

BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 1024.—VOL. XX.]

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1901.

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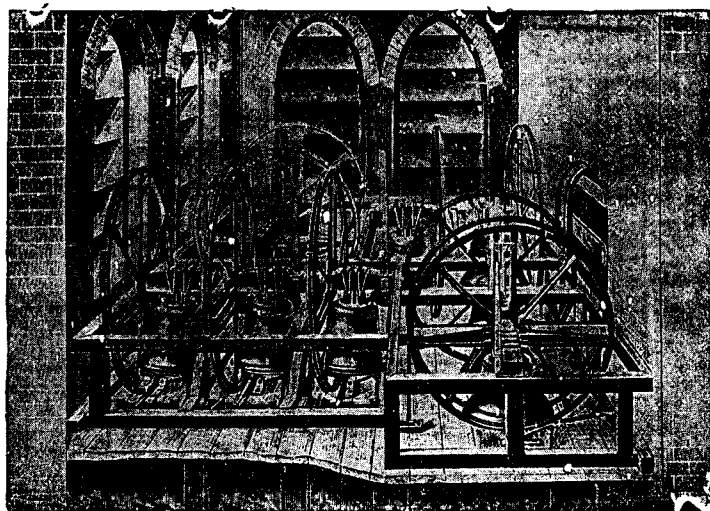
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 1024.]

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1901.

[Vol. XX.]

LYMINGTON, HANTS.

DEDICATION OF THE CHURCH BELLS.

A very large congregation recently assembled at the Parish Church, when a special service to dedicate the new peal of eight bells was held. The service was conducted by the Rev. A. H. Squire, and the Vicar read special lessons (Numbers v. and part of Revelations v.), and dedicatory prayers. The St. Peter's Guild from Bournemouth kindly gave their services for the occasion, and rung before the service, and also a short "touch" after the dedicatory prayers had been offered. The Vicar based an appropriate address upon Exodus xxxix., 25-26, in the course of which he said that while he was free to admit that there was a tendency to put ceremonial forward to take the place of the spiritual, bells and their dedication were justified by scripture, and the ancient customs of the Church of God. Bells were a very old institution, and he traced their usage back to the days of Egypt and Rome, following up an interesting historical narrative by alluding to several of the principal bells of the world. Continuing, the rev. gentleman said they now had a ring of eight bells in their own parish, and that service was of historical interest. It might be asked why had they erected them, and why had they meddled with the tower? He would tell them the reason why. They found on examination that the tower was in a very dangerous condition; that the beam was rotten and nearly eaten through, and the bells must one day have fallen, to the destruction of the ringers beneath. Thus he and the churchwardens took the action they deemed needful, and the parish, in vestry assembled, unanimously voted that two more bells should be added to the six they already possessed. One of these was in memory of their late gracious Queen Victoria. He understood from the churchwardens that there was still outstanding about £100, but the parish, after the vote through the medium of the Vestry, was in honour bound to clear this amount off as soon as possible. Alluding to the fact that the names of Queen Victoria, Mrs. Haldane (who gave one of the bells), the Vicar, and churchwardens were engraved upon the bells, the speaker said of course they had a little ambition that when the years had gone by their names would stand recorded, although he hoped that his name would be written on the hearts of the people of Lymington, to whom he had ministered for nearly half-a-century. The rev. gentleman concluded his address by pointing out the uses of bells, and showing how closely they were associated with the services and festivals of the Church and the life of the people. The hymn "Hark, the sound of holy voices," was sung, and the Blessing pronounced by the Vicar. The collection taken realised £10 5s.

Subsequently, at the Literary Institution, Mr. Churchwarden Elliott entertained the Bournemouth ringers, and a number of Church workers and officials, the old ringers, and the members of the newly-formed Ringers' Guild to tea. Dr. Hill (Vicar's warden) presided, and the com-

pany, which numbered between fifty and sixty, included the host, Miss Elliott, the Vicar, the Rev. A. H. Squire, Colonel Stirke, Dr. Chinery, Messrs. J. C. King, W. Klitz, G. F. Saul, H. S. Newnham, C. White, Klitz, jun., W. Green, H. K. Clark, E. Hesketh, E. Tiller, J. S. Lovell, W. Knee, S. Wheatley (of the firm of John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, who superintended the hanging of the bells), Stent, Millett, A. Harvey, and F. Sticklee. Mr. Last, of the High-street, served an excellent tea, and at the close the Vicar proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the visiting ringers. The occasion was an epoch in the history of Lymington, and it was a kind and neighbourly act on their part to come and lend them a helping hand. He thanked them on his own and the churchwardens' behalf.

Mr. John King seconded, remarking that the visitors had bestowed quite a favour upon Lymington, as everybody had been delighted with the bells. He also thought the Committee deserved their best thanks for the manner in which they had acted in the matter, and carried the resolution of the Vestry to a successful culmination. The thanks were accorded by acclamation, and Mr. Grist, deputy-master of the Bournemouth ringers, replied.

The Chairman, alluding to Mr. King's reference to the work of the Committee, said the praise was really due to Mr. Elliott. He had done what he could to second his efforts, and Mr. Klitz and Mr. Saul had also rendered valuable assistance, but he wished to specially emphasise the fact that Mr. Elliott had borne the burden and heat of the day, and had devoted an immense amount of time and labour for the benefit of the town at large.

Mr. Elliott, in reply, admitted that the work had been onerous, but it had been a pleasure to him to do some little work for the benefit of the parish. Had he known at the Easter Vestry what he knew later of the bells and the dilapidated condition of the tower he did not think he should have had the heart to take the work in hand. He acknowledged, with gratitude, the assistance he had received from Mr. Klitz, but for whom they would not now have possessed the tenor bell.

Mr. Klitz also replied, saying that his aim throughout had been to get the bells so placed from an acoustic point of view, as not to be an annoyance to the people in the neighbourhood. He felt very proud that the peal of bells was an accomplished fact. The old bells had been in an unsafe state for years, and it was a mercy there had not been an accident. The present bells were safe for two or three centuries, and he was proud to think that he had a voice in putting up the magnificent tenor, as it would carry further, and give more dignity to the peal. The gathering then separated, and the St. Peter's ringers rung several touches of Grandsire Triples, including 630, 504, and 168 changes, in the latter one of the local ringers (Mr. Hesketh) rang the treble. The ringers were as follows:—Treble, F. Phillips; 2nd, G. Colborne; 3rd, C. Forftt; 4th, T. Green; 5th, Eli Waters; 6th, J. Bristowe; 7th, C. Goodenough; tenor, T. Belbin. The visitors expressed themselves highly pleased with the bells. Mr. Elliott entertained the ringers to supper.

THE EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A special ringing meeting was held at North Wingfield, on Saturday, November 9th. Members were present from Ault Hucknall, Clay Cross, Bolsover, Tibshelf, Pleasley, Ripley, South Normanton, North Wingfield, also the old veteran from Eckington, Mr. George Marsden, and a ringing friend from Derby. Service was held in church at 4 p.m., when all the ringers were present, including a goodly number of parishioners. The service commenced with the singing of the "Old Hundreth," the prayers were intoned by the Rector (Rev. C. J. Boden). The first lesson was read by the Rev. H. S. Oldham, Vicar of Clay Cross, the second lesson by the President, Rev. A. V. Colston, Vicar of Bolsover. A very interesting address was given by the Rector, which was listened to with rapt attention. Hymn 303 A. and N. was then sung, after which two peal-boards were unveiled by Mrs. Jackson, of Clay Cross, each board containing two peals of 5040 each. The special hymn "Let our bells ring from the steeple," was then sung to the tune "Stuttgart," No. 76, A. and M., which went with a good swing, and was joined in heartily by all present, the Rector pronouncing the Benediction.

Tea was provided by the local ringers in the school, at 5 p.m., to which sixty-eight sat down. After grace had been said, the President (Rev. A. V. Colston) gave a short address, expressing the pleasure it gave him to meet the members in such numbers. The Rector, on behalf of the ringers, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Jackson, for so kindly attending to unveil the boards, which was carried with acclamation.

Mrs. Jackson replied, and stated it had given her great pleasure to be present. The local ringers were heartily thanked for providing the tea. The ringers then wended their way to the belfry, when several 720's were brought round in good style, all were unanimous in the wish that two trebles might soon be added to this grand old six to complete the octave. The bells were lowered at 9 p.m., one and all having spent a very enjoyable afternoon.

ELHAM, KENT.

On Saturday, November 9th, a very interesting local event took place in the belfry of the parish church, being the unveiling of a peal-board, recording the first peal ever rung on the bells. The board, which no doubt at one time had its proper place in the tower, was evidently for some cause or other taken down and never replaced, for within the recollection of some of the local band it has been used as a notice board at the church door, and from thence found its way to the old Vicarage. During the rebuilding of the present Vicarage, the builder, a churchwarden, came across the peal-board, and fixed some plans in it, but thinking there was something unusual about it made a close inspection of it, and he, with the secretary of the ringers' society, made out the following writing, which had nearly been obliterated: "On Saturday, the 23rd of May, 1772, was rung for the first time in this steeple a complete peal of Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. and 8 mins., by the following persons, viz: J. Cullen, W. Rigden, G. Downe, R. Downe, R. Foreman, W. Ruck, D. Cullen, G. Ladd.

The Vicar, the Rev. A. C. de Bourbel, generously defrayed the cost of having the peal board put in proper order, which has been very creditably done by one of the local band. Previous to the unveiling, the Vicar, who performed the ceremony, gave a short and interesting

address on bells and their connexion with religion, and offered some suitable prayers. During the evening some well-struck touches of Bob Triples and Major were rung to the memory of those who rang in the peal, and also in honour of the King's birthday. The ringers were A. Tanton, J. Andrews, J. Prebble, and W. E. Pitman, of Lyminge; E. Cheeseman and Hopkins of Stowting; and Messrs. Castle, Smith, Bourne, Bush and Whitnall of the local band.

THE HARRISON MEMORIAL.

The attention of our readers is directed to the fact that this fund closes on Saturday, November 30th.

SUNBURY, MIDDLESEX.

Sir Frederick Dixon Hartland and Lady Hartland, and the parishioners of Sunbury thought they would like to erect a memorial to our late Queen Victoria. A meeting was held, at which Sir Frederick offered to defray the cost of recasting the old six bells of the parish church, providing the parishioners put a new frame or cage. Then some one said "Why not put eight bells while they were about it." Accordingly Sir Frederick and Lady Hartland decided to give two trebles, and also have the others recast, provided all the other expenses were defrayed by the parish. The work was entrusted to Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, which we may hardly want to add was well done, the tenor weighing about 17½ cwt., the tone of the bells and "go" being excellent.

The opening ceremony took place on October 15th, the Bishop of London conducting the dedication service, and Lady Hartland rung one of the bells for the first time, after which a short touch was rung. The Kingston ringers had two attempts to ring the first peal on them, but were not successful. Mr. Hunt, of Guildford, got the Rector's kind permission to attempt a peal on November 16th, and he made arrangements for that day, and with six good men and true from Guildford to accompany him, starting South-Western Railway at 1.3 sharp. On the journey to Walton-on-Thames they met "Father," looking cold but cheerful. A conveyance being in waiting a drive of four miles to Sunbury through the fog brought them to their rendezvous. A start was soon made for Stedman Triples, and for 2 hrs. 43 mins. the bells rattled along and then the welcome "this is all" made the first peal an accomplished fact, the ringers all being very pleased with themselves. Our correspondent adds: "We having wished 'Father' good-bye, as he was going back through Staines to be at home the same night ready for the morrow's services, the remainder of the band with the local ringers and our esteemed friend Mr. Wickens, of Walton, adjourned to a local hotel to get some refreshments and have a chat on the ringing and bells. Time slipped by, and we had to bid our Sunbury friends good-night. Then it was here we found the services of Mr. Wickens very acceptable, as it was very foggy, and we could not see more than five or six feet in front of us. We were all strangers on that road, and had sent our conveyance back, having decided to walk, and a treat we had too. Our pilot said 'Steady there, or you'll be in the water,' a stream running across the road; instinct seemed to tell him where it was. We found the footbridge all right, and we soon crossed Father Thames and were once more on the Surrey side, not one of us could claim it as native soil. We arrived in Walton town and there we wished our pilot good night. Another mile to Walton station, and then comfortably seated in the train we ran down to Guildford in good time, all the ringers being very pleased with their trip. Before parting a vote of thanks was proposed to Mr. Hunt for arranging everything in such a satisfactory manner, and also to the Rev. — Russell for granting the use of the bells, and the foreman, Mr. Dare, for having the bells up and everything in readiness."

WEDNESBURY (Staffs).—On Sunday, October 13th, being the harvest festival, 360 Grandsire Minor, 7-8 covering. A. Cooper, C. Tyler, J. Tyler, A. Plant, W. Johnson, J. Malpass, A. Cooper, S. Cooper. For evening service 672s Grandsire Triples. A. Cooper, A. Plant, O. Brown, C. Tyler, E. J. Tyler, W. Johnson, J. Lawton, J. Malpass.

THE ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL SOCIETY, MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA.

The Fifth Annual Meeting of The St. Paul's Cathedral Society was held in the Council Chamber Cathedral Buildings, Melbourne, on Wednesday, July 17th. The chair was occupied by F. R. Godfrey, esq., and about eighty ladies and gentlemen were present. The Secretary read the report and balance sheet for the past year, which were received and adopted. Commendatory remarks were expressed by the Chairman and The Precentor (The Rev. Alfred Wheeler) on the work done by the Society. A varied programme of vocal and hand-bell music was gone through, which was greatly enhanced by contributions from the Cathedral quartet party. The following have been elected office bearers for the ensuing year. President: The Lord Bishop of Melbourne, Vice-President, the Dean of Melbourne, Captain and Instructor Mr. A. E. Barnes, vice-Captain Mr. L. Murray, Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. E. F. Behan; Committee, Mr. W. Wollard, and Mr. A. G. Fitzgerald.

The following report was read:—

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I have the honour of submitting to you the Fifth Annual Report of the St. Paul's Cathedral Society of Bell-ringers. From every point of view the past year has been a most successful one, both as regards finance and the progress of the society generally. We again desire to express our hearty thanks to the kind friends who have so willingly accorded their support to this important part of Church work. The ringing of bells may seem to the casual observer a very simple task, but to get a band of ringers together and instruct them in the various intricacies of the art of Campanology requires a great amount of perseverance and determination on the part of those who instruct and those who learn. An instance of this may be seen in our own society. Two years and-a-half ago we had a strength of eight performing members, and five of them were what are termed round ringers. At the present time our membership consists of fourteen, and out of that number eleven are change-ringers. To attain this has required considerable attention and patience on the part of the members, which I am pleased to say has been forthcoming in a marked degree, as the attendances for the past year will show no less than a grand total of 1248 visits having been paid to the belfry. The quality of the ringing, to take it all through, has been of a fairly satisfactory character, clear and perfect striking being the acme of perfection in change-ringing. We have, perhaps, not obtained the highest standard in this direction, but with practice and in time we hope to do so. We have managed to successfully ring some fairly long touches: a 2030 of Grandsire Triples in a little over 1 hr. 18 mins. on September 23rd, being two parts of a peal, composed by the Rev. C. D. P. Davis, and various others. But the record for the year took place on June 9th, when, for the first time outside of Great Britain, a quarter peal of Grandsire Caters, 1259 changes, was rung in 52½ mins., composed and conducted by Mr. A. E. Barnes. The company stood as follows: W. Shenton, J. Shepherd, J. Freeman, 4, A. G. Fitzgerald, E. F. Behan, A. E. Barnes, J. T. R. Trotter, J. L. Murray, W. Woollard, T. Perry. Considering the time that some of the members have been practising this is a feat to be proud of. It was hoped that we should have been able to record a peal of 5040 but that remains to be accomplished in the near future. Altogether a total of 133 successful touches have been rung. The Society had their first outing on December 26th (Boxing Day) when a visit was paid to the picturesque City of Ballarat where a hearty welcome was accorded us by the local society of ringers, and a most pleasant day was spent in the active enjoyment of the exercise. In the support of a time-honoured custom the ringers met on December 31st to proclaim the advent of the new year, a special interest being attached to it, as the birth of the Twentieth Century, and on January 1st, when the inauguration of the Australian Commonwealth was celebrated in an appropriate manner by the pealing forth of the joy bells on an auspicious and memorable occasion. The sound of the bells in mournful cadence on February 2nd denoted that the last sad rites attendant on the death of our late Most Gracious Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria had been performed, which brought to a close a long and glorious reign. The most important and most

memorable ceremony that Australia has ever witnessed took place in the early part of May, when the bells rang out their sweetest music in welcome to our Royal Visitors, and the opening of Australia's first Federal Parliament. We were also pleased to receive a visit from the Sydney ringers Mr. Charles Porter, and several of his band from St. Mark's, Darling Point having taken a run over to take part in the festivities. Mr. Porter is by no means lacking in enthusiasm as a ringer, and is, indeed, an acquisition to any tower. We endeavoured to give him and his band a hearty welcome. It is needless to say that the ropes had very few moments of idleness during his short stay in Melbourne. I must not forget to mention in passing a peal that was rung this year in honour of the wedding of Mr. Ernest Wood. A cordial bond of sympathy has ever existed between the bell-ringers and Mr. Wood, and they desire to express their hearty congratulations and best wishes for his happiness in the new chapter of life which he has now commenced. We sincerely regret to chronicle the death of one of our oldest ringers in the person of Mr. Isaac Davis, who passed away on June 13th, at the age of 67. Mr. Davis has been connected with the Exercise for very many years in this city, and although past three-score years he was always ready and willing to take his place in the belfry when called on to do so, and it will be a bard task to find as steady and reliable a tenor man as he was. The buffs were put on and a muffled peal rung as a mark of the high esteem in which our late member was held by the Society. Messrs. Wollard, Murray and Barnes deserve great credit for the untiring energy they have displayed in promoting the welfare of the Society, without them our progress would have been indeed slow, Mr. Barnes showing exceptional qualities in the position of instructor in change-ringing. This report would be incomplete without a word of thanks to the Rev. The Precentor. On many occasions Mr. Wheeler has shown that he takes more than a passing interest in our society, one special instance being the handbell case, which adorns the belfry, he having undertaken to collect the whole amount to defray its costs. In conclusion, we trust that the coming year will be equally as progressive as the past has been, and that we shall be able to induce more young men to interest themselves in the study of this science. We have plenty of vacancies for them, and if they will only give their names in they will not be sorry for taking up an exercise that is conducive to health, promoting the mental faculties, and a service to Almighty God.

DITCHINGHAM, NORFOLK.

On Saturday, October 26th, these bells were re-opened after having been put in good ringing order. Three 720's of Bob Minor were rung. The first three of these bells are from the Whitechapel Foundry, the dates on the treble and second being "T. Mears, of London, 1820," and on the third "T. Lester made me, 1739." The fourth and fifth are black letter bells, and the tenor is one of Brend's bells, of Norwich, bearing the date 1620, and weighs 14 cwt. in G.

BURTON LATIMER, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 2nd, ringers from Northampton, Kettering, Wellingborough, Finedon, Earls Barton, Desborough, Rushden, Irthlingborough, Ravensthorpe and Rothwell, spent an enjoyable time at Burton Latimer, where through the kindness of the Rector, the Rev. W. B. Jacques, they had the privilege of ringing the bells of the church of St. Mary. There was not a large attendance, owing to counter attractions in the neighbourhood. The Rector kindly arranged for tea in the church schoolroom at five o'clock, to which about thirty sat down, including the Rev. W. B. Jacques, the Rev. H. Priestland, and Mr. Ball, churchwarden of Burton Latimer, Mr. W. Horden (Kettering), Rev. E. C. Channer (Ravensthorpe), and the Hon. Secretary, Mr. E. J. Dennes (Wellingborough). The business meeting followed. The Rector, in reply to a vote of thanks for the use of the bells and the hearty welcome he had given the members, expressed the pleasure it gave him to meet them, and gave some particulars of his own experience of ringers and ringing in the north of England. He

thought Associations such as theirs were very beneficial, as they were the means of bringing clergy, churchwardens and ringers together for their mutual advantage. With regard to their tower and bells, he feared they would soon have to go to the expense of re-pointing the spire, and they purposed, as soon as possible, to add another bell to increase the ring to six. The Rector concluded with some kindly words of advice and encouragement. Two new ringing members were elected from Kettering. It was decided that the next quarterly meeting be held at Higham Ferrers, if convenient, on Saturday, February 8th. Mr. Dennes mentioned that he understood that the church bells at Isham were shortly to be rehung and improved by the addition of another bell. He also referred to the illness of their President, the Archdeacon of Oakham, and felt sure that all wished him a speedy recovery.

Mr. Ball proposed a vote of thanks to the Secretary, and said how much gratified he had been with the tone of the meeting. He also gave some belfry recollections of nearly forty years ago when the tower was rebuilt and the bells rehung.

A good "fall" closed the ringing at 7.30 in the evening. Then those that could remain a little longer adjourned to the large room of The Horse and Groom inn, where they found a blazing fire, good accommodation, and a peal of large handbells brought from Wellingborough. These were well used for tunes and changes. The landlord (Mr. Fox) made them very welcome, and contributed a good song, as also did Mr. J. T. Tompkins, of Finedon. Members were pleased to see Mr. Hodgson, one of the senior Burton ringers, present in the room. He was one of the old company who joined the Association as far back as the opening meeting at Wellingborough in October 1883.

Mr. Bull (churchwarden), was also present. He contemplates providing some better quality ropes than those at present in use in the Burton belfry. The bells are rung from a ringing loft immediately under the bell-frame in the same room as the modern clock, which was put in by the late Rector, the Rev. F. B. Newman, in 1887.

The last meeting of the Association at Burton Latimer was held in February, 1891.

RYE, SUSSEX.

The following is taken from the "Rye Parish Magazine" for November:—

"I want to do what is kind and fair to all parties, in sanctioning arrangements for the ringing of the church bells. Only those who are ringers themselves can fully understand the fascination of what is called 'Change Ringing'; but many of us are very fond of hearing our church bells ring out their merry peals. Some are indifferent as to whether they are rung or not; and some few cannot stand the ringing at any price. I am entitled to a little sympathy, I think, in having to solve the problem, and do what is fair and just. It seems to me that the first persons to be considered are the sick and suffering, who may reside near the church; yet such people are often the most patient and unselfish, and shrink from asking to have the bells stopped for their sake. I should, therefore, like to appeal to our medical men, to be good enough to decide for their patients what ought to be done, in the cases they attend; and a request from a doctor shall always prevent or stop the ringing of the bells. The request should be sent, don't you think, to the Vicarage, and not to the belfry?

"Then, as to the amount of ringing, I propose that in future there shall be no early-ringing on Festivals before 7.30 a.m.; that 10 a.m. shall be the earliest for the bells to begin for Sunday Mattins; and 5.45 p.m. for Sunday Evensong; that the week-night practice be from 8 to 9.30 on Tuesdays; and on the last Saturday of each month (instead of the usual Tuesday Practice) our band of ringers shall have leave to 'go for a peal'; ringers from other churches will only have leave to 'go for a peal' on the last Saturday in the month instead of our own men, or on some other night which shall be announced beforehand in the Parish Magazine, to take the place of the usual monthly peal night. I shall be glad of any criticisms and suggestions about these arrangements, either by letter, or, better still, by personal interview.

"It must not be forgotten that there are certain town ringing days for which the Mayor and Corporation are responsible;

and, if it be considered that the ringing is excessive on those days, complaint should be made to the Mayor.

"I have heard of a gentleman who took a house for a month or two close to our church last summer, and objected altogether to the church bells, and said, when he left, that he would not return to Rye unless a house could be found for him further away from the church. The obvious thing for such a man to do is to take a house in some other part of Rye, and there are many houses that will welcome him; but for a man who does not like bells to take a house next door to a church was not very wise.

"I hope, and believe, that our dear old church and our beautiful services, help to bring visitors to Rye, and to keep them here when they come—but I don't think that any of you can wish Rye to be notorious for such weakness as to silence our beautiful peal of bells for the sake of a stranger who takes a fancy to a cottage near the church!

"On the other hand, those who are obliged to reside not far from the church, are entitled to, and shall have, every possible consideration in the matter of the ringing of our bells.—Believe me, your affectionate friend,
A. J. W. CROSSE, Vicar."

HELIONS BUMPSTEAD, ESSEX.

On Saturday, September 21st, a friendly meeting of change-ringers took place at the above village, the Vicar, the Rev. W. Wyley, giving permission for the use of the church bells, which the ringers found to be a good ring of six, tenor about 15 cwt., one of the famous Miles Gray's bells. The ring is supposed to have been made six about the year 1834. The visitors having had a look round commenced to raise the bells and ring, when, as a trial touch, a course of Bob Minor was rung, by S. Slater, F. Wells, C. Elliott, T. E. Slater, N. Hawkins, A. Aviss. An attempt was then made for a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, this was lost when little more than half was rung; a second attempt was then made, this was lost in the last part. An attempt was then made for a 720 of Kent Treble Bob which was rung in good style, by S. Slater conductor, N. Hawkins, C. Adams, C. Honeybell, C. Garwood, A. Aviss. This is the first 720 of Treble Bob ever known to be rung upon these bells. An adjournment was then made to the Vicarage, the Vicar having invited the visitors to take supper with him, Mrs. Wyley, and his churchwardens, also his own ringers. The supper was a splendid one. This being over a course of Bob Major was rung upon the bells, after which Mr. Aviss, of Haverhill, rising, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the rev. gentleman and his lady: first,—for the use of his church bells, and also for the grand manner in which they had entertained the whole company. This was seconded by Mr. S. Slater, of Glemsford.

The Vicar, in thanking the company for coming to ring his bells, hoped soon to have a good six bell company at his own steeple.

Mr. Slater and his son Theodore E. Slater played upon the handbells (four-in-hand), the well-known tune "The Blue Bells of Scotland," which was much applauded by the company. Mr. Aviss then thanked his brother-ringers for coming to ring with him, and remarked that if the local company would like to go in for and learn proper change-ringing he would be pleased to lend them a helping hand, as far as lay in his power. Another course of Bob Major was rung upon the handbells, this concluding one of the most pleasant and interesting meetings ever spent by any assemblage of ringers and friends in this district. About nine o'clock the party dispersed for their homes.

STONY STRATFORD (Bucks).—On Saturday, October 5th, two 1205 of Bob Minor. A. Clarke, E. Yates, C. Valentine, W. Bonham, W. Tucker, G. Cawley conductor. Also 360 Minor. C. Valentine, G. Valentine, R. Valentine, W. Bonham, W. Tucker, G. Cawley conductor. On Sunday, October 6th, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor, standing as before. On Sunday, October 13th, for evening service, 360 Bob Minor. A. Clarke, E. Yates, C. Valentine, W. Bonham, W. Tucker, G. Cawley conductor.

FOR SALE Cheap.—20 Handbells, by Taylor. Size 220 to 25 in C. For four ringers. Box, baize and books including 70 tunes so that any one can learn to ring. A grand opportunity for anyone forming a band. All the above are in good condition. Further particulars of H. T. HOLDERNESS, 10, Southgate, Sleaford, Lincolnshire.

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 REV. H. DRAKE'S SPEECH AT CONGRESS.

SIR,—I am sorry the Rev. H. Drake did not keep his speech at Congress in accord with the excellent ones of Sir Arthur Heywood and the Rev. C. D. P. Davies. Non-payment of ringers might be his individual opinion, but when speaking as a representative ringer, I think he would have done better to have kept to the views of the majority, and not confused the case by advocating non-payment when a previous speaker had advocated payment. The latter method seems to command the greatest success when applied to clergy, organist, and choir; and I do not see how it should be otherwise with ringers. I do not think the clergy as a body would favour the idea of finding a place for ladies in the belfry, when they have superseded them in the choir by boys.

Adverting to the letter of Mr. C. Pearson on Exeter bells, I had hoped for some authoritative reply in this week's "BELL NEWS." I should say that while admitting ten bell music to be superior, twelve bell music was grand, and should be had where possible, as the loss of harmony was inappreciable except by the accomplished few.

G. T. DALTRY.

Bristol.

SIR,—The Exercise will be deeply indebted to Sir A. P. Heywood and the Rev. C. D. P. Davies for their interesting and able papers read at the Church Congress meeting, but I think most ringers will disagree with the concluding part of Mr. Drake's remarks—those referring to payment of ringers. Why should it be especially bad for ringers to individually receive payment, and why should the payment for ringing be a degradation to the Art? There are officials in churches, also followers of the Art, who are paid for services rendered, but yet are not charged with degrading their Art. Will Mr. Drake point out the difference? "Money ringers" are a bad lot, and a nuisance to many companies, but that does not affect the principle Mr. Drake advocates. In Norwich we are often ordered to ring, and a full day's job means the bells ringing for an hour at five different times during the day. This of course means that any of our men in manufactories or other works, have to stay away from their employment the whole day. A man earning a limited wage cannot afford to lose a sixth of his weekly earnings, and so he must "degrade his Art." If ringers have to lose time from their usual employment they deserve to be paid for their ringing. The men who argue otherwise are usually those with incomes not affected by time spent in pursuit of their Art, and it is hardly fair for them to speak to outsiders (presumably instructing them) in the way they do.

C. E. BORRETT.

10, Chester Street, Norwich.

SIR,—I regret to read in Mr. Drake's otherwise excellent paper delivered at the Church Congress at Brighton his remarks about "round ringers." It seems to me a great mistake to write or do anything which tends to raise an antagonistic spirit between half-pull change-ringers and "round ringers." That the ordinary country ringer, before he has got an insight into the mysteries of change-ringing is opposed to and inclined to run down the half-pull method, I do not deny, but I have found that when once a ringer understands the method he becomes a most enthusiastic supporter of it. I have rung with a large number of round-ringers, and in a great many belfries, and have not found them the "bad lot" which Mr. Drake speaks of. They really are quite as keen over their mode of ringing as we are about ours, and what they can do for the most part they do well. Their striking is often faultless. I have frequently heard them raise and fall their bells in peal and ring through a set of call-changes without a false blow. Then it should be remembered how difficult it is in country parishes to get instructors to teach scientific change-ringing, and without an instructor it is almost impossible for a country band to learn it. Therefore we cannot be surprised that the majority of country ringers prefer to go on with what they can do well. In this diocese in more than one Deanery a ringing festival is held

each year which is very well attended by the local ringers and evidently much appreciated by them. I have just received the following account of such a festival lately held in the Deanery of South Molton. "Last week 103 ringers took part in the festival. Some forty more were said to be present who had been ringers, but for some reason or other did not at present belong to any set. The good behaviour of the ringers has been remarked upon. Some leaders said that the Festivals for the last year or two made young men much more ready to learn ringing. At the service there was a large congregation present in addition to the ringers. The first seats were however reserved for the ringers, and some twelve clergy were present." It is evident from this that a considerable amount of interest is awakened in this branch of Church work by such gatherings, and though scientific change-ringing may not be much advanced by them, yet a friendly feeling between change-ringers and round-ringers is promoted, and surely this is what we wish to encourage rather than raise up a barrier between them.

Kelly House, Lifton, North Devon.

MAITLAND KELLY.

RINGERS' SERVICES.

SIR,—I am sorry I cannot amuse Mr. P. W. Davies by stating what means I propose for enforcing the closure on preachers at these services, for I know of none. My idea was that if a clergyman was told that the scheme of a proposed special service included an address not exceeding ten minutes in duration, he would be willing to fall in with the arrangement. Mr. Davies considered when he wrote that such a suggestion was unheard of and a breach of etiquette. But he has heard of it by now, because Mr. Drake says he stipulates for an even shorter limit, and as Mr. Drake is in holy orders he is presumably versed in clerical etiquette. I am under the impression that in the case of special services (I do not mean only ringers' services) time limitations are common enough, because such services are usually held in connection with some special circumstances of business or social object, and do not stand by themselves, but as part of an entire programme. They are held, I conceive, for the purpose of worship in connection with such circumstances, and sermons are not essential to worship. That being so, if sermons are delivered on such occasions they ought in my opinion to be adapted to them as much in time as in matter. Of course I am solely speaking of special services, not of the performance by the parochial clergy of their duty of teaching their parishioners in the appointed services of the Church.

R. A. DANIELL.

Obituary.

HARRY PARKINS.

The death occurred on Thursday, November 14th, of Mr. Harry Parkins, of St. Albans, after a painful illness, at the early age of 28. The deceased was an enthusiastic ringer; he had been a member of the St. Albans Cathedral Society for about three years. The members regret his loss most severely, they have lost a good friend and an excellent ringer. The greatest sympathy is felt for his young wife. The funeral took place on Monday last, at St. Albans Cemetery, Dean Lawrence, of St. Albans, officiating. The large number of friends and ringers present at the graveside testified to the respect and esteem in which the deceased was held. There was a magnificent array of wreaths, chief of which was one in the shape of a bell, contributed in affectionate remembrance by his brother-ringers. Amongst those present at the graveside were: Rev. P. Deedes, Rev. E. S. Phillips, Messrs. H. L. Waddington, R. E. Hammond, J. Earwicker, A. Hallett, T. P. Coombes, E. Whitbread, H. Arnold, H. Walker, G. Wright, G. Steabbeen, of the Cathedral Society. In the unavoidable absence of Mr. E. P. Debenham, the Herts. County Association was represented by Mr. H. L. Waddington; Mr. J. Conley represented St. Peter's Society, St. Albans. In the evening muffled touches of Grandsire Triples were rung at the Cathedral by the members of the Cathedral Society.

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

GRANDSIRE; 2s. 6d. THE METHOD, ITS PEALS, AND HISTORY. WITH PORTRAIT AND MEMOIR. EDITED BY HIS BROTHER, WM. SNOWDON. COMPLETE WITH AN APPENDIX BY THE REV. CHARLES D. P. DAVIES, M.A., OXON. Commences with ringing on five, six, and seven bells, for the benefit of a learner; gives instructions on composing, proving, varying, and reversing, conducting and calling round; and ends with a general survey of the practical and scientific aspect of the composition of triples—thus forming a complete reference book for all Grandsire ringers. (120 pages).

TREBLE BOB. PART I. out of print and under revision.
Part I. contains instructions for pricking, transposing, proving, composing, on conducting peals; an essay on the *In and Out-of-course* of the changes; and a history of the various compositions and performances. Part II. contains classified peals of Minor, Major, Royal, and Maximus, with their reverse variations; remarks on the different qualities; particulars of first performances, composers' names, &c., &c. (136 closely printed pages. Part II. (136 closely printed pages) may be had separately, 2s. 1d.).

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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.

All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher E. W. ALLEN, Ave Maria Lane, London.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1901.

STEBBING, ESSEX.

An appeal is being made for funds to repair the old bells at the parish church of Stebbing, and add a new treble to make six. Any contributions will be gladly received by the Vicar, or Mr. H. Russel, churchwarden.

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS' ANNIVERSARY.

The 264th Anniversary Dinner of the above Society took place at The Bridge House hotel, on Saturday last, Mr. F. E. Dawe presiding. The company numbered 134. A full report will appear next week.

The Metropolis.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 12, 1901, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET, BARKING,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5088 CHANGES. Tenor 22½ cwt.

JOHN MOULE Treble.	WILLIAM KEEBLE 5.
BERTRAM PREWETT 2.	JOHN R. SHARMAN 6.
ISAAC G. SHADE 3.	ERNEST PYE 7.
GEORGE R. PYE 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 14, 1901, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHGATE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

ARTHUR T. KING Treble.	HARRY MILLER 5.
ALFRED R. GLASSCOCK 2.	FRANK C. NEWMAN 6.
FRANK A. MILNE* 3.	JOHN E. MILLER 7.
JOHN ARMSTRONG 4.	SIDNEY WADE Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by SIDNEY WADE.

*First peal of Major.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 16, 1901, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE, CAMBERWELL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS'S FOUR-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

ISAAC G. SHADE Treble.	WILLIAM J. NUDDS 5.
ERNEST PYE 2.	JOHN MOULE 6.
HARRY BOTTRILL† 3.	WILLIAM KEEBLE 7.
BERTRAM PREWETT 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

†First peal in the method.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, LEYTONSTONE, BRANCH.)

On Monday, November 18, 1901, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MAGNUS THE MARTYR, CITY,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Being 720 each of Chelsea, London, Wells, Bristol, Lichfield, York and Durham. Tenor B flat.

HENRY BOTTRILL Treble.	WILLIAM KEEBLE 4.
WILLIAM MILLER 2.	JOHN MOULE 5.
JOHN MARDELL 3.	T. HERVEY BEAMS Tenor.

Conducted by T. HERVEY BEAMS.

Further reference elsewhere.

The Provinces.

BUCKLAND, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, November 6, 1901, in Two Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720s each of Oxford Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and Plain Bob, and one 720 of Grandsire. Tenor 9 cwt.

HUGH R. THORPE Treble.	GEORGE F. HOAD 4.
JOHN ANSELL 2.	WILLIAM H. CARD 5.
FRANCIS T. HOAD, JUN. .. 3.	HENRY REEVES Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY REEVES.

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SLEAFORD, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH)

On Thursday, November 7, 1901, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

W. TOWNSEND* Treble.	J. W. WOODS 5.
REV. H. LAW JAMES 2.	T. B. WOODS 6.
J. HILTON* 3.	*J. R. GREEN 7.
J. T. HOLMES 4.	W. DICKENSON Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by the REV. H. LAW JAMES.

*First peal of Major.

THORNHAM MAGNA, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 9, 1901, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being Seven 720s, each called differently. Tenor 10 cwt.

ALPHAUS J. BERRY* .. Treble.	WILLIAM ROSE 4.
EDWARD YOUNGS 2.	E. HARRY SYMONDS .. 5.
CHARLES NUNN 3.	GEORGE E. SYMONDS .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

First peal on the bells. *First peal. First peal of Minor as conductor. Rung in honour of the birthdays of His Majesty the King, and also of the Right Hon. Lord Henniker, Governor of the Isle of Man.

RADCLIFFE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 9, 1901, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

HARRY COOPER Treble.	RICHARD P. HEALD 5.
THOMAS PEERS 2.	WALTER HENSHALL .. 6.
TITUS BARLOW 3.	GEORGE PINCOIT 7.
FRED. MORRIS 4.	PETER NUTTALL Tenor.

Conducted by TITUS BARLOW.

TAUNTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 12, 1901, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES.

Tenor 30 cwt.

ERNEST A. POOLE Treble.	JAMES BURGE 6.
JAMES ROUTLEY 2.	FRANK J. SADD 7.
HENRY J. CREED† 3.	WILLIAM EVELEIGH .. 8.
SIDNEY WYATT 4.	EDWARD J. WYATT .. 9.
ISAAC CREED† 5.	JOSEPH FOWLER Tenor.

Composed by J. REEVES, and Conducted by JAMES BURGE.

†First peal of Caters.

ASHTREAD, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 12, 1901, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF HOLT'S TEN-PART.

DAVID ANSCOMBE Treble.	WILLIAM COOK 5.
ALFRED BASSETT 2.	THOMAS MILES 6.
GEORGE WYATT 3.	JOHN HOYLE 7.
JOHN WYATT 4.	HARRY PRICE Tenor.

Conducted by J. WYATT.

Rung as a birthday compliment to J. Hoyle, the band wishing him many happy returns.

SPELDHURST, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, November 13, 1901, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S SIX-PART. Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qrs. 19 lbs. in G.

STEVEN FAITHFULL* .. Treble.	STEVEN PERKINS 5.
STEVEN J. PERKINS† .. 2.	JAMES MAYNARD 6.
JAMES MUGGRIDGE 3.	WILLIAM SPICE 7.
HARRY GOODWIN 4.	ARTHUR GODLEY Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM SPICE.

*First peal.

†First peal in the method with a bob bell.

CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, November 13, 1901, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 24½ cwt.

GEORGE HOLLIS Treble.	GEORGE W. BEMROSE 5.
BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS* .. 2.	JAMES HUNT 6.
WILLIAM J. THYNG 3.	GEORGE DAVIES 7.
SAMUEL PRICE 4.	ARTHUR KNIGHTS Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

*First peal, aged 16. First peal in the method by the local band.

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, November 13, 1901, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

EDWARD MARKHAM† .. Treble.	ANTHONY W. TUBB 5.
PHILBERT W. WILKINS .. 2.	RICHARD BUCKLAND 6.
REV. F. L. NASH† 3.	JAMES W. WILKINS 7.
FRED HAYES 4.	FRANK BAGLEY Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WILKINS.

†First peal.

SEDGLEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE ST. THOMAS'S GUILD, DUDLEY.

On Thursday, November 14, 1901, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION.

JOHN GOODMAN† .. Treble.	WILLIAM FISHER 5.
WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT .. 2.	JOHN GOODMAN 6.
SAMUEL BAKER 3.	WILLIAM MILLS 7.
HARRY GOODMAN 4.	BENJAMIN FULLWOOD .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN GOODMAN.

†Elected members previous to starting for the peal.

ERDINGTON, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, November 16, 1901, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. THOMAS AND EDMUND,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS'S FOUR-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

THOMAS WARD* .. Treble.	THOMAS REYNOLDS 5.
WILLIAM WARD* 2.	ALF. PADDON SMITH .. 6.
CHARLES DICKENS 3.	BERNARD W. WITCHELL .. 7.
ERNEST T. ALLAWAY .. 4.	SIDNEY J. JESSOP Tenor.

Conducted by BERNARD W. WITCHELL.

*First peal.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION,
AND THE ST. THOMAS'S GUILD, DUDLEY.

On Saturday, November 16, 1901, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

HORACE SMITH .. Treble.	JOSEPH FAULKNER 5.
ALBERT PRESTIDGE 2.	ALFRED ROWLEY 6.
WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT .. 3.	JOHN SMITH 7.
HARRY PRICE 4.	JOHN W. SMITH Tenor.

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD, Bart., and

Conducted by JOHN W. SMITH.

*First peal as conductor.

HARTLEBURY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 16, 1901, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

HARRY OLDNALL* .. Treble.	THOMAS GRIFFITHS 5.
HENRY TUCKER 2.	WILLIAM PAGE 6.
JAMES REYNOLDS† 3.	JOHN CRANE 7.
ABRAHAM WINTERTON .. 4.	ALBERT THOMAS Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM PAGE.

First peal in the method on the bells. *First peal. †First peal of Grandsire.

CARDINGTON, BEDS.—THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 16, 1901, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR
5088 CHANGES. Tenor about 22 cwt.

EDGAR H. G. TINGEY .. Treble.	THOMAS R. HENSHER .. 5.
CHARLES CHASTY 2.	CHARLES W. CLARKE .. 6.
ISAAC HILLS 3.	FRANK WEBB 7.
JOSEPH CHURCH* 4.	JOHN WM. BARKER Tenor.

Composed by JOHN JAGGAR, and Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

*First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

WORTLEY, NEAR SHEFFIELD.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 16, 1901, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN DRONFIELD .. Treble.	THOMAS MCKEGG 5.
WALTER KITSON* 2.	THOMAS KITSON 6.
GEORGE PARKIN 3.	GEORGE SHAW 7.
WILLIS WHITHAM* 4.	JOHN PARKIN Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY JOHNSON, and
Conducted by GEORGE SHAW.

*First peal.

SUNBURY-ON-THAMES, MIDDLESEX.

THE OXFORD AND WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILDS.

On Saturday, November 16, 1901, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS'S FOUR-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

CHARLES WILLSHIRE .. Treble.	FRANK BLONDELL 5.
JAMES HUNT 2.	SEPTIMUS RADFORD .. 6.
CHARLES HAZELDEN 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
JOHN J. JONES 4.	THOMAS W. RADFORD .. Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

First peal on the bells. Reference elsewhere.

CLARE, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 16, 1901, in Three Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5072 CHANGES.

Tenor 28 cwt.

THOMAS KING Treble.	HARRY E. KINSEY 5.
HUGH GLADWELL 2.	WILLIAM KINSEY 6.
CHARLES ELLIOTT 3.	ARTHUR SYMONDS 7.
SAMUEL SLATER 4.	ALFRED AVISS Tenor.

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE, and Conducted by T. KING.

Taken from the Norwich Report, 1894. The band wish to thank the Rev. James Vatcher for placing the bells at their disposal.

WEDNESBURY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Saturday, November 16, 1901, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART Tenor 24 cwt

W. BRITTIAN* Treble.	H. TINSLEY 5.
G. HUGHES 2.	G. NEWBOLD 6.
T. FOSTER 3.	J. MALPASS 7.
E. W. TURNER 4.	*J. B. JUKES Tenor.

Conducted by G. HUGHES.

*First peal. This is the first peal on the bells since they were rehung by Messrs. Barwell, and first peal for over seventeen years. Rung to celebrate the wedding of Mr. Howard Ichen and Miss Sheldon.

HASTINGS.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 16, 1901, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH, BLACKLANDS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 20½ cwt.

W. BILLENNESS Treble.	C. R. CARTER 5.
S. F. C. SAKER* 2.	S. SAKER 6.
A. E. BARROW 3.	W. FRANKS 7.
F. LOCK 4.	J. LIVERMORE Tenor.

Composed by the Rev. E. BANKES JAMES, and Conducted by S. SAKER.

Rang to commemorate the twenty-third anniversary of the dedication of the church and of the Vicar's ministry. *First peal.

LITTLE GLEMHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 16, 1901, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being twenty-one 6-scores each of Grandsire and Plain Bob.

Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLIAM SAWYER Treble.	GEORGE SAVAGE 3.
ALDERMAN LING 2.	ROBERT SMY 4.
HENRY PUTTOCK Tenor.	

Conducted by HENRY PUTTOCK.

DEANE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 16, 1901, in Two Hours and Forty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

JOSEPH PENNINGTON .. Treble.	RICHARD P. HEALD .. 5.
TITUS BARLOW 2.	ALBERT HOLDING .. 6.
FRED. BANKS 3.	SAMUEL ARROWSMITH .. 7.
JOHN MOSCROP 4.	JAMES ARROWSMITH .. Tenor.

Conducted by TITUS BARLOW.

MARLESFORD, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, November 17, 1901, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being twenty-one 6-scores each of Grandsire and Plain Bob.

JAMES WARDLEY† .. Treble.	ROBERT SMY 3.
ALDERMAN LING 2.	WILLIAM SAWYER 4.
HENRY PUTTOCK Tenor.	

Conducted by HENRY PUTTOCK.

This is the first peal on the bells. †First peal.

CHIPPING BARNET, HERTS.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 18, 1901, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

JOHN ARMSTRONG† .. Treble.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 5.
BERTRAM PREWETT .. 2.	ERNEST PYE 6.
SIDNEY WADE 3.	†FRANK BLONDELL 7.
ERNEST E. HUNTLEY .. 4.	JOHN R. SHARMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and

Conducted by JOHN R. SHARMAN.

†First peal of Superlative. F. Blondell was formerly a ringer at this church, and this is his sixtieth peal.

BATH, SOMERSETSHIRE.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 18, 1901, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 17 cwt.

WILLIAM SIMMONDS .. Treble.	CHARLES W. BELL 5.
GEORGE CONDICK, JUN. .. 2.	CHARLES DENSLEY 6.
HENRY W. BROWN 3.	JOHN D. MATTHEWS 7.
ALFRED RICHARDSON .. 4.	CHARLES CAMBRIDGE .. Tenor.
	GEORGE CRISP

Conducted by JOHN D. MATTHEWS.

First peal on the bells since 1851. First peal by the tenor-men. This fine-toned peal has within the last two years had a matter of £100 spent on "rehabing" by local men, the result of which is shown by the above record.

REIGATE, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

(THE REIGATE SOCIETY).

On Tuesday, November 19, 1901, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

HENRY F. EWINS .. Treble.	WILLIAM H. CARD 6.
FRANCIS T. HOAD, SEN. .. 2.	WILLIAM ARGENT 7.
GEORGE THOMPSON 3.	FRANCIS T. HOAD, JUN. .. 8.
JOHN ANSELL 4.	HENRY REEVES 9.
GEORGE HUGGETT 5.	GEORGE F. HOAD .. Tenor.

Composed by GEORGE HAYWARD, and

Conducted by FRANCIS T. HOAD, SEN.

First peal of Royal on the bells, and was rung on the conductor's birthday.

PEAL CORRECTIONS.—The ringer of the 2nd in the peal at Bushey reported in our last issue, should be Fredk. T. C. Nevett.—The peal of Treble Bob Royal rung at Bishops Stortford on October 31st and published in our issue of the 9th inst., should have been headed "The Essex Association."—The conductor of the peal at Chiddingfold reported in our last issue, was Arthur J. Bartlett. It was also the first peal by the treble man; first with a bob bell by the ringer of the 4th; first peal as conductor, and first peal by the local band.

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

Date Touches.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BLACKBURN BRANCH.)

BURNLEY.—On Thursday, October 31st, in 1 hr. 14 mins., a date touch of 1901 Bob Major. J. R. Eastwood, T. Burrows, D. Campbell, W. Walton, R. Hartley, R. Ashworth, T. Mouncey, T. Redman conductor.

PADIHAM (Lancashire).—At St. Leonard's church, a date touch of 1901 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 15 mins. T. Duxbury, J. R. Eastwood, R. Hartley, W. Walton, F. G. Pollard, C. Parkinson, F. Wagner, T. Redman conductor. Longest touch on the bells since they were augmented.

Miscellaneous.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

IPSWICH.—On Saturday, October 12th, an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Cinques, but after ringing thirty-four courses in 3 hrs and 26 mins. it came to grief. A. E. Durrant, W. Roughton, J. Motts, J. R. Sharman, W. Pye conductor, I. G. Shade, R. H. Brundle, W. L. Catchpole, W. Keeble, W. Motts, E. Pye, A. Gillingham.

WEST TOFTS (Norfolk).—On Thursday, October 17th, an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Triples which came to grief after ringing 4200 changes in 2 hrs 26 mins. through the 2nd casting her rope. W. Keeble, W. Pye conductor, I. G. Shade, F. R. Borrett, E. Borrett, J. Motts, E. F. Poppy, E. Pye.

LEISTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday morning, September 15th, for Divine Service, 784 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. W. Bedwell conductor, W. Taylor, W. Weatherstone, H. J. Button, C. Bailey, E. Bailey, C. Samson, A. J. Lincoln.

MENDLESHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday morning, September 8th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Doubles. W. Tyte, E. Youngs, B. Keeble, H. Torble, H. Foster conductor.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Saturday, November 9th, at the Cathedral, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original. H. Walker, T. P. Coombes, G. W. Cartmel, J. Earwicker conductor, R. E. Hammond, G. Wright, A. Hallett, H. Arnold. Also 672 Bob Major. G. W. Cartmel, T. P. Coombes, J. Earwicker conductor, H. Walker, R. C. Hammond, G. Wright, A. Hallett, E. Whitbread. Longest touch of Bob Major by Messrs. Coombes, Walker, Hammond, and Wright. These touches were rung in honour of the election of E. Ekins, Esq., churchwarden of Christ Church, St. Albans, as Mayor of St. Albans.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRISTOL.—The ringing at the Colston Anniversary was commenced at St. Mary Redcliffe at midnight, November 12th, by 1176 Double Norwich court Bob Major, in 49 mins. A. Pearce, J. Thomas, J. Hinton, W. Knight, H. Pring, W. Cave, H. Porch, G. T. Daltry conductor. Tenor 50 cwt.

MITCHELDEAN.—On Saturday, November 9th, being the King's birthday, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 48 mins. L. Mason, T. Powell, J. Powell, W. F. Searancke, A. E. Brain, H. Gardner conductor, J. Morgan, T. Baldwin.

CIRENCESTER (Gloucestershire).—On Monday, September 16th, at the parish church with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late President McKinley, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. F. Bond, C. L. Sadler, F. J. Lewis conductor, F. Lewis, F. Protherough, C. E. Bartlett, H. T. Gardner, W. C. Flower-Holmes. Tenor 20½ cwt. in E minor.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BROMLEY (Kent).—On Tuesday, April 27th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, taken from Thurstan's one-part. H. P. Harman conductor, H. Dickens, G. J. Taylor, G. R. Newton, J. Craft, T. Harford, W. Ingham, G. H. Daynes. On Sunday, July 15th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. G. Simpson, E. Dunn, G. R. Newton, H. P. Harman conductor, W. Ingham, G. Huxley, J. Craft, W. James. On Tuesday, September 10th, for practice, 504 Stedman Triples. E. Dunn, T. Harford, G. Daynes, W. Smith, G. Durling conductor, W. Ingham, J. Craft, W. James. On Tuesday, September 19th, on the occasion of the funeral of President McKinley, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, with the bells half-muffled. G. Simpson, E. Dunn, G. Taylor,

J. Town, G. Durling conductor, G. Huxley, C. J. Craft, W. James. On Sunday, September 22nd, for evening service, 504 Stedman Triples. E. Dunn, S. Harford, H. P. Harman, G. Newton, W. Ingham, G. Durling, W. C. Hunt conductor, W. James. On Sunday, October 6th, on the occasion of the harvest festival, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples. A. Humphrey, E. Dunn, J. Town, G. Simpson, G. Durling conductor, G. Huxley, T. Harford, W. James.

CHISLEHURST (Kent).—On Monday, June 17th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, taken from Thurstan's four-part. H. P. Harman conductor, W. Weatherstone, E. Barnett, jun., G. J. Taylor, G. R. Newton, G. Conyard, G. H. Daynes, J. Miles.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—On Sunday, October 13th, on the occasion of the harvest festival, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. G. Marshall, W. Haigh conductor, W. Hunt, F. Ockwell, C. Winsor, W. Easter, W. Bate, W. Childs.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(FYLDE BRANCH.)

LYTHAM.—On May 26th, at St. John's church, 720 College Single. W. Bamber, J. Fell, J. Tipping conductor, A. E. Wilson, R. Seddon T. Allanson. On June 16th, 720 in the same method. R. Seddon, J. Fell, D. McLellan, A. E. Wilson, E. Tipping conductor, T. Allanson. On September 1st, another 720 in the same method. W. Bamber, J. Fell, J. Tipping, A. E. Wilson, J. Hardman, E. Tipping conductor. On September 15th, 720 Grandsire Minor. W. Bamber, F. J. Fell J. Tipping conductor, C. H. Kerr, R. Seddon, T. Allanson. For evening service 720 Plain Bob. W. Bamber, F. J. Fell conductor, R. Seddon, C. H. Kerr, J. Hardman, T. Allanson. On September 25th, 720 Grandsire Minor. A. E. Wilson, J. Fell, J. Tipping, E. Tipping conductor, J. Hardman, T. Allanson. On September 29th, 720 Oxford Single. W. Bamber, C. H. Kerr, J. Tipping, E. Tipping conductor, J. Hardman, T. Allanson. On October 2nd, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. W. Bamber, C. H. Kerr, J. Tipping, R. Seddon, J. Hardman, E. Tipping conductor. On October 20th, 720 Plain Bob. W. Bamber, E. Tipping conductor, D. McLellan, A. E. Wilson, J. Hardman, T. Allanson.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TAUNTON.—On Sunday, October 20th, at St. Mary's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Bowden, F. Sadd, S. Wyatt, J. Fowler, A. Coles, A. J. H. Iles, J. Burge conductor, W. White. A 720 Grandsire Minor. E. A. W. Poole, J. Routley, W. Bowden, B. W. Van Trump conductor, J. Fowler, J. Burge. And 518 Grandsire Triples. E. Sellick, W. Bowden, S. Wyatt, J. Routley, F. Sadd, J. Burge conductor, J. Fowler, A. J. H. Iles. On Saturday, October 19th, 518 Grandsire Triples. B. W. Van Trump conductor, W. Bowden, J. Routley, J. Fowler, F. Sadd, W. Eveleigh, J. Burge, E. A. W. Poole. And 395 Grandsire Caters. E. A. W. Poole, J. Routley, B. W. Van Trump, C. Summers, J. Fowler, J. Burge conductor, S. Wyatt, W. Eveleigh, E. Wyatt, W. White. On Sunday, October 20th, 1259 Grandsire Caters. E. A. W. Poole, J. Routley, H. Creed, F. Sadd, J. Fowler, J. Burge conductor, I. Creed, S. Wyatt, E. Wyatt, W. White. This was rung for afternoon service on the occasion of the Friendly Societies' church parade.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

STANFORD-ON-SOAR (Notts).—On Sunday, October 20th, 518 Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's ten-part. G. Wilson, H. Whittle conductor, F. Tyler, A. Trigg, W. Pervin, J. Wilson, G. Doughty, S. Needham. For evening service 560 Bob Major. F. Fryer, A. Trigg, W. Pervin, W. A. Tyler, F. Pervin, J. Wilson, G. Doughty, H. Whittle conductor. For practice on handbells, three courses of Bob Minor. J. Tyler, W. A. Tyler, F. Tyler, J. Tyler, H. Whittle, 5-6.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HIGHAM FERRERS (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, May 18th, an attempt for a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major came to grief after ringing 1 hr. H. Sear, C. W. Clarke conductor, J. Garrett T. R. Hensher, J. B. Martin, W. R. Hensher, A. Martin, C. R. Lilley.

BIDDENHAM.—On June 23rd, for Divine Service, 720 Grandsire Minor. W. West, H. King, C. West, F. Trueman, 4; M. Davidson, C. R. Lilley conductor. On May 20th, an attempt for a peal was lost owing to a change-course after ringing 720 each of Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford and Oxford Bob. W. West, C. W. Clarke, C. R. Lilley, F. Webb, W. Freeman, J. M. Barker conductor. On Wednesday, October 2nd, 720 Woodbine. J. Maxey, C. West, C. R. Lilley conductor, W. T. Davidson, H. King, F. Truman.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

STAMFORD.—On Saturday, October 12th, at St. Martin's church,

720 Bob Minor, in 24 mins. G. Redmill, E. Popple, H. Edgley, W. Lebbon, C. Harper, F. Dennison conductor.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

GUILDFORD.—On Sunday, September 1st, for Divine Service at St. Nicolas' church, 504 Stedman Triples. T. W. Radford, C. Hazelden, J. J. Jones, E. Raddon, E. Allen, J. Hunt, S. Radford conductor, E. Heather. On August 29th, for practice, 384 Superlative Surprise Major. J. J. Jones, E. Raddon, C. Willshire, E. Hazelden, T. W. Radford, S. Radford, F. Blondell, J. Hunt conductor. This is the first touch of Superlative by a local band in the diocese. On Sunday, September 8th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. W. Thorne, C. Hazelden, E. Raddon, E. Allen, S. Radford, J. Hunt conductor.

BURBAGE (Derbyshire).—On October 8th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. Egbert Stamper, S. Bennett, Ernest Stamper, J. Backhouse, M. G. Bennett conductor, W. Longden.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Sunday evening, October 20th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 42 mins. C. Harfey, A. Miles, J. Hunnisett, G. H. Howse, A. Midmore, J. Sharp conductor, R. C. Mayo, C. Crunden.

EMBERTON (Bucks).—On Sunday evening, August 4th, for Divine Service, 720 College Single. J. Nichols, F. Hopper, F. Mynard, J. Lovell, W. Freeman conductor, H. Lett. On Tuesday, August 6th, 720 Bob Minor. F. Hopper, H. Hensman, W. Allen, W. Rogers, W. Freeman conductor, H. Lett.

GOSPEL OAK (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, September 1st, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-two singles and eight bobs). H. Ellis, E. Turl, W. Pickworth, N. Alderman, J. Nixon, W. Nudds composer and conductor.

GISLINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday afternoon, October 13th, 360 Bob Minor. P. Warner, W. Rose, E. Young, G. Vincent, C. Nunn, G. E. Symonds conductor.

HORNCHURCH.—On Sunday evening, October 13th, after service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. G. R. Pye, A. J. Perkins composer and conductor, G. Roughton, G. H. Birch, H. F. Dawkins, W. Watson, J. Dale, G. Adams.

HARROLD (Beds).—On Wednesday, August 7th, 720 College Single. J. Nichols, F. Hopper, F. Mynard, F. Bird, W. Freeman conductor, H. Lett. Also 720 Oxford Bob. J. Nichols, J. Wheatsheaf, W. Freeman, H. Lett, F. Hopper, F. Bird conductor.

ISLEWORTH (Middlesex).—On Sunday, October 6th, at All Saints' church, 504 Grandsire Triples. A. Saunders, F. C. Goddard, T. Beadle, G. Hoad conductor, G. A. Ransom, H. Browning, F. Hoad, H. Sewaed.

LEATHERHEAD (Surrey).—On Wednesday, September 18th, on the occasion of the marriage of Miss Catherine Brown, youngest daughter of Mr. George Brown, builder, also parish clerk of Leatherhead, to Mr. Herbert Charles Ogilvy, of Blackheath, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 41 mins. J. Harding, H. Wood, A. Otway, W. Otway, W. Marks, W. Messam, A. Dean (conductor), E. Hull.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, October 6th, for Divine Service at St. Edward's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. A. J. Perkins composer, W. Nash, G. Roughton, W. Watson, G. R. Pye, conductor, H. F. Dawkins, J. Dale, G. Adams. At the residence of Mrs. Dawkins, the Editor's quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. G. R. Pye, W. Watson, A. J. Perkins, H. F. Dawkins conductor.

THEALE (Berks).—On Sunday evening, October 13th, a quarter-peal of Plain Bob, in 48 mins., with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Dr. R. Cox. F. Cark, J. Abery, G. Abery, A. Savage, T. Herridge, W. Clark conductor.

WOOLWICH.—On Thursday, September 19th, at the parish church, with bells half-muffled for President McKinley, 1280 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 49 mins. A. M. Phillips, B. J. Sheldon, W. Watchorn, W. H. Dallimore, H. Harvey, J. E. Sykes, J. C. Harvey, W. J. Aldridge conductor.

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Ringers' Outings.

THE KETTERING SOCIETY.—On Saturday, August 24th, a few of the Central Northamptonshire Associations and friends, to the number of about twenty, held what has now become their annual holiday. Leaving Kettering at 8.30 a.m., in a brake, drawn by a pair of splendid horses, the first four miles of our journey brought us to Rothwell. Here we were joined by Mr. H. Davis, one of the local ringers, who had previously obtained permission for us to ring on the good old peal of six banging in the parish church. One or two 6-scores of Doubles were rung, and the bells lowered. It is a pity such a good peal of bells as these are should not be rehung in a sound frame, as the "go" leaves much to be desired. From Rothwell to Desborough is a distance of about two miles, and here a pretty peal of five were soon raised, and several 6-scores of Doubles were rung. These bells will be increased to six as soon as funds allow it, and it is to be hoped something will be done at the same time to make the fourth and fifth strike a little better; the former being slow at hand, and the latter very slow at backstroke. Mr. S. Burdett, of the parish church ringers, joined us here, and a move was made for Leicestershire, Market Harborough being the first stopping place in that county. A short stay was made with Mr. E. Maule, of The Cherry Tree, a late ringer at Northampton, and here two more were added to our number. N. ringing was done here, as the Rev. Guinness informed us the bells were out of order, and could not be rung. The next move was for Kilworth Harcourt, and here the first thing on the board was a capital dinner provided at The Admiral Nelson, by Mr. C. Buttress, an old Stedman ringer. Full justice being done to this course (and I can assure you it was) we adjourned to the church close by, and a very musical peal of six were raised, and 720 Bob Minor, and several 120s of Doubles were rung. These bells require the services of the bellhanger badly, a new frame and fittings being very much required. The bells were lowered, and a pleasant hour was spent with our host, Mr. Buttress, who was pleased to hear a little change-ringing on the handbells. Time was now getting on, and we had another place to call at, so wishing our friends good-bye we again made a move of three miles to Church Langton. Here the only disappointment of the day was met with, a fine peal of eight hung in the church tower, and these were found to be unringable. They were raised in peal fairly well, and the sixth set up against the wind instead of the slide, with the result that it was thrown over (it was found, on inspection, that it had no slide.) These bells were rehung by a neighbouring blacksmith some years ago, no doubt to his satisfaction, but certainly not to anyone else's. The Rector, however, told us he should get them rehung very shortly, and employ a competent firm of bellhangers this time. We trust that this visit to Church Langton will not be without a sequel. The horses' heads were now turned homewards, and Market Harborough was reached at 8.30, where we made a stay of about an hour to feed both horses and men. Leaving Harborough at 9.30 we were now in plain course order, the coming home course being successfully accomplished, the party running into Kettering about 12 o'clock midnight. The party would like to thank the incumbents of the various churches, and also the steeple-keepers. We must also thank the Kilworth ringers for their welcome.

ST. THOMAS'S SOCIETY, STOURBRIDGE.—On Saturday, October 12th, this society held its first annual outing, the places being visited were Cookley and Wolverley. Leaving the church the drive was taken through Park Gate and Lea Castle in weather that was all that could be desired, being met by Mr. G. Davis, we visited the tower of St. Peter's, Cookley, containing a ring of six, by Mears (1849), tenor 12 cwt., permission having been previously obtained of the Rev. M. J. Bickerstaffe. Touches of Grandsire and Plain Bob Minor were rung, and resuming our journey to Wolverley, the viaduct built in connection with the Birmingham water scheme was much admired. Dinner was served at The Live and Let Live in capital style; we then reached the tower of St. John the Baptist at the invitation of Mr. H. Brooks, of the local band, and some short touches on the bells; we then adjourned to spend the evening together when tunes and courses of Triples on the handbells, and selections on the pianoforte by Mr. G. H. Pagett.

R.

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 St. Margaret's Society, Westminster.—Meetings for practice at St. Margaret's, Westminster will, for the future, be held every alternate Friday about 8 p.m.; commencing on Friday, November 22.

E. H. OXENHAM, *Hon. Sec.*

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—Will those who are Life Members kindly send their addresses to the Secretary at once, otherwise annual reports and notices cannot be sent to them.

C. L. ROUTLEDGE, *Hon. Secretary.*

Wylam-on-Tyne.

The Winchester Diocesan Guild.—A quarterly meeting will be held at York Town, Surrey, to-day, Saturday, November 23. Bells available from 1.0 p.m. Tea will be provided for members.

REV. C. E. MATTHEWS,
Bursledon Vicarage, Southampton *Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting of this branch will be held at the parish church, Oldham, to-day, Saturday, November 23rd. Bells ready 3 p.m. Business meeting 6.30. A good attendance is earnestly requested.

JAS. JACQUES, *Branch Sec.*

The Salisbury Diocesan Guild.—The next meeting of the East Dorset branch will be at Sturminster Newton, to-day, Saturday, November 23rd, at 3.30 p.m. Service and address by the Rev. J. C. M. Mansell-Pleydell at 5. Ringing from 2 p.m.

H. DRAKE.

Verwood, Wimborne.

The East Derbyshire Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Shirland, on Saturday, November 30th. Meeting near church at 5.30 p.m. All members and ringing friends invited.

T. ALLIBONE, *Secretary.*

North Wingfield, Chesterfield.

Painswick, Gloucestershire.—This Saturday afternoon, November 23rd at three o'clock p.m., a special service will be held to inaugurate the return of the twelve bells, reopen the belfry, and to dedicate the new clock and screen. Ringers have taken so much interest in the bells that we anticipate a large number of them being present, who will ring during the afternoon and evening. Tea will be provided for the visitors in the schoolroom after the service free. Omnibuses leave The George hotel, Stroud, at 12.15, 2.15, 3.15, and 6.15 for Painswick.

W. HALE.

Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The monthly meeting of the above Society will be held at Drighlington, on Saturday, November 30th. A peal will be attempted at 2.30 p.m. prompt. Business meeting at The Spotted Cow inn at 7 p.m.

JNO. W. T. HOLGATE, *Hon. Sec.*

5, Ashcroft Street, Bramley, Leeds.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—Members are requested to attend the practice at St. Paul's Cathedral at 8 o'clock on Tuesday evening the 26th inst. A meeting will be held afterwards at the headquarters to elect officers for the coming year. The subscription of 1s. 8d. instead of peal booking fees, must be paid between this date and February 28th, 1902.

WILLIAM T. COCKERILL, *Hon. Secretary.*

"Frodingham," Elmhurst Street, Clapham, S.W.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Salop.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at

Wem on Saturday, December 7th. Ringing at 2.30 p.m. Business meeting at 4.30 p.m. Train leaves Shrewsbury at 1.53 p.m.

J. MACKAY, *Hon. Sec.*

Holy Trinity Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

The Sussex County Association—Eastern Division.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Bexhill, on Saturday, December 7th. Bells available from 2.30 to 5, and 7 to 9 p.m. Tea at 5.30 at The Bell hotel. Those members intending to be present will oblige by sending word to the undersigned not later than Thursday, December 5. The undersigned will also be glad to receive all outstanding subscriptions for 1900 by the end of the present month.

S. SAKER, *Hon. Sec., Eastern Division.*

Arran, Baldslow Road, Hastings.

The St. Thomas's Guild, Dudley.—The next quarterly of the above will be held at Sedgley on Saturday, December 7th. Tower open for ringing at 4. Service in church at 5 p.m.

W. MICKLEWRIGHT, *Hon. Sec.*

39, Vauxhall Street, Dudley.

NOTES TO PEALS.

THE PEAL AT ST. MAGNUS-THE-MARTYR.—This is the first peal of Surprise Minor by the Association, also in the county, and the first 5040 of Minor in the City of London, and it is believed to be the first time any of these Minor methods have been rung in the City. It was only after a fruitless endeavour to secure a six or eight-bell tower within the City boundaries for the attempt, that application was made, and most graciously granted, for the use of St. Magnus' bells. The peal was rung on the front six.

BUCKNALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Saturday, November 16th, the late ringers of St. Mary's church, Bucknall, with a few friends and several ringers from other towers partook of a supper together before finally breaking up the band. The supper was held at The Mason's Arms, the catering of host Ratcliffe giving great satisfaction. The company numbered over twenty, and included all the old ringers. Mr. W. Twigg presided, Mr. J. J. Marland occupying the vice chair. The cloth being removed "The health of the King and Queen and the rest of the Royal Family" was drunk.

The chairman said they had met together that evening under somewhat sad circumstances, viz., the breaking up of the old band of ringers. They all knew how it had come about, and therefore he had no need to mention what the Rector wished them to promise. He, the chairman, was very sorry that the Rector had not taken his advice and have trusted the ringers to carry out his wishes as far as they could, instead of saying they must either do as he said or give up ringing. Had he done so he very likely would have found most of his wishes carried out, but they would not be coerced, and so they were dismissed from the tower. Now he was pleased to say that although they were breaking up as a band, that did not mean that they were giving up ringing; they would still remain members of the Stoke Archdiocesan Association, and he hoped they would very often go out together to ring on Sundays at some of the towers in the Association. The speaker then gave a short history of the band from its formation fifteen years ago, when the bells were opened, to the present time. At the time the band was formed not one of them knew anything about bells or change-ringing, and first one and then another gave it up, so that for the first two years no progress was

made, and he and Mr. Hobbs were the only two members left of the original band. After that some members joined who entered heartily into the subject of ringing, and good progress was made. Since then very few changes have been made in the members. During that time twenty-one peals have been rung on their own bells, besides several taking part in peals in other towers, and 720s in fifty-three different methods, most of them being Surprise methods.

Mr. Page said he was very sorry that the band was breaking up, but was pleased to hear that they would still be members of the Association. He was very pleased to bear testimony to the skill which the Bucknall ringers had shewn, and also to the good work they had done for the Association.

Mr. S. Churton proposed the health of "The Chairman and the rest of the Bucknall ringers," and said that the chairman as Hon. Secretary of the Association enjoyed the confidence of the members, and so did all the other members of the late Bucknall band. This was seconded by Mr. Woods, who said he had mixed with the Bucknall ringers a good deal. He had been with them on their outings, and he had never seen one of them take more beer than was good for them, and he as a teetotaler should be able to tell, and he should never wish to mix with more agreeable men.

Mr. Hobbs in responding for the band, said he had always been pleased to see the young ringers get on, and had always what he could for them.

The health of Mr. J. Fenton (Rector's warden, but who has refused to act since the ringers were dismissed), was heartily drunk, the chairman stating that Mr. Fenton would have been with them but was prevented by business.

Several songs were given during the evening by Messrs. Adams, Wheeldon, Page, Bradbury, and Holbrook.

A vote of thanks to the host for the excellent supper he had provided; to the visitors and vice-chairman, brought a pleasant evening to a close.

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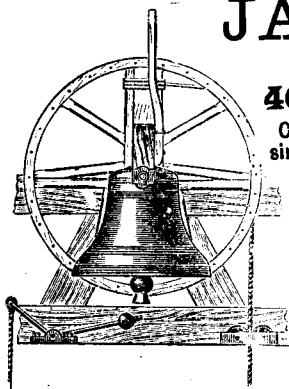
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