 o'clock. Meeting at 7. **JOHN SMITH, Branch Sec.**

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at White Waltham, to-day, Saturday, September 14th. Ringing to commence at 2 o'clock. The bells of Shottesbrook church will also be open for ringing. **W. E. YATES, Branch Sec.**

The Royal Cumberland Society.—On Friday, September 20th, the election of officers of this Society will take place at head-quarters, Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden Lane, Strand. All members who can make it convenient are requested to attend. **A. JACOB.**
10, *St. Ann's Road, Hornsey, N.*

The Yorkshire Association.—By kind invitation of our local branch, the next general meeting will be held at Hull, on Saturday, September 21st, for which the following arrangements have been made: The headquarters for the day will be the Old Corn Exchange, North Church Side. By kind permission of the respective Vicars, the following rings will be at the disposal of members: Holy Trinity (10), St. James (8), All Saints (8), St. Marys (6), St. Mary's, Cottingham (8). Cottingham is situate about four miles from Hull, to which there is a good train service. The official committee will meet for the transaction of Association business in the Vicar's room at the Old Grammar School. Tea will be served in the Old Grammar School at 5 o'clock to those who have sent intimation to Mr. J. W. Stickney, 111, Waverley Street, Hull, so as to reach him not later than Tuesday, September 17th, for which the usual charge of sixpence will be made, according to rule. The business meeting will follow immediately after tea.

The Middlesex County Association.—The annual meeting of this association will be held at Hillingdon (Uxbridge), on Saturday, September 21st. The bells of St. John's church as well as those of St. Andrew's will be available from 2 p.m., and if desired, a peal could be rung at St. Andrew's, commencing at 11 a.m. There will be a service in St. Andrew's church, at 5.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting in the parish room. A substantial tea will be provided for members and their friends at 1s. 6d. a head. The Hon. Secs. hope that members will make a special effort to attend this meeting, giving them early notice of their intention in order that proper provision may be made. **C. EDWARDS, } Hon. Secs.**
ARTHUR T. KING, }

The Chester Diocesan Guild.—Macclesfield Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Bollington, on Saturday, September 21st. Tea at 5 p.m. **J. NORBURY, Sec.**

Gloucester and Bristol Association.—Bristol Branch.—A meeting of this branch will be held at Dursley, on Saturday, September 21st. Short service at 5 p.m. Tea and business meeting after service. Cheap train from

Bristol (Temple Meads), leaving 2.37 p.m., fare 1s. 9d. return. **C. H. GORDON, Branch Sec.**

The Waterloo Society, London.—Members are urgently requested to attend a special meeting at St. John's, Waterloo Road, on September 25th, for the purpose of discussing the proposed removal of the society's headquarters to St. John's, Vassall Road, Brixton. **F. J. SHEPHERD, Hon. Sec.**
29, *Warner Road, Camberwell, S.E.*

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus, Lower Thames Street, on the 26th inst., and at St. Paul's Cathedral on the 17th. Copies of the Glossary may be had by members of the Society at 3d. each, and by non-members at 5d. each post free, on application to **WILLIAM T. COCKERILL, Hon. Sec.**
"Frodingham," *Elmhurst Street, Clapham, S.W.*

The Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The next quarterly meeting of this association will be held at Hartlebury, on Saturday, September 28th. The Rev. D. Robertson, vicar, has kindly consented to give an address at the service in the church, at 5.30. Business meeting to follow. The tower and bells will be open for ringing. The Glossary will be ready for distribution to members at this meeting. **JOHN SMITH, Hon. Sec.**
36, *Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.*

Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The next quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Frome, on Saturday, September 28th. Particulars later. **A. I. W. ILES, Hon. Sec.**

Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The next meeting of the above Society will be held at S. Chad's, Far Headingley, on Saturday, September 28th. Bells at liberty from 3 to 9 o'clock p.m. Business meeting at The New Inn, at 7 p.m. **J. W. HOLGATE, Hon. Sec.**
5, *Ashcroft Street, Bramley, Leeds.*

The Llandaff Diocesan Association.—The next quarterly meeting of the above Association will be held at Aberdare, on Saturday, September 28th, at 2.45 p.m. Bells available after mid-day. **C. L. PRICE, Hon. Sec.**
J. H. ALDRIDGE, Ass. Hon. Sec.

The Lincoln Diocesan Guild.—Northern Branch.—The general half-yearly meeting will be held at Gainsborough, on Saturday, September 28th. The parish church tower will be open for ringing. Tea at the Coffee Tavern at 5 p.m. Business meeting immediately after tea.

GEO. CHESTER, Branch Secretary.
Granville House, Carline Road, Lincoln.

The Lancashire Association.—The annual meeting will take place at Blackpool, on Saturday, September 28th. Tea will be provided in St. John's parish school for those members who send in their names to Mr. R. Clitheroe, 94, Raikes Road, Blackpool. Other particulars by circular.

A. E. WREAKS, J. WILSON, J. SHEPHERD, Secretaries.

The Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Richmond, Yorkshire, on Saturday, October 5th. Tea, 9d each to members, at 4.30 in the parish church room, Dundas-street. Members intending to be present, kindly inform the Hon. Secretary not later than Tuesday, October 1st. **REV. W. P. WRIGHT, Stokesley, R.S.O. Hon. Sec. and Treas.**

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—Copies of the "Glossary of Technical Terms," put forth by the Central Council, can be obtained by Guild members from Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, Dunsden Vicarage, Reading, price 2d., or with postage 3d.

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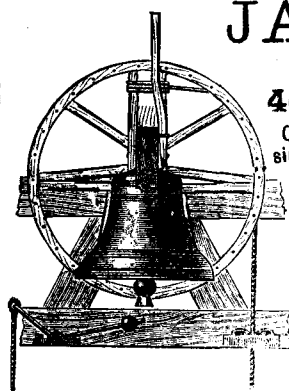
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