

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 1030.—VOL. XX.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1902.

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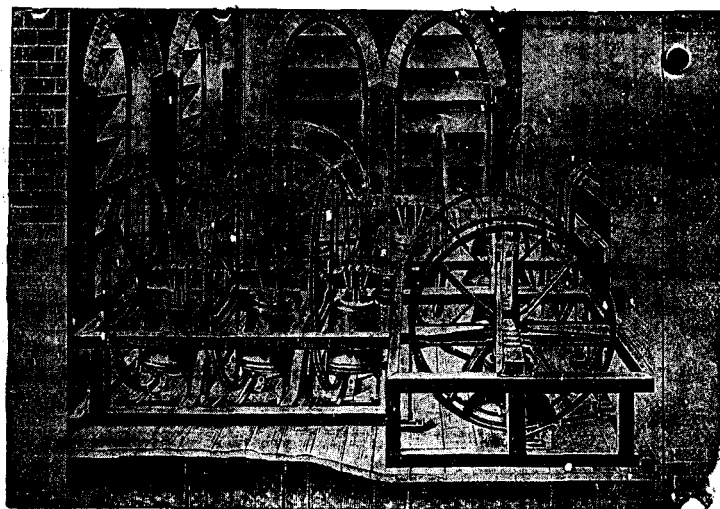
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 1030.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1902.

[Vol. XX.

NEW-YEAR'S-EVE IN YORK MINSTER RINGING-CHAMBER.

By HARWOOD BRIERLEY.

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty light:
The year is dying in the night;
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:
The year is going, let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

ECHOES faintly murmured in that darksome forest of stone where slept the Archbishops of a thousand years. The old century had still half-an-hour to live when we mounted that gloomy spiral staircase of the grey-bleached south-west tower. Without shifting its position, our right hand slid round the perfectly vertical icy-cold newel post of stone, and no light of any kind was vouchsafed nor needed. The tramp of our footsteps on the sonorous stone was like that of warriors ascending some Norman donjon tower. At length we reached the parapeted stone balcony, which spans the magnificent west front of the Cathedral, immediately above the glorious Flamboyant great window. Looking over the stately parapet we could discern a swaying mass of citizens in the piazza so many fathoms beneath. Still higher we climbed, to the gloom-shrouded belfry, where two eerie figures with lanterns in their hands seemed to be rummaging among the baulks and reposing bells for something they had lost. They were really "settling" the bells, getting them all adjusted, preparatory to ringing, and perhaps also greasing their bearings. Ever and anon came a deafening clash and boom, as a bell was sounded tentatively, this act being quite sufficient to expel any intruder whose auditory nerves were hypersensitive. But the two bell-settlers followed almost immediately with their lanterns, putting the sturdy belfry-door under lock and key. We then all descended to the ringing-chamber.

The ringing-chamber is exceedingly spacious. A couple of hundred persons would not feel overcrowded there. It is a great square room of cold masonry, with a stone bench running round the four walls, and in one corner a little doorway which seems just now to lead down into an uninviting dungeon cut in the solid stone. The apices of three or four great windows, with their intricate tracery-work, rise from the floor. In yonder corner the wires and weights of the Minster clock are fenced off by a sort of pulpit erection, on which are fastened with tacks several portrait plates of noted bellringers culled from "THE BELL NEWS." In the centre of the floor is a square trap-door through which the bells were originally craned up to their darksome abode in the belfry overhead, and through which they may be lowered in cases of repair. In the centre of this trap-door is a lamp, burning, and locked up, the key being in the Minster night-watchman's possession.

Ah! here is dear William Horner Howard, the doyen of the York Minster ringers, his clothes grey with the dust of church belfries and bell-beams. Lately I called at his

workshop on Bishophill. It is reached by a passage dark and narrow, half-way across which goes a steep, slim ladder, or rather two ladders, affording no protection on one side, while a rope serves as a handrail on the wall side. The workshop seemed to me like a cockloft mysteriously elevated in the darksome sky, yet the nimble septuagenarian swarms aloft like a spider, so accustomed is he to dark belfry stairs. In the streets of York it is the usual thing to see William helping some blind man from the far-famed Blind School on his way, the two jogging on arm-in-arm until their paths divide, and rarely failing to discuss Handel, Mozart, Wagner, Stanford, or some other master. But look at Howard now, with the depressed spectacles almost dropping off his nose-end, and say if he does not strike you as being like the prototype of one of Dickens's old men in such a story as "The Chimes." Yet he has a wonderfully good cheery laugh, and can put in a useful adage or sound moral at the right moment. In Shakesperian language—"He hath a heart as sound as a bell, and his tongue is the clapper; for what his heart thinks, his tongue speaks." And our old friend is always as lively as a cricket or a spider.

Of bells and matters campanological William Horner Howard has made a life-long study. Here in the York Minster ringing-chamber hangs up an excellent portrait-print of him taken from "THE BELL NEWS." He began ringing at the Minster so long ago as 1839. It was at a meeting at York in 1875 that he suggested the formation of a Yorkshire Association of Change-Ringers. At home on Bishophill there is exhibited among his treasures a presentation tray of wood and silver from members of this Association on his completion of twenty years' vice-presidency in October, 1895. On attaining his campanological jubilee in 1889 he was presented with a fine oil painting of himself, framed.

Not many men living to-day can boast the honour of having sampled the first peal of twelve bells ever rung in this country. Mr. Howard's career opened on a ring of twelve bells hung in the south-west tower of York Minster in 1681, and this peal did meritorious service to the city until the year 1840, when they met a fearful fate. On Wednesday evening, May 20th, of that year, a fire broke out in the south-west tower, where the clock-cleaner had inadvertently left a naked light near some dry wood shavings. The belfry beams caught hold, and bell after bell dropped to its first level with an agonising thud, scattering rockets of fire from the bed of the fierce conflagration. Twenty-three thousand pounds was spent over the work of restoration under the care of Sydney Smirke. Then followed the famous Beckwith peal of bells by Messrs. Mears, of London, which were hung in the restored south-west tower, and rung for the first time on July 4th, 1844.

Let me now endeavour to make the reader one year younger than the register declares him to be. The 19th century is dying; the new century is just on the threshold, and your Geneva watch seems suddenly to have quickened its movement in readiness for the big leap over the epoch-border of time. Yonder "grand old man" of

the Minster ringers, as conductor of the new century's opening peal, has already mounted his box-like buffet, and taken the "sally" of the bell-rope in his hand. He stands meditating with downcast eyes; and well may he do so, for the old century has been a good friend to him, and of its successor he certainly cannot expect to gain very much experience. The other ringers, mostly young married men, are not in a meditative mood; the "old times" have not to them such a hallowing glamour. Presently they doff their coats, form into a circle, and take the red, white, and blue twisted "sallies" in hand. As no two men are exactly of the same stature, and some of them have little conceits as to what elevation they can best work at, there are a dozen or more box-like buffets, some with two and others with three steps to the top.

That teeming crowd of human beings so many fathoms below is on the tip-toe of expectation, and almost a myriad eyes are fixed on the illuminated tower windows. In deep, soul-stirring tones Great Peter begins to declare the midnight hour from the north-west tower, of which he has been sole occupant since 1845. Each ponderous boom shakes the tower as atoms of sound are broken up by the louvres in the walls never to be reunited, and driven forth to disseminate the news of the passing century to every watchman in the city, reverberating here, echoing there, in narrowest street and in broadest square, and dying out amid the silent green fields many miles away. So, at every stroke the unrecoverable past slips further and further away from us. "Then! fugaces labuntur anni."

It is, indeed, a moment of supreme sensation. In an audible voice the septuagenarian conductor, his hands garnished with the triple-coloured "sally" hanging to the rope like a gay catkin, counts up the ponderous and dignified strokes from one to twelve. "Twelve!" causes a thrill to pass along every nerve of the body. A vacuum of silence of one moment's duration supervenes. You can hear a thousand pulses, a thousand hearts, throbbing in unison, and even the sentimental trickle of tear-drops. On that crowded pavement fathoms below stand wizened old men and women whose span of life has almost run out. Five years ago they would not have dared to look forward to a new century on this plane of existence. Held in the arms maternal are young infants who along among the members of that enormous concourse have the slightest chance of serving the finality of the great epoch just born.

The ropes are released. Up glide the red, blue, and white "sallies" to the top of the brackets, while the tail end of the rope remains firm in the ringer's grasp. Down again comes to those coloured tails obedient to the pull. Deliciously refreshing, and at once humanising and soul-searching, is that merry peal of music. But how deafening must the on-rushing sound-waves be in the darksome chamber overhead as they hustle each other through the slanting louvres into the dark world beyond to die out in ripples of cadence. How many thousands of times have those sweet, sonorous bells "knolled" out a message of some cathedral dignitary's death to the city! and how often have they rung festive peals to celebrate a golden wedding, a jubilee, a review, or a royal procession! The hilariously huzzaing crowds turn away their eyes from the reflection of yellow light on the glass in the windy tower, and make the next moment one of universal well-wishing. The animated clappers of the bells, turning and turning, are no less busy than the human tongues freighted with volumes of congratulation. But this inexpressibly wild and delightful jangle of melody storms the air as though it were intent on drowning all inferior sounds. How,

pray, is it all obtained? For, if you notice, the ringers are unconsciously counting up the beats, bending rhythmically forward each man by turns to his own stroke, and allowing the coloured cotton twists to mount and remount in a fashion so leisurely that everything seems purely mechanical. But campanology is an exact science which cannot be acquired theoretically.

So slip away the new century's tender young minutes, and the sparkling bell-music is punctuated every so often by the conductor's all-penetrative cry of "bob." Minute follows minute in the unbroken recession of time, and the fingers of the clock pursue their old 19th century creep. One ringer swings his rope slower and slower, until his vociferating bell can be withdrawn in a gentle murmur. Then another, and another, and yet another, chimes gradually off, until our solitary bell announces the completion of the great scheme of "Grandsire quators." After a pause of ten minutes the ringers rearrange their stands, and immediately begin to ring a peal of equal melody and profundity. But the century already waxes one hour old. The bells, though wearying not, claim the small hours of the morning as their own; so there is a final lull and surceasing, followed by a death-like, ghostly silence. Ah! the ringers are getting into their great-coats, and now the lantern's dim yellow flame pioneers the way down the darksome, echoing staircase.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRISTOL BRANCH.—The annual meeting of this branch was held at Bristol on Saturday, December 21st. Service was held at St. John's church (City), at which the Rev. H. C. Courtney, of St. Stephen's, Bristol, officiated. A business meeting followed, held in the crypt of St. John's church, at which about thirty members were present.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Chairman—Rev. H. A. Cockey; Secretary—Mr. C. H. Gordon. Committee: Chippenham Deanery—Mr. A. Knight; Bitton Deanery—Mr. W. Sommerville; Bristol Deanery—Mr. G. T. Daltry; Stapleton Deanery—Mr. A. E. Bawn; Dursley Deanery—Mr. H. W. Fussell; Hawkesbury Deanery—Mr. F. G. May.

Two new members were elected. The next meeting will be held at Henbury on Saturday, January 25th.

A vote of thanks was accorded the Rev. P. A. Phelps for the use of the bells, and also to the Chairman and Secretary for their past services.

Ringings were kept up during the evening at St. John's, St. Stephen's, and St. Thomas.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

The quarterly meeting of this Association was held at Leyland parish church on Saturday, December 14th, and was well attended by ringers from Blackrod, Chorley, St. James', Leyland, Preston, Penwortham, and the local company. The bells were set going about 4 o'clock, and touches of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, College Single Bob, London Single Bob, and Plain Bob were rung at intervals until after 8 o'clock. At 6 o'clock the members adjourned to The Roebuck hotel, where an excellent supper awaited them, and to which ample justice was done, after which the business was held. The minutes of the previous meeting being passed as read, it was agreed to hold the next quarterly meeting at Standish. Votes of thanks to the Vicar brought the meeting to a close.

THE LONG PEAL AT BIRMINGHAM.

A London morning paper waxed quite eloquently, if not merry, over this performance. Among other things it told its readers that—

"Bellringers in Birmingham made a world's record on Boxing Day. For eight hours a dozen perspiring men toiled at the ropes in St. Martin's belfry without a moment's rest or intermission until they had rung a complete peal of 11,111 changes. At eleven o'clock in the morning they started. It was a merry ripple of laughter at the start, in harmony with the day and the sunshine. After three hours the wild bells still rang out, and people in the neighbourhood of the Bull Ring began to think Herbert was shockingly wrong in his assertion that 'when the bells do chime 'tis angels' music.' Still the bells went on, the ringers working by code, man after man, through the long hours, no man daring to stop for food or refreshment, and each conscious of the fact that a rope pulled at the wrong moment would throw the whole peal out, and spoil the record they were after. Once a man darted up the dark spiral staircase armed with cut-oranges, and into the mouth of every ringer, with remarkable dexterity, slipped a portion. Only this and nothing more. Night came, and still the changes were rung. Then suddenly they ceased, and people, long since grown accustomed to the sound, stood still almost aghast at the cessation.

"During the eight hours 133,332 chimes were struck, and 11,111 changes were rung. The previous record peal was one of 9320 changes, which, by the way, was made by the ringers of St. Martin's also."

THE CONTESTED PEAL AT ST. MARGARET'S, WESTMINSTER.

In addition to the correspondence on this matter which is to be found on the next page, Mr. J. H. Cheesman asks us to insert the following letter, which came too late for insertion in its proper place:—

"In reply to F. Dench, saying I ought to have corrected the false peal of Stedman Caters rung at St. Margaret's, Westminster, I am not so sure yet, that it is false. It has been sent to one of the finest composers of the day, for him to prove at his leisure. I have received a letter from him dated December 20th, saying the plan of the peal is correct enough. He is sorry but has been too busy to prove it through, but will do so in the course of a day or so, therefore I certainly shall not withdraw the peal till I hear again from him, I should like to know what Mr. Dench means by saying in his letter, that peals on this plan are hopelessly false? and then adding later; 'of course peals can be obtained on this plan, also.' Why, Oh why! has he not shown us his profound knowledge before, and not waited till the peals in question have been rung so many times, as he admits in his letter they have."

ROYDON.—On Friday evening, September 13th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Marrable, A. Lawrance, I. Cavill, A. Phillips, A. Pearman, W. H. Lawrance conductor. Also 720 Oxford Bob. W. Littlechild, W. H. Lawrance, J. Crabb, A. Phillips, I. Cavill, A. Lawrance conductor.

CHURCH BELLS OF SUFFOLK.—BY THE REV.

J. J. RAVEN, D.D., F.S.A., of Emmanuel College, Cambridge. With upwards of 90 illustrations. Half-morocco, Roxburgh, 27s. 6d. nett; in cloth, 20s. nett; packing and postage 1s. 6d. extra. This edition is limited to 500 copies. The large paper edition was all sold within a few days of issuing the first prospectus.

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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."

SCIENCE AND ART.

SIR,—I was only able last week to thank Mr. Bulwer for his letter in your issue of the 21st December, and, with your permission, will add a few remarks on this subject.

To begin with, my question does not appear to me so unnecessary on my part as Mr. Bulwer seems to suppose, because when one comes to compare change-ringing with other arts and the science of mathematics is introduced into the discussion it is desirable to know from someone who is familiar both with composition and mathematics what their relations are. I know very little of either the one or the other, and in that case one has to be prepared for the possibility that things are not always quite what they seem. Thus, but for Mr. Bulwer's statement, I should not have felt sure that the instance he gives in his last sentence might not be said to be solely a simple logical inference and the figures were symbols used in that process.

Now, we have it from Mr. Bulwer, that "the science of change-ringing is concerned largely, one might almost say solely, with permutations and combinations." But before you set the science in action, there is generally another element in the production of the composition to be rung, namely, the composer of a touch or peal, or the inventor of a method, usually endeavours so to arrange the permutations and combinations that they may produce the best available music or some other distinguishing feature; so that as a fact there is an *aesthetic* element even in change-ringing.

And this combination of mathematics with aesthetics is not confined to change-ringing, for from what Mr. Bulwer tells us about the scope of the influence of mathematics, many fine arts are the presentation of sciences into which mathematics enter in a greater or less degree. He has told us of music, and I may add that certain musical forms—figures, rounds, and canons for instance—have to be constructed with mathematical precision. Mr. Daltry will hardly, I imagine, refuse to architecture the position of a fine art, seeing that it is yearly represented on the walls of Burlington House, at the Royal Academy's exhibition, and that some of the Royal Academicians are drawn from the ranks of architects: and it is superfluous to say how largely mathematics enter into the science on which that art is based. But take painting, to which Mr. Daltry has referred. Suppose a painter were to produce a picture representing an elephant and a "small bass" as approximately of the same size; it is clear that he would not understand the co-ordination of magnitudes in this case; so that proportion—a branch of the science of painting indispensable to the artist—is really mathematical.

Mr. Daltry, in his letter in the same issue as that in which Mr. Bulwer's appeared, raises the distinction that change-ringing is not a fine art because it is incapable of individual expression. Well, after Mr. Bulwer's confirmation of Sir George Grove, it seems to me beyond doubt that change-ringing is a branch of music. But on Mr. Daltry's lines, only that portion of music is fine art which is capable of individual expression—that is to say, solo singing and playing. For the absence of individual expression is of the very essence of concerted music. What would become of Beethoven's Symphonies if the performers went in for individual expression? Why, of course the unfortunate audience would look for their hats after a very brief spell of such a monstrosity. Are we to say that concerted music is not fine art? If so, why? And if not, where is the distinction between that and change-ringing? Both are performed under the direction of a conductor, as a rule, and undoubtedly change-ringing involves more mental execution than orchestral playing. All art rests on science; it is the science in the mind that alone enables men to produce fine art of any kind. Some have a greater knack than others of using their hands in a particular way, but that alone would not avail them a scrap to do anything artistic. So about ringing; it is not the pulling of a rope—any more than the handling of the brush in painting, or the bow in fiddling—that is fine art in itself. Fine art in such cases is the exercise of the will by the mind, causing the hands to execute in action an exhibition as near perfection

as possible, of the particular science which the mind at the time desires to exhibit.

It is true that all fine art is not the same fine art, any more than flesh is the same flesh; and we cannot reduce fine arts to a common denominator and assign them relative values like Mr. Attree does in the case of peals; and of course change-ringing does not affect people at large so deeply as orchestral performances of classical music do. But at present I am quite unable to see that Mr. Daltry's distinctions are enough to take change-ringing out of the same class as concerted music. If the latter is not fine art, I have nothing more to urge in support of the former. At present I believe concerted music to be fine art. But be that as it may ultimately turn out to be, I am sure there must be something wrong with Mr. Daltry's principle of division which classifies change-ringing with swimming—a useful art, to be sure, but one which makes scarcely more demand on the intellect than does walking into a public house.

R. A. DANIELL.

STEDMAN CATERS.—A REPLY TO MR. DENCH.

SIR,—The composition not being before me, I am not sure that I know what peal it was that was rung at St. Margaret's Westminster on October 28th. But it seems to me that he must be a bold man who would venture to impugn any peal of Stedman Caters sent out by the late Mr. Henry Johnson. If anyone in this world ever knew what was true and what was false in this method Mr. Johnson did. What Mr. Dench says about the 17th sixes may be very true; but without further information it is not conclusive, for this reason: that every arrangement of the four unfixed bells may be used twice. And this is possible, because in Stedman Caters every row is, in its nature, "even" until a single is made; and after the single every row is "odd" till another single is made. Now an "even" row cannot possibly repeat with an "odd" row. Consequently, if the two halves of a peal are separated by a single, every arrangement of the four unfixed bells may be repeated, with the same bells in 2nds and 5ths transposed, without the least prejudice to the truth of the composition. My recollection of peals of this class is that they invariably have the two halves separated by a single. Therefore the chances are—not that they are false—but that they are true.

H. EARLE BULWER.

SIR,—I see in your last issue Mr. Dench has gone so far as to say that the St. Margaret's (Westminster) peal of Stedman Caters is unquestionably false, and reproaches the conductor for not acknowledging it to be so. Now I think you will agree with me that he is coming it rather strong when he starts on a conductor for not acknowledging a peal to be false when it is true. He says one-half is hopelessly false with the other, and gives an outline to try and convince the Exercise that the 17th sixes repeat. Now to cut a long story short, I will deal with him with his own weapon. If he will take the trouble to prick out the 17th sixes of the two courses and compare them, viz.: any of the first half against the last, he will find that although the same bells are dodging in 456789, the same way in each part, and the same three bells in the slow, the changes you get at handstroke in one half you get at backstroke in the other on the front three bells, thus preventing a repetition. I hope Mr. Dench will now be able to see where he is wrong, and take it for granted that it is possible to get the forty-eight course-ends with the same bells in 2nds and 5ths places, viz.: twenty-four times each way; and therefore on principle he should come forward and withdraw what he has said, and apologise to the conductor.

W. PYE.

PAYMENT OF RINGERS.

SIR,—I think we might try and understand more the difference between ringers who are paid to ring and those who ring and receive at Christmas any subscriptions collected from the parishioners. The ringers at Midhurst have now for some years paid 1d. per week into the belfry fund, and are fined 1d. for being late, and 2d. for absence whenever the belfry is opened, and at Christmastide two ringers are appointed to collect subscriptions by the authority of the Vicar. Then at a meeting, when the Vicar usually attends, the officers are elected and the moneys equally divided amongst the regular ringers. Well! one can-

not say that the ringers of Midhurst are paid to ring, because nearly half the money they themselves have paid into the fund in contributions and fines, but they ring, and as an acknowledgement and encouragement to them for the time and attention that they have paid to their duties, they receive from the hand of the Vicar their share of the fund. The late Vicar of Midhurst was asked when he came to Midhurst if he would take the chair at the meeting, his reply was, Ask me to take what is my right? And is it not the duty of every Vicar to take the chair at these meetings and distribute the moneys themselves? We all desire that our ringers should ring peals for the glory of our association, this often means expense. We should therefore be glad that there is some aid to help those, even if it is derived from the bellringers' Christmas subscription list.

A. B. BENNETT.

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

SIR,—The peal of Grandsire Triples published in your last issue, by Gabriel Lindoff, is my composition, and first appeared in your paper in 1893, and was rung at Quedgeley on October 25th in that year, conducted by Frank Knight. It may also be found in the first Central Council report, published in 1894. I may add that there are no new compositions to be had on this plan, as I worked out all the variations years ago, and the peals have been in Mr. Davies's hands for more than four years, awaiting the publication of the long-deferred but still fondly hoped for continuation of that useful work, the collection of peals.

E. BANKES JAMES.

SIR,—I am very pleased to see Mr. Dains' letter in this week's "BELL NEWS" with a round block of 16 changes which he calls Major Original. He says it belongs to the Plain Hunt Principle, I say it is the Plain Hunt Principle. If Mr. G. Lindoff will look at the Gloucester and Bristol report for 1894, he will find the composition which he publishes this week. It was composed by the Rev. E. Bankes James, and called at Cirencester. December 27th, 1894, and has been rung several times since.

H. LAW JAMES.

Obituary.

GEORGE CLEAL, JUN., LEICESTER.

DIED DECEMBER 28TH, 1901.

On Sunday morning as the bells were chiming for service, the spirit of George Cleal—the younger—passed to its rest. Not a ringer, but the dearly-loved son of one whose name is familiar to many; the lad gave every promise until consumption laid its fatal hand on him, and at the early age of 20 his sun went down while it was yet day! The hand of silent sympathy will be extended to our comrade who by this apparently cruel blow, loses for the second time another son in the flower of his youth.

There is a reaper whose name is death!
And with his sickle keen
He reaps the bearded grain at a breath;
And the flowers that grow between.

W. W.

"THE FALL OF MAN."—Under this heading a correspondent writes: "Do all wise men come from the East? The question is asked because one of the band lately on tour in Devon has been down again not altogether on ringing bent this time. Devonshire lasses, it has been said, owe their fair complexion to eating apples. Alas! this seems to have had the same effect on Mr. C. R. Lilley as it had on his ancestor Adam; for he hath partaken of the fruit of the tree of knowledge, and his eyes are opened (i.e. to the fair complexion). If he is going to ring in a bachelor peal it must be soon. Look him up, ye bachelor friends of his, for after a certain date he will not be found oiling bells, mending ropes, locking doors, etc. He says the ringing fever is leaving him, but he seems to have caught an infection of another kind."

FOR BLACK AND BLUE SERGE FOR LADIES' DRESS and Costumes, send to T. HAIGH, 14, George St., 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). Reputations at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The monthly meeting of the above society will be held at Bramley, to-day, Saturday, January 4, 1902. Bells at liberty from 3 to 9 o'clock p.m. Business meeting at 7 p.m. at The Cardigan Arms.

JNO. W. T. HOLGATE, *Hon. Sec.*
157 Stanningley Road, Bramley, Leeds.

The Bedfordshire Association.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Leighton Buzzard, to-day, Saturday, January 4th.

W. W. C. BAKER, *Hon. Sec.*
Ridgmont Vicarage, Aspley Guise, R.S.O. Beds.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held to-day, Saturday January 4th, at Newcastle.

W. TWIGG, *Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Holy Trinity church, Burnley, on Saturday, January 11th. Ringers meet at 5 p.m. Business meeting at 6.30.

THOS. DUXBURY, *Branch Sec.*

The Heavy Woollen District Association.—The annual meeting of the above society will be held on Saturday, January 11th, at The Little Saddle inn, Dewsbury. Meeting to commence at 5 o'clock. It is requested that there will be a good attendance of members, as there is some important business. Subscriptions are due at this meeting.

WALTER IDLE, *Secretary.*
47, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury.

The Yorkshire Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Birstall, on Saturday, January 18th. Service at 4 p.m., with sermon by the Rev. C. C. Marshall, a ringing member of the Association. Tea in the schoolroom at 5.15. Business meeting immediately after. Communications respecting ringing, tea, or other matters concerning the day's arrangements, should be sent to the local hon. sec., Mr. John Clayton, Leyfields, Birstall, Leeds. Circulars to members in due course.

B. T. COPELY, *Hon. Sec.*
14, Hillside Terrace, Bradford.

The Middlesex County Association.—North and East District.—The next meeting of this Association will be held on Saturday, January 11th, at All Saints' church, Edmonton, by kind permission of the Rev. E. A. B. Sanders. The bells will be raised between 4 and 5 o'clock. All members and friends of the Association are cordially invited to attend. The Hon. Secretary takes this opportunity of stating that the certificates of membership are now ready, for which a small charge must be made. He will be glad to receive applications from local Secretaries and others.

ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*
18, Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet.

The Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Manchester Cathedral on Saturday, January 18th. Bells ready at 4.30. Meeting at 7 o'clock. Reports are now ready.

JOHN SMITH, *Branch Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—A meeting will be held on Saturday, January 18th, at Helmsore. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Business at 6.30. A branch secretary will be elected at this meeting.

J. H. BANKS, *Sec.*

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The next quarterly meeting of this Association will be held by kind permission of the Rev. J. E. Brown at Oldbury, on Saturday, January 25th. Service in the church at 5.30 with an address. Business meeting to follow. The tower and bells will be available for ringing.

JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

The Old East Derbyshire Association.—Preliminary Notice.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Staveley on Saturday, February 1st.

E. JAMES, *Sec.*

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—Members wishing to pay 1s. 8d. subscription in place of peal-booking fees for current year are reminded that February 28th is the time limit for such payment. Meetings will be held at St. Paul's Cathedral on January 7th; St. Magnus on January 16th; St. Michael's, Cornhill, on January 21st; and St. Giles', Cripplegate, on January 28th.

WILLIAM T. COCKERILL, *Hon. Sec.*
"Frodingham," Elmhurst Street, Clapham, S.W.

St. Peter's Church, Tunbridge Wells.—The weekly practice night at this church will be on Tuesdays at 7.30 instead of Thursdays until further notice.

NOTES TO PEALS.

THE TEN THOUSAND AT SOUTH WIGSTON.—The bells went into changes at 1.35 p.m. and came into rounds at 8.1 p.m. The time was uniform throughout, the first part of the peal (Harrison's three-part) occupying 2 hrs. and 8 mins., and the two following, 2 hrs. 9 mins. each. At the conclusion the band were congratulated by a host of ringers from Leicester and district, who had heard from four to six hours of the ringing, which gave complete satisfaction to all concerned.

C. WILLSHIRE'S 100 PEALS.—Grandsire Triples, 45, conducted 28; Grandsire Caters, 4, conducted 1; Union Triples 5, conducted 4; Stedman Triples, 18, conducted 2; Stedman Caters, 4; Bob Major, 4; Treble Bob Major, 9, conducted 2; Treble Bob Royal, 1; Double Norwich Major, 7; Superlative Surprise, 3. Total—100; conducted 37; exclusive one false peal of Bob Major.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

S. SAKER.—Probably it was sent mixed up with the peal. We have repeatedly inveighed against this practice.

WILLIAM SHORT.—Please communicate at once with Mr. W. H. Godden.

Compositions.

BOB MAJOR.

By HARRY WHITTLE, Loughborough.

5376.

23456 W M H

43652 —*

63254 —

56234 —

32564 — s

Eleven times repeated; single for bob m* in 6th and 12th parts. First rung at Stanford, conducted by its composer.

DOUBLE NORWICH MAJOR.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR.

5376.

23456 I 4 6

63452 s

36254 —

65234 —

32564 —

Eleven times repeated; bob for single 6th and 12th parts.

5088.

23456 I 4 5 6

65423 — s

52463 —

42365 —

34526 —

25436 —

53426 —

36425 —

35462 —

43256 —

Five times repeated; bob for s except in the 4th part. Has the 6th her extent home, and eighteen times wrong.

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 contribution will be gladly received by the Vicar, or Mr. H. Ruffel, churchwarden.

SPLENDID

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Commences by explaining how to hang a bell; deals with Change-Ringing on three, four, five, six, seven and eight bells in the PLAIN BOB METHOD, giving touches and peals in each case; and closes with chapters on conducting, striking and the splicing of bell-ropes; 147 pages.

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. (210 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. (250 closely printed pages. Part II. (150 closely printed pages) may be had separately, 2s. 12d.

DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR. 1s. 6d.

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One copy, 12 months	..	..	..	..	6s. 6d.
" 6 "	..	..	..	..	3s. 3d.
" 3 "	..	..	..	..	1s. 8d.

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, JANUARY 4, 1902.

ONE of the attempts which was made on the 26th ultimo to score a record has, we are pleased to say, proved successful. Twelve members of the Birmingham St. Martin's Guild have, as will be seen by referring to the list of peals rung, scored an 11,000 odd of Stedman Cinques. The Guild has thus superseded its own record, as for about twenty years the record in Stedman Cinques belonged to it. We have received the following communication relative to this performance:—

"In justice to the band who took part in the long peal, I should like to say that I heard the last four courses and forty minutes of the peal, and that the striking was all that could be desired, and that it reflects great credit on those who were in it.

T. MILLER."

Birmingham.

We must also congratulate the company on their feat. Evidently they were a body picked men; ringers of note who could almost command success even for such a performance as this. Our old friend Mr. WILLIAM SHORT, who so ably conducted, is not the man to repose on his laurels. He has proved himself a worthy successor to

those men of Birmingham whose deeds were the wonder of the last century.

The other attempt for a great length was not successful, we are sorry to hear. The Stansted company made their attempt for the long peal of Surprise Minor, but after 9,720 changes had been rung, the conductor had to call "stand" on account of one of the company being indisposed. This company rang 720 each of Carlisle, Canterbury, Huddersfield, Rochester, Victoria, Coventry, Ely, Bristol, Lichfield, Cambridge, Superlative, London, Wells, and 360 York, occupying 5 hrs. 30 mins. They will make another attempt as soon as possible.

PAYMENT OF RINGERS.

A sign appears of the Millenium,
When ringers who will take no payment come ;
" Why should they wish for pay," says number one,
" They surely ought to do their work for fun ! "
Two centuries and a half have passed away
Since a great traveller in the earth had sway—
Of great renown—he round the world would sail—
Yet take his cash with glory without fail !
In nineteen hundred his namesake appears
With scheme quite *admirable* ; but ringers' fears
At losing filthy lucre soon arise,
And all his salient points they criticise—
When preachers preach for nothing but the soul,
When Andrea brings to England the North Pole ;
When night and day are both together seen,
When we can have a day that once has been ;
When there's no pay for labourers worth their hire,
When there shall be no payment for a choir.
Then may all ringers (though they may perspire),
Then deem it wickedness to take their pay,
Then give free services by night and day,
And pay their fines if they should be away.
There are some ringers who no payment take,
There are some choirs who sing for singing's sake.
There are some preachers who for nothing preach,
There are some teachers who for nothing teach.
All honour to them—all will them admire—
Yet should they not give vent to their desire
To lecture those less fortunately placed,
And think by taking payment they're disgraced. P.

The Metropolis.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 23, 1901, in Three Hours and Thirty-two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MAGNUS-THE-MARTYR, THAMES STREET,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

GEORGE R. PYE Treble.	*WILLIAM KEEBLE 6.
BERTRAM PREWETT 2.	*ERNEST E. HUNTLEY 7.
HERBERT P. HARMAN 3.	ERNEST PYE 8.
ISAAC G. SHADE 4.	ALFRED W. BRIGHTON 9.
WILLIAM J. NUDDS 5.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by CORNELIUS CHARGE, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

*First peal of Royal.

FOR SALE Cheap.—20 Handbells, by Taylor. Size E20 to F5 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.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, December 31, 1901, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, HAMPSTEAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES:

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 26 cwt.

W. MILES* Treble.	W. WOODCOCK 5.
E. PRYOR† 2.	†W. H. PRYOR 6.
E. BONFIELD 3.	F. SMITH 7.
C. J. PRYOR 4.	‡W. J. NORTON Tenor.

Conducted by W. H. PRYOR.

*First peal on the treble. †First peal with a bob bell. ‡First peal as conductor
‡First peal.

The Provinces.

BRISTOL.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 18, 1901, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS-THE-MARTYR,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES:

HOLLIS'S ONE-PART.

Tenor 29 cwt. in D.

HERBERT A. POOLE .. Treble.	FREDERICK J. COOPER .. 5.
ROBERT H. LEAKER .. 2.	FREDERICK G. LEAKER .. 6.
FREDERICK J. PORCH .. 3.	ALGERNON LEWTON .. 7.
WILLIAM A. CAVE .. 4.	GEORGE PRICE .. Tenor.
	SYDNEY EDWARDS ..

Conducted by WILLIAM A. CAVE.

BRENTWOOD, ESSEX.—THOMAS PEAL.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, December 21, 1901 (St. Thomas's Day), in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES:

THOMAS THURSTANS'S FOUR-PART.

THOMAS H. TAFFENDER .. Treble.	THOMAS LUNGLEY .. 5.
THOMAS MAYNARD .. 2.	THOMAS LANGDON .. 6.
THOMAS FAULKNER .. 3.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE .. 7.
THOMAS TAYLOR .. 4.	THOMAS G. MILLER .. Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS HENRY TAFFENDER.

A note to this peal will appear next week.

BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 21, 1901, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES:

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 18 cwt.

ALBERT N. ATKINS† .. Treble.	HARRY SEAR .. 5.
CHARLES W. CLARKE .. 2.	JOHN W. BARKER .. 6.
WALTER SEAR .. 3.	JOHN R. SHARMAN .. 7.
WILLIAM TUCKER .. 4.	†HENRY THURLOW .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN R. SHARMAN.

†First peal and first attempt.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 23, 1901, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lbs.

WILLIAM R. HENSHER .. Treble.	JOHN J. MAWBY .. 5.
ALPHAUS PERKINS .. 2.	JAMES GARRATT .. 6.
WALTER PERKINS .. 3.	JOHN W. BARKER .. 7.
WILLIAM V. NEWMAN .. 4.	JOHN R. SHARMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by JAMES W. WASHBROOK, and
Conducted by JOHN R. SHARMAN.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 24, 1901, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 14 cwt 3 qrs.

ARTHUR GODLY Treble.	WILLIAM SPICE 5.
EDWARD MANKELOW 2.	GEORGE SMITHERS 6.
HARRY GOODWIN 3.	JAMES MAYNARD 7.
STEPHEN PERKINS 4.	WILLIAM LATTER Tenor.

Composed by JOHN REEVES and Conducted by JAMES MAYNARD.

FRAMSDEN, SUFFOLK

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 26, 1901, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 16 cwt.

GEORGE THURLOW Treble.	WILLIAM WIGHTMAN 5.
DAVID G. WIGHTMAN 2.	*JOHN CREASEY 6.
EDGAR HICKS 3.	GEORGE WIGHTMAN 7.
ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN 4.	EDWARD WIGHTMAN Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by EDGAR WIGHTMAN.

*First peal of Double Norwich

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, December 26, 1901, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 25 cwt.

ALFRED H. PULLING Treble.	FRANK BLONDELL 5.
FRANK BENNETT 2.	JAMES HUNT 6.
GEORGE N. PRICE 3.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD 7.
CHARLES WILLSHIRE 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Composed by H. WHITTLE, and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

First peal in the method on the bells; it is also the first peal of Surprise ever rung in the town of Guildford. The above is C. Willshire's 100th peal, a list of which appears elsewhere.

SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 26, 1901, in Six Hours and Twenty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 10,176 CHANGES:

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

CHARLES H. FOWLER Treble.	WILLIAM R. HENSHER 5.
JOSIAH MORRIS 2.	WALTER PERKINS 6.
JOSEPH B. FENTON 3.	HORACE W. ABBOTT 7.
WILLIAM H. INGLESANT 4.	WILLIAM WILLSON Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WILLSON.

Umpire—Mr. John Buttery. This is the longest peal rung in the county of Leicester, and the longest in any method by the Association. Further reference elsewhere.

EAST GRINSTEAD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 26, 1901, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 25 cwt.

EDWARD MANKELOW* .. Treble.	FREDERICK W. RICE 5.
JOHN RICE 2.	GEORGE PAICE 6.
ALFRED D. MILLS 3.	JAMES PARKER 7.
WILLIAM WARD 4.	THOMAS CARD Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES PARKER.

*First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells. The band wish to thank the Vicar for kindly granting the use of the bells, and Mr. Huggett for having everything in readiness.

DARRINGTON, NEAR PONTEFRAC, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(PONTEFRAC BRANCH.)

On Thursday, December 26, 1901, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE AND ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of Violet, two 720s each of Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt.

WILLIAM A. PEASE Treble.	*FREDERICK MOODY 4.
WILLIAM P. BROOK 2.	*JOHN CARTER 5.
ARTHUR WALKER* 3.	*WILLIAM PEARSON Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM PEARSON.

*First peal of Minor. First peal on the bells.

WRITTLE, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 26, 1901, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

WILLIAM E. EMERY† .. Treble.	*HENRY HEAD 5.
ERNEST RUNTER 2.	†ROBERT WOOD 6.
THOMAS LINCOLN 3.	WILLIAM LINCOLN 7.
FREDERICK G. RADLEY† .. 4.	ARTHUR HEAD Tenor.

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY, and

Conducted by WILLIAM LINCOLN.

*First peal. †First peal in the method.

CANTERBURY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNT ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 26, 1901, in Three Hours and Thirty-six Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5017 CHANGES

Tenor 30 cwt. in C.

HARRY BARTON Treble.	REV. F. J. O. HELMORE .. 6.
FREDERICK G. BRETT* .. 2.	ALFRED W. TAWNEY 7.
JOHN STEDDY 3.	WILLIAM HAIGH 8.
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 4.	*PHILIP H. PIERCE 9.
CHARLES F. TURNER 5.	*GEORGE G. JENKINS Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and

Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN.

*First peal of Stedman.

BIRMINGHAM.—THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

On Thursday, December 26, 1901, in Eight Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, II, III CHANGES.

Tenor 36 cwt. in C.

WILLIAM SHORT Treble.	HENRY MIDDLETON 7.
GEORGE R. PYE 2.	ERNEST PYE 8.
THOMAS REYNOLDS 3.	JAMES E. GROVES 9.
CHARLES DICKENS 4.	WILLIAM PYE 10.
WILLIAM H. BARBER 5.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER 11.
GABRIEL LINDOFF* 6.	JOHN BARBER Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by WILLIAM SHORT.

*First peal of Stedman Cinques. This is the longest peal yet rang on twelve bells, and was heard by a great number of ringers, including Messrs. Thompson from Derby, C. Hounslow (Oxford), J. Carter, S. Reeves, W. R. Small and all the local men congratulated the band on the excellent ringing throughout the peal.

TUNSTALL, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 26, 1901, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, and six 720s of Plain Bob, each called differently

WILLIAM SAWYER Treble.	†JAMES STARLING 4.
GEORGE JAY† 2.	ALDERMAN LING 5.
GEORGE SAVAGE 3.	HENRY PUTTOCK Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM SAWYER.

†First peal. First peal by the company on the bells.

REDGRAVE, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 26, 1901, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

HARRY DAVY Treble.	HARRY CATTERMOLLE .. 4.
GEORGE KEMP 2.	JAMES ROSE 5.
THOMAS DAVY 3.	GEORGE CATTERMOLLE .. Tenor.

Conducted by G. CATTERMOLLE.

First peal on the bells.

WRAXALL, SOMERSETSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, December 27, 1901, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS' ONE-PART. Tenor 23½ cwt.

WILLIAM A. CAVE Treble.	JOHN THOMAS 5.
ALGERNON LEWTON 2.	VINCENT J. S. O'BRIEN .. 6.
ROBERT LEAKER 3.	FREDERICK J. COOPER .. 7.
FREDERICK G. LEAKER .. 4.	EDWIN WILLIAMS Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM A. CAVE.

HURSTPIERPOINT, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, December 27, 1901, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 14 cwt.

ALFRED J. TURNER Treble.	GEORGE PAICE 5.
FRANK BENNETT 2.	ROBERT J. DAWE 6.
ARTHUR A. FULLER 3.	JAMES PARKER 7.
JOHN RICE 4.	FREDERICK W. RICE .. Tenor.

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY, and Conducted by JAMES PARKER.

First peal on the bells since being rebung by Mr. Blackburn. The "go" of them is excellent. The band wish to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells, and Mr. Davey for having everything in readiness.

ABINGDON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, December 27, 1901, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERERS, 5079 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt.

HAROLD HUMFREY* Treble.	WILLIAM BENNETT 6.
ALFRED E. REEVES 2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
EDGAR HUMFREY* 3.	WILLIAM NEWELL 8.
HARRY HOLIFIELD* 4.	REV. C. W. O. JENKYN .. 9.
GEORGE HOLIFIELD 5.	ANTONY STRANGE Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY JOHNSON, and Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

*First peal of Stedman Caterers.

SELLY OAK, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

On Friday, December 27, 1901, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5248 CHANGES.

WILLIAM PYE Treble.	HENRY MIDDLETON 5.
ERNEST PYE 2.	GABRIEL LINDOFF 6.
GEORGE R. PYE 3.	*THOMAS MILLER 7.
WILLIAM H. BARBER .. 4.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

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

LYMINGTON, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, December 27, 1901, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS OF CANTERBURY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 20 cwt. 2 qrs. in E flat.

ISAAC GEORGE COLBORN .. Treble.	ELI WATERS 5.
EDWIN TOM GREEN 2.	JOHN J. BRISTOW 6.
CHARLES ROBT. FORFITT .. 3.	CHARLES WM. GOODENOUGH .. 7.
JAMES GEORGE BENNETT .. 4.	TOM BELBIN Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES WILLIAM GOODENOUGH.

First peal on the bells, which have been augmented from six to eight and rebung by Messrs. Taylor.

CAPEL, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 28, 1901, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Kent, Violet, London Scholars' Pleasure, College Exercise, Woodbine, College Pleasure, and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 7½ cwt.

DAVID JORDAN Treble.	FREDERICK TULLETT .. 4.
JOHN AKEHURST 2.	CHARLIE TAYLOR 5.
THOMAS M. STEDMAN .. 3.	EDWIN JORDAN Tenor.

Conducted by E. JORDAN.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 28, 1901, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES. Tenor 20 cwt.

ALFRED W. GRIMES .. Treble.	WILLIAM WIGHTMAN .. 5.
EDGAR HICKS 2.	GEORGE WIGHTMAN .. 6.
WILLIAM J. GROOM 3.	JAMES G. RUMSEY 7.
WILLIAM GRIMES 4.	EDGAR WIGHTMAN Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by EDGAR WIGHTMAN.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EAST BERKS. AND SOUTH BUCKS. BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 28, 1901, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

WILLIAM TRUSS Treble.	FRANK K. BIGGS 5.
JOHN C. TRUSS 2.	RALPH H. BIGGS 6.
GEORGE MARTIN 3.	THOMAS H. TAFFENDER .. 7.
FRANK BOREHAM 4.	JOHN EVANS Tenor.

Composed by JAMES W. WASHBROOK, and Conducted by JOHN EVANS.

TOTNES, DEVON.—THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, December 28, 1901, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 29 cwt.

CHARLES R. LILLEY .. Treble.	THOMAS MUDGE 5.
FRANK DAVEY 2.	EDWIN SHEPHERD 6.
FERRIS SHEPHERD 3.	JAMES MOSS 7.
WILLIAM SHEPHERD 4.	JAMES D. MANLEY Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

First peal on the bells.

LEICESTER.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 28, 1901, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 29 cwt.

WILLIAM WILLSON Treble.	J. SARSON NEEDHAM 5.
FREDERICK DEXTER 2.	JOSIAH MORRIS 6.
ARTHUR J. BALLARD 3.	WILLIAM MILLER 7.
WILLIAM CORNISH 4.	CHARLES H. FOWLER .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES H. FOWLER.

This peal is a variation of Burton's four-part, commencing at the second course, and bringing 4 and 6 only in 6th place in lieu of 5 and 6 as in the original peal.

NEWCHURCH, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 28, 1901, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SHOLICAR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE.

Tenor 15 cwt.

JOHN H. HAYDOCK Treble.	ORMEROD EASTWOOD 5.
GEORGE LORD 2.	WALTER TAYLOR 6.
SAMUEL LORD 3.	*JOHN W. ORMEROD 7.
LAWRENCE TAYLOR 4.	JAMES B. TAYLOR Tenor.

Conducted by WALTER TAYLOR.

*First peal away from the tenor.

FAVERSHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 28, 1901, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARIE OF CHARITIE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

HERBERT BAKER* Treble.	ERNEST H. NIXON 5.
ALBERT BIGGS, SEN. 2.	*CHARLES W. PLAYER 6.
FREDERICK HUNT 3.	EDWARD E. FOREMAN 7.
SAMUEL R. GARNER* 4.	ARCHIBALD C. KAY Tenor.

Conducted by E. E. FOREMAN.

*First peal.

BRADFORD-ON-AVON, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 28, 1901, in Three Hours and Four Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

JAMES' TEN-PART.

Tenor 33 cwt.

REV. H. E. T. BASSETT .. Treble.	EDWIN C. FRICKER 5.
SYDNEY HILLIER 2.	THOMAS RICKETTS 6.
JAMES L. WELLS 3.	WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT .. 7.
THOMAS BLACKBOURN .. 4.	*ROBERT H. LEGG Tenor.
	†JAMES H. SHEPHERD

Conducted by THOMAS RICKETTS.

*First peal. †Elected a member of the Guild previous to starting.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 28, 1901, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS'S FOUR-PART.

Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qrs. 24 lbs.

GEORGE WILLIAMS Treble.	JOHN SMART 5.
JOSRPH WAGHORN, SEN. .. 2.	ARTHUR ARNELL 6.
EDWIN RAPLEY 3.	EDMUND LINDUP 7.
ALFRED W. GROVES 4.	GEORGE PHILLIPS Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

Rung as a birthday compliment to G. Gatland, the captain of the local band.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, December 28, 1901, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 30 cwt.

NOAH DAVIS Treble.	*WILLIAM SHORT 5.
GABRIEL LINDOFF* 2.	*WILLIAM H. BARBER .. 6.
GEORGE R. PYE 3.	JOHN CRANE 7.
ERNEST PYE 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by F. BENNETT, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

*First peal in the method. The visitors wish to thank Messrs. Crane and Davis for meeting them at so short notice. First in the method by the Guild.

GRAVESEND, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 28, 1901, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 19 cwt.

WILLIAM A. JONES* .. Treble.	PERCY E. BEX 5.
GEORGE CONYARD 2.	REUBEN COPELIN 6.
LEWIS SILVER 3.	EDWIN BARNETT 7.
GEORGE R. NEWTON .. 4.	GEORGE MORRAD Tenor.

Conducted by EDWIN BARNETT.

*First peal.

LYMINSTER.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 28, 1901, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 of Duke of York, and two of Woodbine, Oxford and Kent, each called differently. Tenor 10 cwt.

HARRY EVANS Treble.	ARTHUR B. BENNETT .. 4.
CHARLES HILLS 2.	THOMAS STROUD 5.
THOMAS E. ELLIS 3.	THOMAS LINFIELD Tenor.

Conducted by A. B. BENNETT.

EWERBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, December 30, 1901, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 15 cwt.

R. RICHARDSON Treble	REV. H. LAW JAMES .. 6.
E. HOLDER 2.	J. R. GREEN 7.
W. DICKINSON 3.	J. T. HOLMES 8.
T. B. WOOD 4.	F. WARRINGTON 9.
J. W. WOOD 5.	G. LADD Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by the REV. H. LAW JAMES.

This is the first peal of Royal by all except the conductor, and the first peal of Royal ever rung in Lincolnshire.

HARROW WEALD, MIDDLESEX.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION, AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, December 30, 1901, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor 8½ cwt.

FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW Treble.	HUBERT EDEN 4.
HENRY HODGETTS 2.	FREDERICK T. C. NEVETT 5.
WILLIAM HODGETTS 3.	GEORGE N. PRICE Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE N. PRICE.

This is the first peal on the bells.

WITNEY, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, December 30, 1901, in Three Hours and Two Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS'S FOUR-PART. Tenor 18 cwt. 1 qt.

JOHN MONK	Treble.	THOMAS BULL	5.
WILLIAM BENNETT	2.	FREDERICK POUNDS	6.
REV. CYRIL JENKYN	3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON	7.
NOBLE SPINDLOW	4.	JESSE BROOKS	Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

Rung to celebrate the golden wedding of the Rector of Witney, the ringers offering their most hearty congratulations to the Rev. Canon Foxley W. Norris and Mrs. Foxley W. Norris.

LUDLOW, SALOP.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, December 31, 1901, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 25 cwt.

ALBERT CHESTER*	Treble.	FREDERICK H. DEACON	5.
HENRY PRICE	2.	ALFRED CHESTER	6.
FREDERICK STOKES*	3.	JAMES E. GROVES	7.
PERCY LANE	4.	WILLIAM R. NOST	Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

*First peal. The above is a variation of the Rev. C. D. P. Davies' five-part, No 3.

Handbell Peal.

CLENT, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

On Sunday, December 29, 1901, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes.

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. T. BARBER,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

GEORGE R. PYE	1-2.	WILLIAM H. BARBER	5-6.
WILLIAM PYE	3-4.	ERNEST PYE	7-8.
GABRIEL LINDOFF	9-10.		

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM H. BARBER.

Referee—William Short. First peal of Royal on handbells, also by the Guild

Date Touches.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Thursday, December 26th, at the parish church, a date touch of 1901 changes, in the following methods: 720 each of Woodbine and New London Treble Bob, 360 Kent Treble Bob, and 101 Plain Bob, in 1 hr. 6 mins. T. Hollocks, T. Levett, A. Hollocks, J. Fayers, H. Poulson, W. Hollocks conductor.

SOUTHPORT (Lancashire).—On September 19th, a date touch of 1901 Bob Major, in hr. 8 mins. R. Dutton, J. Rimmer, L. Tyldesley, J. Brandeth, C. Sharples, James Rimmer composer, J. Williamson, J. W. Rimmer conductor.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NORTH SHIELDS.—The following touches have been recently rung at Christ Church. 252 Stedman Triples. T. Hogg, E. Hern, G. R. Holmes, A. Davison, J. Hern, T. Teasdale conductor, A. Tully, A. Lawson. Also 602 Grandsire Triples, three courses of Stedman Triples, 720 Double Oxford, 720 Kent, 504 Grandsire Triples, 720 Bob Minor, 360 College Single. On handbells 720 Bob Minor. W. Hern, R. Hogg, E. Hern, T. Hogg conductor, 720 Bob Minor. Rev.

Couchman, R. Hogg, T. Teasdale conductor, T. Hogg. 504 Grandsire Triples, conducted by A. Tully. 378 Grandsire Triples. The above touches were rung for service and practice.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BILLINGSHURST (Sussex).—On a recent Thursday afternoon, at the parish church, an attempt for Holt's Original came to grief after ringing 2 hrs. 58 mins. P. Doick, F. Luxford, J. Netley, F. Greenfield, C. Blackman, G. H. Lee conductor, J. H. Blake, W. Evans. The ringers wish to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells; the tower keeper for having them in readiness, and for the kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Balchin to the capital tea that they provided for them, which was thoroughly enjoyed.

CUCKFIELD (Sussex).—For evening service on Sunday, September 15th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. W. Gibson, C. Stevenson, F. Attwater, R. Hounsell, B. Burtenshaw, A. Cooper, F. Hounsell conductor, L. Attwater.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WILBURTON.—On Monday, December 9th, 720 Plain Bob. W. Markwell, Joseph Markwell, James Markwell, R. Dewey, H. Sharp, conductor, H. Markwell. The above was arranged for W. Markwell, who hails from Henfield, Sussex.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

KILDWICK.—On Monday, October 7th, for practice, 240 each of London Treble Bob, Arnold's Victory, College Exercise, College Pleasure, Violet, Duke of York, and Woodbine. C. Law, F. Mosley, C. Brown conductor, W. Mosley, W. Law, C. Holmes. Tenor 10 cwt.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TAUNTON.—On Sunday, September 29th, at St. James's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. C. F. Winney conductor, T. Doble, H. J. Poole, F. Millard, A. Evans, E. E. Burgess, J. Maddock, H. Bosley.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRISTOL.—On September 5th, at All Saints church, 1344 Superlative Surprise Major. F. May, H. Pring, J. Thomas, H. Tucker, W. Knight, C. Gordon, J. Burford, G. T. Daltry conductor.

CHIPPENHAM AND CHARLTON KINGS.—On Sunday, September 15th, Messrs. Tomkins' Gordon, and Daltry, of Bristol, rang a touch of Stedman Caters with the Chippenham band for morning service at St. Mary's church, conducted by W. T. Pates. And at Charlton Kings for afternoon service 1260 Stedman Triples in 40 mins. F. Townsend, G. Pearce, C. Tomkins, W. Brinkworth, C. Gordon, W. Dyer, G. T. Daltry conductor, G. Ballinger. The visitors wish to record their appreciation of the warm welcome extended to them throughout their visit.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BARKING.—On Thursday, September 26th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. T. Cast, J. Cottis, G. Cottis, G. Faulkner, A. Carter, C. Fenn conductor, A. Hardy composer, R. Fenn.

ASHTAD (Surrey).—On Sunday, September 29th, for evening service, 503 and 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Harding, T. Newnham, J. Page, W. Cook, J. Hoyle, J. Wyatt, T. Boxall, H. Price, W. Marks, A. Dean. After service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. J. Harding, J. Wyatt, T. Newnham, G. Wyatt, W. Marks, W. Cook, J. Hoyle conductor, A. Dean.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—On September 24th, at the parish church, 845 Grandsire Caters. H. Wright, J. Godfrey, W. Blyth, A. Webber, D. Hayward conductor, W. Secrett, Rev. J. F. Hastings, G. Read, J. Mathews, C. Harding. And 576 Oxford Treble Bob Major. J. Godfrey, W. Blyth, A. Webber, W. Secrett, Rev. F. J. Hastings, G. Read, D. Hayward conductor, J. Matthews.

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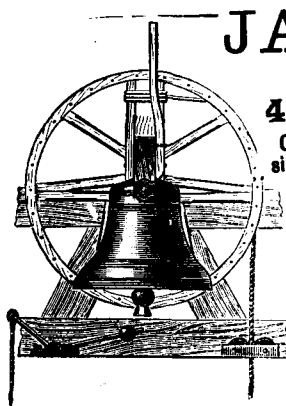
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