BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 1251.—*VOL.* XXIV.] SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1906. PRICE ONE PENNY.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON

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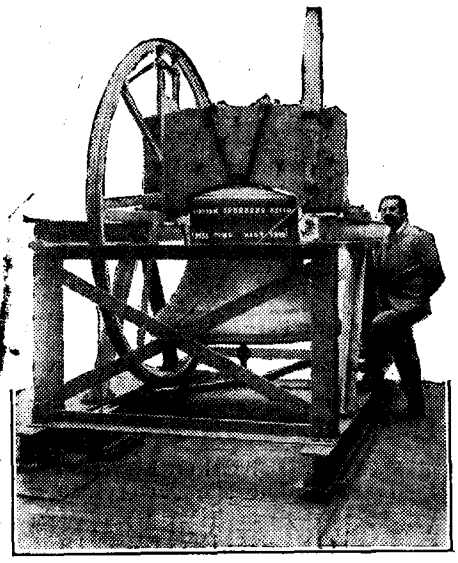
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OLD BELLS RECAST OR REHUNG.

Musical Hand Bells

In sets, Diatonic or Chromatic Scales.

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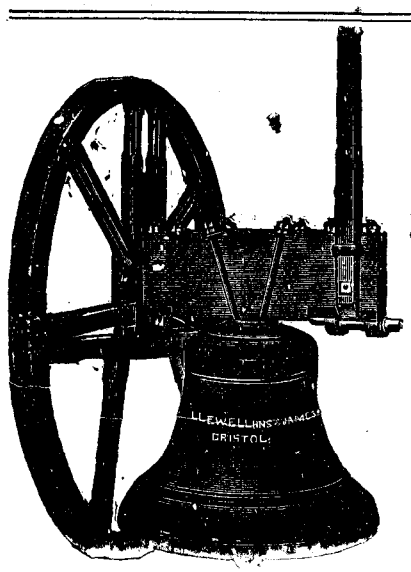
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Bells Cast to note and rehung. Covering Estimates given for whole Rings or parts of Rings.

EXPERIENCED BELLHANGERS *sent to Inspect Church Towers and report upon Bells; also to take required notes.*

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In Gold, Silver, or Bronze.

This arrangement of badge is in the form of a Church Bell, of a true and correct shape, and can be worn as a pendant, medal, brooch, or badge. On the waist of the bell there is a handsomely-engraved field, suitable for an inscription.

The bell is 1¼ ins. deep from headstock upper-flight three quarters of an inch broad; and can be had with ring or pin attachment.

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Silver (one side)	0	3	6
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Towers inspected, Reports and Estimates given. Ellacombe Chime Hammers fixed. Bell Ropes supplied.

W. and B. hung the Bells upon which the Longest Peal yet ever rung single-handed, viz., 17,024 changes, time eleven hours fifteen minutes. Weight of tenor 26 cwt. Rung at Kidlington, May 22nd, 1899, by eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

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A High Grade Cycle at a price within the reach of all. Built to following specification:—

Frame any size to order.
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Wheels, 28 in. plated rims and spokes.
Saddle, best with plated springs.
Freewheel, ball bearings.
Brakes, Unity Combination Front and Back Rim, or
Eadie's Combination Coaster Hub and Phillips' Front Rim brake.
Best steel mudguards, with plated stays.
Tyres, N.B. Clincher.

Price £6 10s.

Fully guaranteed for 12 months, including a free insurance for £100 or £1 per week if disabled.

Send for sample machine and compare it with many sold at £'s more and you will be both surprised and delighted.

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Hand-Bells in Sets, in Diatonic or Chromatic Scales Clocks, Bells, and Carillons in any size or number Bells of every description and size.

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TWELVE CAROLS for Handbell Ringers, by W HALEY, Price 1*s*.

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THE HANDBELL TUTOR.—A Collection of Tunes for 8 or 10 bells. By W. HALEY, Price 1*s*.

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Purchase your BELL ROPES from the great Yorkshire Manufactory of

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The very best Bell-Rope is only made. Established 1768. Our establishment has supplied Yorkshire Churches for over 100 years.

Ringers are invited to try Yorkshire Ropes with Yorkshire end-pieces.

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Estimates furnished for new Oak frames, Peals fitted and rehung. The Ellacombe Chiming Hammers fixed. Old Bells recast; new ones supplied. Best Bell-ropes

The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 1251. SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1906. [Vol. XXIV.

THE AUDIBILITY OF BELL SOUNDS.

It can be safely asserted that no branch of campanology has been more neglected hitherto than the laws which govern the audibility of bell sounds; and ignorance of this matter has therefore faciltated the popular acceptance of many legends as to the carrying power of individual bells, which, though discredited by ringers, did not admit of conclusive disproval. This question has however assumed practical importance in connection with the propagation of fog signals, and a series of experiments, conducted during a period of several years under the supervision of the United States Light House Board, has led to the discovery of many important facts; and the principles thus elucidated have already been successfully applied in safeguarding property and the lives of mariners at sea.

One of the first paradoxical laws established was, that sound travels under water at a velocity four times as great as through the air. Later it was ascertained that bell sounds are transmitted at a much greater distance under water than in the air. Furthermore it was found that the audition of bell sounds is subject to many, and as yet inexplicable, aberrations. It is a curious fact, for example, that the sound of a bell is not always heard in all directions from its source according to its intensity or force, and the distance of the observer. It may often be heard at a greater distance when travelling against the wind than with it. Then again there may exist a strange lack of audition in accordance with which a bell signal seems to be surrounded by a belt of one-half or one mile in which the sound is inaudible, and yet may be heard for a long distance beyond and outside this area. Hence signals sounding in the air are unreliable; and ignorance of this phenomenon on the part of mariners has led to many shipwrecks, a memorable instance of which was the destruction of the steamer Rhode Island, in Warragansett Bay in 1880, involving the loss of property valued at £250,000. In this case it was afterwards demonstrated that the captain of this vessel was lured to danger in a dense fog by the lack of audition of a fog signal at certain points.

It may be naturally supposed that falling snow would form an obstacle to sound waves; but experiments have shown that that no conditions are more favourable for their easy transmission than a heavy snow storm. Again very lofty buildings, such as the steel office structures erected of late years in New York, Chicago and Boston, may act as huge sounding-boards; and bell waves projected against such resonant edifices may be reflected to the asphalt pavement beneath so as to seem to proceed from a source one-tenth their actual distance. The effect of fog upon wave sounds is quite undetermined; at times this appears to form an obstruction to their passage, while at other times signals are heard at a greater distance through the densest fog.

The application of these principles by means of submerged bells and telephonic transmitters has opened a new field to submarine signalling, and the apparatus thus elaborated and in actual use along the coast from Yarmouth, Nova Scotia to Philadelphia enables the mariner to determine not only the distance but the precise direction of bell signals; and its installation on steam vessels and certain battleships has already proved of great assistance. In English waters the mechanism was officially tested in the autumn of 1905 by bells suspended from lightships off Liverpool and Goodwin Sands with results that render certain its speedy adoption. It is believed that the great reduction in the number of marine disasters which must result from its use will materially lessen the cost of insurance.

In view then, of this recent discovery that bell sounds are conveyed about twice the distance under water as through the air, the maximum distance at which a bell has been audible under water being sixteen miles, we are better prepared to test current stories as to the carrying power of certain famous bells. To the category of fiction therefore must be relegated the notion that the old tenor of St. Margaret, Lynn, could be heard over a level country for a radius of eleven miles; or that the clock bell of Doncaster, weighing 30 cwt., is audible for the same distance; or that the former great bell of Veere, in the island of Walcheren, could be heard twelve miles across the water at Zierikzee. Still more incredible is the oft-repeated legend that the clock bell of St. Paul, cast at Whitechapel in 1709, was heard to strike thirteen at the hour of midnight about a century ago by the sentinel on Windsor terrace charged with sleeping at his post, the distance in an air line being no less than fifteen miles. That keen exposer of scientific fallacies, Lord Grimthorpe, lent the weight of his authority to this fable, but he doubtless relied without investigation upon Reid, who in his work on clocks affirmed that he himself heard it there. It is likely that what Reid actually heard was a nearer bell of similar tonic note whose sound was refracted at a grave angle by the walls and bastions of the Castle. The fact is that the clock bell of St. Paul, though possessing a dignified tone, is by no means remarkable for its carrying quality. Indeed I have been told by a ringer endowed with a keen apprehension for bell sounds that on a quiet Sunday afternoon with no intervening object to intercept the sound waves this bell as now struck cannot be heard even at Cheapside.

When experimenting with the range of bell sounds in water, it was proved that a light bell emitting a note of high pitch is audible at the greatest distance. The first large submarine bell thus employed, stationed off Lynn, near Boston, weighed 9 cwt., and could be heard for a distance of twelve miles. Subsequently bells of 160 lbs. of relatively large diameter, and cast exceedingly thick at the soundbow in order to produce a tonic of higher pitch, were found to extend their vibrations to a greater distance, lower tones being more readily absorbed by the viscosity of the water. I am inclined to think that the superior effect of thus thickening the soundbow of small bells was not unknown to the older founders, which may serve to explain the extraordinary carrying power of some of the Rudhall instruments, *e.g.*, the sweet-toned trebles of All Saints, Fulham.

A. H. Nichols, M.D.

AN ECCLES CAKE.

(By Impressionist.)

It is some months ago since I gave myself the pleasure of visiting quaint "Old Eccles." To the eye it is more modern than quaint, and without offence (I hope), to my eye at least looks more like an important suburb, or residential town, distant four miles from Coctonopolis.

Fortunately falling in with an old acquaintance soon after my arrival, I at once felt at my ease, explaining my visit was caused by nothing more particular than to give an hour at the local practice, as well as a search for copy.

Having an hour or two to spare, I was anxious to glean some information as regards the popular cakes to which Eccles gives its name, and asked my friend what he had stowed away in this respect for a stranger. He replied the accommodation was good, and I took the hint, a very natural proceeding for those blessed with appetites. Conducting me to an address, or rather the scene for hostilities, we devoured six as a sort of mutual remembrance, my friend finishing up with the news that they were made sometime in the seventeenth century. "What!" I exclaimed. "Pray be cool" said he; "I mean in name only,' and he answered me "then the article was made only that morning," and the real Eccles cake we both agreed, was delicious.

Our next point of interest was the bell-chamber of the old parish church, dating from the eleventh century, my friend imparting the news that they had their bells recently rehung. My reply was "Peals *ad-lib* now I presume? My query was unanswered by him popping on me at once, viz.: "Did I understand the rehanging of bells?" I gave the answer that my knowledge in that department was limited, and extended no further than the usual greasing and fixing a stay, with an occasional fall from gudgeon to slider. As we still had twenty minutes to spare, I asked would he care to hear a little story of a circumstance that occurred in my early days on bell-hanging. I was at that time one of that most maligned class—an office boy.

Unfortunately one day our office bell came to grief. I hastened to acquaint my lord and master of the mishap. His reply was ts the effect that I was to get it put right at once, and (in an undertone)) that if it was not done it would be detrimental to the business. My ambition being stronger than my qualification, I asked him if I should do it, and hurried out with with a view to escaping a negative reply, and without further ado I immediately set to work, having in view that the accomplishment would strengthen my position and enhance my weekly allowance. After the close of my effort I was able to see it restored to my satisfaction, and certainly all went well until about the third day, when all at once I heard a thud, then a crash, it was the bell, its fate in one hundred pieces, and was no more, likewise my salary. I shall never forget that bell. It was truly a case of the Amateur *v.* Professional. The above sketch appears to coincide with what follows.

Wending our way to the church, and after the usual greetings, we arranged for a touch of 500 or so on the bells, setting myself on the back end, where I am usually to be found. A degree of hilarity on the faces of those present did not pass unnoticed by me. However I may say we all felt pleased with ourselves and settled down. I had not got through many changes before beads of perspiration were streaming down my cheeks. The reason was not far to seek; I had had enough, the will was great, but I was anxious not to display any inability, having handled some stiff un's in my time, but this takes the —— (see headline); the place was Eccles. I immediately called "stand," and asked were they foxing me about the bells being rehung? My friend assured me such was not the case, and asking me if I could read, pointing to a tablet lately erected, from which I read the following tit-bit: "In commemoration of extensive repairs done to these bells by —— of ——. I explained the name of the renovators was unknown to me, and asked my friends what reputation had this particular firm for bellhanging? It's enough, say no more, came from many lips, apparently disgusted. Not feeling inclined to utter any strong insinuations, I ventured to give a homily on the ineffectiveness of work done, and for the benefit of poorer parishes a moral lesson can be conveyed in good time upon the practibility—impractibility of bell-hanging. It is astonishing to observe so many old established bellhangers of twenty years and more experience, advertising week by week, and I fail to see how local influence can be brought to bear, and firms are employed who are minus of skilled workmen; only to note that their experience has eventually to be acquired from the local ringers.

I submit success is sometimes brought about at the expense of others, and I trust Mr. Editor, that after the perusal of these few remarks in your valuable medium, it will place wisdom into the hands of many. I will venture to say in closing, that credit is largely due to the local ringers—when we see the peal recorded—but their efforts is minus the advertising.

The family of the late Mr. John Chappell Jackson having expressed a desire to perpetuate his memory at Mitcham, where he mostly practised his ringing, by presenting one of his peals of handbells to the use of the tower, it was arranged that the dedication should take place in the tower on Wednesday, February 28th. Accordingly there were then assembled besides a representative from most of the neighbouring towers, the Vicar (Rev. Daniel F. Wilson), his churchwarden (Mr. Freeman), Mr. Stephen Jackson (father), and the Misses Jackson, sisters of the late Mr. Jackson. The dedication service commenced with the four-part singing by members of the church choir of a hymn. A dedicatory prayer followed by the Vicar, after which Mr. Stephen Jackson in elequent language spoke of what a high order his son's ambitions had been, and the anxiety and earnestness with which his son pursued any work or pleasure he had in hand for the time being. and urged such concentration of purpose on his hearers. A reply was read to Mr. Jackson on behalf of the Mitcham ringers for the beautiful peal of handbells presented to the tower, and alluding to the qualities his son had possessed and displayed as a ringer. Short speeches by the Vicar and his churchwarden followed, and a course of Grandsire Caters on the handbells, and touches of Stedman Triples on the tower bells, with the bells muffled, conlcuded the dedication. At the kind invitation of Mr. Jackson the ringers and several others present afterwards met at The Queen's Head, carried on by Mr. Bance, one of the local ringers, and sat down to supper, to the number of about thirty, including Mr. Frederick Jackson (a brother of Mr. J. C. Jackson), the Rev. J. M. Williams (curate at Mitcham), Mr. R. M. Harvey (organist), Dr. A. B. Carpenter and Mr. W. T. Elson (Fulham Society). The cloth having been removed, Mr. Stephen Jackson addressed the company in very feeling terms with regard to the associations his late son had formed with bells and ringers, and thanked the members of the Exercise for meeting him in the manner they had. A toast to the memory of the late John C. Jackson was drunk by the company standing, and the cordial thanks of those present were heartily accorded Mr. Stephen Jackson, with the best wishes for his future happiness and prosperity, and the meeting was brought to a close with the rendering of the National Anthem, and the singing in the usual manner of Auld lang Syne, During the evening Mr. Driver and his band of handbell ringers contributed courses of Stedman Caters and Triples, Grandsire Cinques and Caters, Treble Bob and Plain Bob Major, while Messrs. C. Gordon and F. Holder gave a selection of tunes. The tenor of the peal presented is in C, and is inscribed: "Dedicated to the Mitcham Society of Change-Ringers in memory of J. C. Jackson, 19th February, 1906," and the peal has been put in complete order by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

Reading (Berks).—On Wednesday, February 7th, at St Mary's church, 5118 Grandsire Triples J Swain, F. W. Hopgood, J. E. Hern, W. A. Webb, T. E. Glanville, W. Newell, A. W. Osborne conductor, J. Goodenough. Rung after the wedding ceremony of Miss Petty and Mr. J. Monteith, of Yorkshire. In the evening, for combined practice, some touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob Major and Double Norwich. The conducting was shared by Messrs. Giles, Swain, Webb, Osborne. Ringers attended from Caversham, St. Laurence and St Giles.

SILK HANDKERCHIEFS AND WRAPS.—For these goods send to W. Matthews, Change-Ringer, Macclesfield.

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 Ancient Society of College Youths. Established 1637. Meeting for practice will be held at St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, on Tuesday, March 27th, at 8 p.m.

W. T. COCKERILL, *Hon. Sec.*
32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

The Bath and Wells Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held to-day, Saturday, March 24th, at Dunster. Bells available all day. Service at 4 o'clock. Meat tea at the Luttrell Arms Hotel (6d. each to members) at 5 o'clock. Business immediately following

Bridgwater. A. E. COLES, *Hon. Sec.*

Nottingham District.—A meeting will be held in St. Peter's belfry, to-day, Saturday, March 24th, at 7.30, to nominate a delegate for the Central Council.

REUBEN CLIFFORD, *Local Hon. Sec.*

The Hertfordshire Association.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Broxbourne and Hoddesdon, to-day, Saturday, March 24th, when the tower of Broxbourne will be open from 3.30 till 5 o'clock. Tea at Hoddesdon at the Old Salisbury Arms at 5.30. Business meeting after, and ringing at St. Catherine's after meeting. Tea 6d. to all. All ringers and friends will be welcome.

W. H. LAWRENCE, *Hon. Sec.*
Little Munden.

The Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild.—South and West District. The next meeting of the above will be held at Heston, on Saturday, March 31st. Bells ready at 4 p.m.

J. J. PRATT, *Dist. Hon. Sec.*
Hillingdon.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting of the above will be held at Milnrow, on Saturday, March 31st, 1906. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6.30. There will also be a committee meeting. There will be a tea provided for all those who send in their names to Mr. S. Brierley, 11, Belfield Lane, on or before Thursday, the 29th March.

EDMUND SCHOFIELD.

Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The annual meeting of this society will be held on Saturday, March 31, 1906, at Leeds. The business meeting will be held at the Royal Oak hotel, Kirkgate, at 7.30 p.m. All subscriptions for past year should be paid at this meeting.

FRED. R. BARRACLOUGH, *Hon. Sec.*
29, Elsworth Place, Armley, Leeds.

St. Thomas's Guild, Dudley.—The monthly practice will be held at Dudley, on Monday, April 2nd, at 7.45 p.m.

W. MICKLEWRIGHT, *Hon. Sec.*

The Sheffield District and Old East Derbyshire Amalgamated Society.—The next meeting will take place at Eckington, on Saturday, April 7th. Committee meeting 5 30 p.m. Good attendance desired. Important business. SIDNEY F. PALMER, *Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Grassendale, on Saturday, April 7th. Bells ready at 4. Members intending to be present, please send word to WALTER HUGHES, *Hon. Sec.*
3, Belmont Place, Garston.

The London County Association (late the St. James's Society, Est. 1824).—A meeting for united practice and social intercourse will be held on Saturday, April 7th, at the Church of St. Mary, Lambeth, S.E. The tower will be open for ringing from 4 to 8 p.m. All ringers will be made welcome.

T. H. TAFFENDER, *Hon. Sec.*
1, Budge Row, E.C.

The London County Association.—Notice is hereby given, that in accordance with the special meeting held on March 12th, it was resolved, that rule XVII., section 1 be revised, that the business of the Association be transacted in the ordinary course after the first practice in each month at St. Clement Danes.

The Sheffield District and Old East Derbyshre Amalgamated Society.—The Easter Monday meeting will be transferred from Bolsover to Chesterfield, where a marble tablet recording four first Surprise peals rung by this Society will be unveiled at 4 p.m. by the Vicar of Chesterfield. Tea will be provided at a nominal charge of 6d. per head. All those intending to partake of same, please notify Mr. Arthur Knights, Brunswick Street, Chesterfield, not later than Monday, April 9th. Bells available from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. Social evening.

SIDNEY F. PALMER, *Hon. Sec.*
87, Bradley Street, Sheffield.

SCARBOROUGH—AN INVITATION.

As there is likely to be a number of change-ringers among the delegates attending the conference of the National Union of Teachers to be held at Scarborough during Easter week, the Scarborough ringers will be glad to try and make arrangements for ringing, either at Scarborough, Bridlington, or Robin Hood's Bay, if ringers attending the conference will kindly communicate with me as early as possible. H. FERGUSON.
6, Langdale Road, Scarborough.

NOTE TO PEAL.

THE PEAL AT ALL SAINTS', KINGSTON.—This peal was rung in honour of the marriage of Mr. J. H. B. Hesse, a prominent member of the Kingston Society, and Miss Phyllis Winifred Young, youngest daughter of the late William Young, Esq., of London, which was solemnised at the above church on the 24th ult., the band wishing Mr. and Mrs. Hesse every happiness. An attempt for a peal was made immediately after the wedding ceremony but failed after ringing two hours and forty-five minutes.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A very successful quarterly meeting of the Western Division was held at Horsham on Saturday, February 24th, many old ringers from different parts of the county being present. The bells were raised at 4 o'clock, and touches were rung in the four standard methods till 5.30. Tea was held in the large room of the Black Horse hotel, thirty-two sitting down. The towers represented were, Arundel, Balcombe, Brighton, Crawley, Horley, Pulborough, Steyning, Slinfold, and Shipley, also several independent members, and Messrs. R. J. Dawe and H. Evans, divisional secretaries. The Vicar being unable to be present, the chair was taken by Mr. E. C. Merritt, Brighton. The usual business followed the tea. The minutes of the last meeting were read and passed, two new members were elected. Mr. Blackman proposed that the next quarterly peal be attempted at Billingshurst. Mr. Rice proposed the usual vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to the chairman for presiding. The chairman in responding, mentioned that the annual meeting this year would be held at Eastbourne, in the eastern division, and he hoped that the western and central divisions would be well represented, with a view of getting the next annual meeting either in the western division, or at Brighton. The tower was again visited, and ringing continued till train time.

STONY STRATFORD (Bucks) — On Sunday, December 10th, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor: H. Tucker, R. Plumb, E. Yates, W. Bonham, C. Valentine, G. Cowling, conductor. Also on Sunday, 24th, 720 Bob Minor. On Monday, 25th, 720 Bob Minor. Also to ring the New Year in, 720 Bob Minor. The following ringers took part. H. Clark, E. Yates, A. Clark, W. Bonham, R. Plumb, H. Tucker, and C Valentine. Conducted by C. Valentine.

Situations Wanted.

CARPENTER AND JOINER seeks situation. Bench, Fixing or Estate. Good change ringer on 6, 8, or 10 bells. Apply—C. E. SMITH, Watson's Cottage, Chalkwell Road Milton, Sittingbourne, Kent.

CARPENTER AND JOINER seeks situation, town or country. Estate or otherwise. Good references. Moderate wage for permanency.—Apply, W. MEADS, 45, Manor Road, South Norwood, S.E.

Situations Vacant.

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GOOD NEWS! GOOD NEWS

GOOD NEWS FOR RINGERS.—JOHN W. STEDDY, a brother-ringer, well known, whose address is High Street, Edenbridge, Kent, can supply every kind of wearing apparel on the cheapest terms. My establishment is not a slop-shop, or a tally-shop. The most durable of material, and the best of style. Read my larger advertisement, and then write o me immediately

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

HENRY JOHNSON ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION DINNER.

Judging by appearances this annual function does not lose in interest by lapse of time, and there was gathered on the 3rd inst. about as representative a gathering of ringers as one could well expect to meet.

Owing to serious illness in the immediate neighbourhood of St. Martin's church, ringing there was impossible, so that previous to the dinner the visitors were separated more widely than usual, one party essaying with success a peal of Cambridge on the lively ring of eight at Bishop Ryders church, while others wandered further afield to the ring of ten at Aston parish church. At 6.30 however, however all were united in the large room of "Ye Olde Royal" hotel, the management of which served an excellent dinner in their usual satisfactory style. Dr. Cherry (Irish Attorney-General), who presided, was supported by the Guild's presiding ringing-master (Mr. J. S. Pritchett), while besides the other officers and members of the Guild there were also present the Vicar of Aston (Rev. Canon Sutton), the churchwardens of St. Martin's (Messrs. Kendall and Rainsford), and Mr. Edwards (churchwarden of Aston). Apologies were received from the Rector of Birmingham, the Vicars of Harborne, King's Norton. and Bishop Ryders, Sir A. P. Heywood, Bart., who, in his letter read by the Secretary, after wishing every success to the present gathering, went on to say that he hoped to be fortunate enough some day to visit his old friends at Birmingham, whose performances as recorded in "THE BELL NEWS" always aroused his interest ; Sir Francis Lowe, M.P., and others.

Among the assembled company, which numbered over 100, we were pleased to notice as evincing the interest centreing in this gathering, the chairmen of two former dinners, Messrs. R. A. Daniell and C. E. D. Boutflower ; Messrs. Sam Wood (Ashton-under-Lyne), Lockwood (Leeds), and Chapman (Manchester).

Dr. Cherry, in giving the usual loyal toast of "King, Church and State," referred to his position in the present Government, and cited as a somewhat curious fact of interest to the present company of change-ringers that the church at which he first rang in England—St. Nicholas, Liverpool—was in the same division for which he now sat as M.P.

The toast was duly honoured, the whole company joining Mr. Davies in one verse of "God save the King."

Dr. Cherry, in giving "The Memory of the late Henry Johnson," said that every one who had ever mentioned Johnson's name to him had done so with the greatest respect and affection, and he appeared to have endeared himself in the hearts of all those among whom he lived for so many years. He was a true type of the English bellringer—a man devoted to the practice of his Art, giving up to it as much of his spare time as he could, and never satisfied with the proficiency to which he had attained. Of him it had been said that he was never known to lose his temper, although it was recalled how he once bad approached as he said "dangerously near to it," so dangerously that he put on his coat and went out of the tower. The present was a large gathering of enthusiastic change-ringers who had kept to the practice of that Art to which he devoted so much time and attention. That they met year after year like this, although their work had been quiet, to drink to Johnson's memory, was an omen of good; it was an indication of the spirit of comradeship and friendship and affection which actuated ringers in all parts of the country. Nothing had struck him more than the intense love and affection ringers had for each other. They were brought together from distant parts of the United Kingdom by this bond—this desire to promote the interesting and instructive Art of change-ringing. "It is to my mind," said the speaker, "one of the greatest instances of the good there is in the English people, and especially in the English working-classes, that men who are not considered to be what we may call in the intellectual classes—who have not had a college education, and who have not had the advantage some of us have had of being trained up as scholars in science and in literature—that they can devote themselves to this highly scientific pursuit, and give their attention to a matter which the ordinary mortal shrinks from as being tiresome and almost impossible of attainment. There is nothing that brings out the finer qualities of a man like change-ringing—discipline, attention, concentration, and constant study—and no man can do any change-ringing unless he is a steady sober man. No man who indulges in excess in alcoholic drink can be proficient in this Art; no one, I say, who is not prepared to give himself up to study and to efficiency. I think it is the highest form and most intellectual form of amusement I am acquainted with, and in every way a credit to the nation to which we belong."

In the last ten years Dr. Cherry said he had been been doing all he could to try and spread a knowledge of change-ringing in Ireland, and he intimated how well Birmingham ringers would be received in the Emerald Isle.

The speaker was listened to with marked attention and approval, and the toast was drunk in silence.

Speaking subsequently Canon Sutton referred to the connection between the bells of Aston church, of which he was Vicar, and the memory of the late Henry Johnson. He was ashamed to tell his audience he himself was not a ringer; but, amid laughter, he said he had told many persons, at any rate, to put a ring on, and therefore might regard himself as a ringer in a sort of way. Canon Sutton pointed out that bells bad a very considerable place in literature, especially in Shakspeare. Bells were not connected only with funerals, but with happier occasions—weddings. He referred to his connection with the chairman as a member of the same University, Trinity College, Dublin, and bore tribute to his scholarly attainments. The speaker also went on to say that he did not think he ever addressed a more delightful set of persons than the bellringers who met together at the Johnson Commemoration.

Mr. J. S. Pritchett, proposing 'Continued Prosperity to the St. Martin's Guild," discoursed of the beauty of change-ringing and the merits of change-ringers. He referred to the changes they had experienced during the past year to the great loss they had sustained by the elevation of the late Rector to the bishopric of Carlisle, and their regret at the indisposition of the present Rector. He mentioned some of the features of the peals more recently rung by the Guild, and incidentally remarked that there were more talented young men among them now than ever. It was marvellous that men with such limited opportunities of education should yet be able, as in Birmingham, to grapple with the difficulties of scientific change-ringing. He also mentioned that a peal-board was displayed in the room associated with his parish church, King's Norton, and the performance indicated—the record peal of London Surprise—was remarkable, both as regards intricacy of method and number of changes. Although at the outset Mr. Pritchett complained of the difficulty of telling them anything new sense he had proposed that particular toast on so many occasions, he did not fail in keeping his audience interested, and ended up by coupling with the toast the health of their Honorary Secretary, of whose qualities he spoke very highly.

Mr. Godden having suitably responded, went on to give the toast of "Kindred Ringing Societies," saying that it was hardly necessary for him to recommend such a toast, seeing that there were so many members of such Societies in the room with them. They were always indebted to such Societies for a certain amount of friendly rivalry which served to keep them on the *qui vive*. He coupled with the toast the name of Mr. C. E. D. Boutflower, of the Gloucester and Bristol Association, who humorously and appositely replied.

In a few short and cordial words Mr. James George gave "Success to the Ringing Papers—*Church Bells* and "BELL NEWS," a toast which was heartily honoured.

The various speeches forming only part of a long programme were necessarily condensed within moderate limits, capital songs being given by Messrs. W. Smith and T. Davies, both of whom were in excellent voice. Probably the most unique and interesting item on the programme was a course of Double Oxford, tapped on his dulcimer by Mr. H. Withers. It is always a treat at these gatherings to listen to the fine and mellow notes of Mr. Withers' dulcimer in changes, but on this occasion he seemed to fairly excel himself, following up this intricate performance later on in the evening by tapping a touch of Stedman Triples on the same instrument, and called by Mr. A. Walker. Other members of the Guild rang on the hand-bells retained in hand, very accurate courses of Stedman

Cinques and Caters, while various familiar tunes were also expressively rendered on the handbells by Messrs. F. H. Banks, T. Russam, and T. Verry.

In proposing "The Chairman," Mr. Pritchett remarked that there was no body of men whose doings were less known to the general public than bellringers. They never advertised themselves unless by a noise in the belfry, and they were a happy family. Change-ringing was a physical and mental exercise, in every way enjoyable; it deserved to be cultivated, and he believed it would be more and more cultivated, and that the Art which they valued and loved so much, would increase and develop as they went along.

This toast was so enthusiastically received with musical honours, that the chairman could not but feel how much his presence had added to the zest and enjoyment of the evening.

With great taste and feeling he admirably replied, and very shortly afterwards the proceedings terminated with the usual—"God save the King."

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."

YOUNG RINGERS.

SIR,—Of late we have read of many young ringers of thirteen and fourteen summers, but now we are having recorded in your valuable columns "Young Bands." I was very pleased to see a band of six of an average age of nineteen years at West Clandon and Rotherham. Now in last week's issue we had recorded a peal by a band of eight, of an average age of twenty, at Shifnal Salop, and I should like to know if there have been bands younger than either of these, who have previously succeeded in ringing a peal of 5000. In any case all of these are highly creditable performances. JOHN CARTER.

WANTED—A MUZZLE.

SIR,—Can any reader of "THE BELL NEWS" assist us up here with the results of his experience? We are troubled by the ancient disease of a noisy tower, due to the position of the bells above the windows. In ordinary cases this could be cured by 9 inches of brick in the windows. But our conditions are peculiar. The windows are scarcely deep enough to take the bare 9 inches necessary—if they were thus filled up the brick would be flush with the outside wall, and would make our beautiful spire an eye-sore. On the other hand, the bells fit the internal space like a glove, and it has even been necessary to cut grooves in the stonework for some of the wheels, so the brick could not project inwards. Now, can any one inform us of an instance of the successful use in windows of some thinner material, e.g, lead, or some kind of packing like that used in the roofs of some ringing-chambers? Suggestions of any kind would be most welcome. At present the noise makes the bells unpealable, and we cannot even practice open.

Glasgow. ALEXANDER P. F. ERSKINE.

P.S.—I may mention for the benefit of those who are interested in ringing on this side of the border, that we have just gained new strength by the sudden discovery of an experienced Yorkshire ringer, Mr. Stubbs, of the Yorkshire Association. We caught him in the act of flitting in despair to a more campanalogical atmosphere, for the fame of St. Mary's bells had not reached him. One more point of interest, our bells were heard in London last year, being connected to Hampstead by telephone in order that the donor, who is an invalid, might hear them. Is not this a record in long-distance chimes? Ours is the only peal in this huge city.

DOUBLE NORWICH COURT MAJOR.

SIR,—If Mr. N. J. Pitstow will again turn to my peal he mentions, he will find the extents of 4, 6 in 5-6. If he then refers to his own peal, he will not find these extents. Perhaps that is what he alludes to, and I submit this composition is not an exemplary one. During last week I received a peal from a Sunderland gentleman containing 4-6 extent on same plan, and obtained with same number of singles as that by Mr. N. J. P. Mr. N. J. P. says he worked on this plan years ago. I, if memory served, published my peal years ago, but the peal then published (the identical course-ends) as that published March 10th, obtained with eighteen singles less, bobs being used at 1-6 in place of these singles. My object in putting these singles at 1-6 in *first, fifth*, and *eleventh* courses of each part, was to put in as many as possible, for no other purpose. I did it carelessly and without proof, and must apologise to you, sir, and your readers, for so doing, as thus the peal is false. H. DAINS.

P.S.—In reference to the letter by Mr. A. H. Pulling, I must express my great regret to all concerned, and my only explanation must be similar to that given by Mr. Arthur Craven a few weeks ago upon a like subject.

SIR,—With regard to Mr. Pitstow's letter in last week's issue, I think he is wrong in encouraging "younger and more energetic composers" to endeavour to reduce the number of singles in his peal of Double Norwich Major. It must be clear to anyone who has studied the use of and application of singles in this method, that such a peal cannot be produced with less than twenty-four. I am quite sure any energy expended in trying to obtain a 5040 on this plan in three parts, with a less number, will be wasted. A peal of 5376, containing the forty-eight courses with two bells only in 6ths place, may, however, be produced in three parts with eighteen singles. I fail to see Mr. Dains' reason for adopting a plan which requires such a large number of singles, to produce the qualities contained in the composition referred to by Mr. Pitstow. No doubt we will have his explanation this week.

Sunderland. JOSEPH W. PARKER.

OLD BOOKS ON CHANGE-RINGING.

SIR,—Seeing the correspondence in your paper concerning old books on change-ringing, I thought it might interest the writers to know that I possess an old book entitled "Campanalogia, or the Art of Ringing," printed in London in 1754. It gives simple directions to ring changes from 3 to 10 bells as in practice then. In fact, we, as a band of ringers at Heathfield Church, Sussex, are practising 120 Grandsire Doubles, that I have written from it, as none of us know method ringing sufficient to instruct the others, we find it very difficult to succeed, being sadly in want of some one to put us in the way of learning rope sight. OLIVER COLLINS.

MR. TROLLOPE'S REPLY.

SIR,—I am exceedingly disappointed that false peals have been included in the Central Council Bob Major collection. I did think I took all reasonable precautions, but perhaps I took less care about compositions over the names of our greatest composers, forgetting that the greatest of them is liable to make mistakes. This should be a warning that no composition by anybody, however eminent, should be published in a collection without being proved. I will go thoroughly through the collection afresh, and if there are other errors (which I trust not), I will notify them in your pages. Perhaps I may add that as a collector, I was not asked, nor did I undertake, to prove the peals that came through my hands. As a matter of fact, I both proved and edited them, passing by only those, the truth of which seemed to be guaranteed by their composer's name.

J. A. TROLLOPE.

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Contains rules and instructions for pricking and ringing the method; a linear diagram of the plain course; a collection of touches and peals; instructions for proving, and a history of the earlier performances with a list of peals down to 1884 78 pages).

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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.*

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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, MARCH 24, 1906.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The monthly meeting of the Manchester Branch was held at Eccles, on Saturday, March 17th, when members attended from Deane, Eccles, Manchester, Pendleton, Rusholme, Swinton, Walkden, Worsley, etc. Mr. Barratt, of Eccles, occupied the chair, and apologised for the absence of the Vicar (Rev. Cremer). The bells being rehung by a Manchester bellhanger, those present were anxious to test the work done, and they all came to the conclusion that they were in a worse condition than before they were touched, they were pealable before but not now. The members present wish to record their vote of sympathy with the Stand ringers in the loss they have sustained in the death of Mr. W. Warburton, a life member of the Association. The meeting closed with votes of thanks for the use of the bells and for having everything in readiness.

Copy of "The Quiver," wanted for December, 1901. Apply, stating price, to "C." care of the Editor.

The Metropolis.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1906, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, WEST HAM,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES

Tenor 28 cwt.

WILLIAM H. DORAN*	..*Treble.*	FRANK C. NEWMAN	6.
ARTHUR J. NEALE	2.	JOHN MOULE	7.
SAMUEL HAYES	3.	ERNEST CLAYTON	8.
WILLIAM MILLAR	4.	GEORGE HAYDEN	9.
SAMUEL J. BIRD	5.	HENRY TOBELE	..*Tenor.*

Composed by J. P. BRADLEY, and Conducted by WM. H. DORAN.

*First peal as conductor.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, March 13, 1906, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW, ENFIELD,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 20 cwt.

JOHN E. MILLER	..*Treble.*	JOHN ARMSTRONG	5.
JOHN J. LAMB	2.	ERNEST PYE	6.
BERTRAM PREWETT	3.	JOHN R. SHARMAN	7.
ISAAC G. SHADE	4.	WILLIAM PYE	..*Tenor.*

Composed by G. LINDOFF, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 17, 1906, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MAGNUS THE MARTYR, THAMES STREET.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5049 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM PYE	..*Treble*	GEORGE CHARGE	6.
JOHN J. LAMB	2	WILLIAM PICKWORTH ..	7.
BERTRAM PREWETT	3.	REUBEN CHARGE	8.
ISAAC G. SHADE	4.	JOHN R. SHARMAN	9.
JAMES GEORGE	5.	ERNEST PYE	..*Tenor.*

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

The Provinces.

GREAT GRIMSBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Thursday, January 4, 1906, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 15 cwt.

R. S. LONG*	..*Treble.*	†E. BROWN	5
A. W. LONG	2.	*W. GRAINEY	6.
A. B. SHEPHERD	3	J. W. SEAMER	7.
W. H. HEYHOE	4.	*M. J. RICHARDSON ..	..*Tenor.*

Composed by G. LINDOFF, and Conducted by J. W. SEAMER.

*First peal. †First peal in the method. R. S. Long is 14 years of age, and M. J. Richardson 70 years of age.

GRAPPENHALL, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCDSAN GUILD.

On Monday, February 26, 1906, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S. Tenor 12 cwt.

GEORGE HY. WHEELER	..*Treble.*	SAMUEL HORSFALL	5.
JAS. HY. PETERS	2.	JNO. E. ASHCROFT	6.
ARTHUR KINSEY	3	FREDK. T. SPENCE	7.
JOSEPH HUGHES	4.	WM LEIGH	..*Tenor.*

Conducted by FREDK. T. SPENCE.

First peal in the method on the bells, and first in the method by all except the conductor.

BURSTOW, SURREY.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 1, 1906, in Two Hours and Thirty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES.

GEORGE SHERLOCK	..*Treble.*	STEPHEN KENWARD	3.
ALFRED WISDOM	2.	*FRANK SADLER	4.

JOHN SHERLOCK ..*Tenor.*

Conducted by S. KENWARD.

*First peal, and elected a member previous to starting.

LIGHTCLIFFE, NEAR HALIFAX, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE AND HALIFAX AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, March 3, 1906, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

GEORGE DRAKE	..*Treble.*	JESSE RUSHWORTH	5.
FRANCIS W. BRADLEY ..	2.	EDWARD WHEATER	6.
JOHN LAWSON	3.	*ALBERT JAGGER	7.
JONAS S. AMELER	4.	HENRY MARSHALL ..	..*Tenor.*

Composed by W. SOTTANSTALL, and Conducted by ALBERT JAGGER.

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

HEADINGLEY, LEEDS, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1906, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

ARTHUR STOKOE	..*Treble.*	GEORGE BARRACLOUGH ..	5.
FRED R. BARRACLOUGH ..	2.	WALTER ALLWOOD	6.
CLEMENT GLENN	3.	WILLIAM CHILD	7.
ALBERT NASH	4.	DAVID YORKE	..*Tenor.*

Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.

Quickest peal on the bells. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns.

ASHTEAD, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 3, 1906, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 14 cwt.

JOHN WYATT	..*Treble.*	ALFRED H. WINCH	5.
WILLIAM H. CORBETT ..	2.	JOHN HOYLE	6.
GEORGE MARRINER	3.	†EDWARD HULL	7.
JOHN WHITE†	4.	ARTHUR DEAN	..*Tenor.*

Composed by F. A. HOLDEN, and Conducted by A. H. WINCH.

†First peal of Major.

CHIDDINGSTONE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1906, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS'S. Tenor 19½ cwt.

JACK PRESTON	..*Treble*	*ALBERT BELTON	5.
HERBERT MARKWELL ..	2.	*PERCY DENTON	6.
ERNEST EVEREST*	3	*GEORGE EDWARDS	7.
JAMES HEASMAN	4.	*EDWARD SMITH	..*Tenor.*

Conducted by JACK PRESTON.

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

GRAVESEND, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1906, *in Three Hours and Two Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES. Tenor 19 cwt.

GEORGE HAYES	*Treble.*	JOHN H. CHEESMAN	5.
EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. ..	2	LEWIS SILVER	6.
EDWIN BARNETT, JUN. ..	3.	ROBERT BRETT	7.
JAMES TULLETT	4	WILLIAM HARPER	*Tenor.*

Composed by CORNELIUS CHARGE, and Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN.

PETTISTREE, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1906, *in Two Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES.

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

GEORGE COOPER	*Treble.*	CHARLES LANKESTER ..	4.
DAVID LEGGETT..	2.	WILLIAM SAWYER	5.
ALFRED CLEMENTS	3.	CHARLES E. FISHER	*Tenor.*

Conducted by CHARLES E. FISHER.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1906, *in Three Hours and Five Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5093 CHANGES.

FRANK HOLDER..	*Treble.*	ALFRED CLAYTON	6.
CHAS. DEAN	2.	ALFRED TRAPPITT	7.
ALFRED BOXALL..	3.	JOSEPH FAYERS	8.
ARTHUR J. PLOWMAN ..	4.	FREDERICK A. HOLDEN ..	9.
DR. ARTHUR B. CARPENTER	5.	CHAS. GORDON	*Tenor.*

Composed by EDGAR BENNETT, and Conducted by DR. A. B. CARPENTER.

LYDNEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS, GLOUCESTER.

On Saturday, March 3, 1906, *in Three Hours,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'S. Tenor 14½ cwt.

THOMAS BALDWYN	*Treble.*	WILLIAM J. SEVIER	5.
JESSE GILLETT	2.	JOHN AUSTIN	6.
GEORGE CONDICK	3	JOHN W. DAVIS..	7.
SYDNEY M. LOXTON.. ..	4.	FREDERICK SANDFORD	*Tenor.*

Coudnсted by JOHN AUSTIN.

TONG, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1906, *in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of College Trebles, Primrose, Tulip, London Scholars' Pleasure, Arnold's Victory, City Delight, and College Pleasure.

Tenor 12 cwt.

C. J. SALLAWAY	*Treble.*	JAMES PEACOCK	4.
REV. R. P. FARROW.. ..	2.	GEORGE BOLLAND	5.
WM. BOLLAND	3.	HENRY ODDY	*Tenor.*

Conducted by GEORGE BOLLAND.

THE RINGERS' ONLY TRUE BADGE.—In Gold, Silver or Bronze.—Clocks, Watches, and all kinds of Jewellery.—COLDWELL (Ringer), Mirfield, Yorks.

NEWCHURCH, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, March 3, 1906, *in Two Hours and Forty-four Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

JAMES TAYLOR	*Treble.*	ORMEROD EASTWOOD ..	5.
SAMUEL LORD	2.	WALTER TAYLOR	6.
JAMES ASHWORTH	3.	J. B. TAYLOR	7.
LAWRENCE TAYLOR	4.	J. W. ORMEROD..	*Tenor.*

Conducted by WALTER TAYLOR.

Rung as a birthday compliment to J. B. Taylor on attaining his 50th birthday.

BRASTED, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday. March 3, 1906, *in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 360 of Garndsire, 360 Double Oxford, 720 each of Oxford Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, Plain Bob, College Single, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

ALFRED A. JARRETT.. ..	*Treble.*	GEORGE COWLARD	4.
EDWARD HOAD	2.	SAMUEL G. HEATH	5.
WILLIAM MATHEWS* ..	3	DAVID WRIGHT	*Tenor.*

Conducted by D. WRIGHT.

*First peal. First peal in eight methods by all the band and on the bells.

HODDESDON, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1906, *in Three Hours and Two Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S. Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lbs.

EDWARD KING†..	*Treble.*	‡WILLIAM IRONS	5.
WILLIAM CAVILL	2.	*JESSE PUPLETT	6.
HENRY G. ROWE	3.	CHARLES MATTHEWS ..	7.
ISAAC CAVILL	4.	CHARLES RAINBIRD	*Tenor.*

Conducted by JESSE PUPLETT.

†First peal. ‡First peal on eight bells. *First peal as conductor. Rung after meeting short for Bob Major.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, March 3, 1906, *in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,*

AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 12 cwt.

WILLIAM SHORT	*Treble.*	ALF. PADDON SMITH.. ..	5.
EDMUND J. HYLAND.. ..	2.	*SAMUEL GROVE	6.
FRANK FAY	3.	BERNARD W. WITCHELL..	7.
CHARLES DICKENS	4.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER	*Tenor.*

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, and Conducted by BERNARD W. WITCHELL.

*First peal in the method with a bob bell. This is the first peal of Cambridge rung in the City of Birmingham.

CAVERSHAM, OXON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

(THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, CAVERSHAM.)

On Monday, March 4, 1906, *in Three Hours,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES. Tenor 14 cwt.

HARRY SIMMONDS	*Treble.*	JOSEPH HANDS	5.
GEORGE IRVINE	2.	GEORGE ESSEX	6.
EDWIN MENDAY..	3.	ERNEST MENDAY	7.
CHARLES STONE..	4.	THOMAS NEWMAN	*Tenor.*

Composed by G. LINDOFF, and Conducted by T. NEWMAN.

NEWCASTLE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 5, 1906, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 17¾ cwt.

WILLIAM MILLER	*Treble.*	HARRY ROBERTS	5.
ARTHUR LATHAM	2.	WILLIAM FITCHFORD	6.
ALBERT MILLER	3.	*ERNEST KING	7.
FREDERICK GOLDSTRAW	4.	WILLIAM BOWLES	*Tenor.*

Conducted by W. FITCHFORD.

*First peal with a bob bell.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 6, 1906, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES.

Tenor 33 cwt. in D.

GEORGE NAISH	*Treble.*	JOHN H. B. HESSE	6.
JOHN HOWES	2.	EDGAR HUMFREY	7.
ALBERT STRUTT	3.	JAMES STRUTT	8.
JAMES N. FROSSELL	4.	JAMES W. DRIVER	9.
FREDERICK G. GODDARD	5.	JAMES CHANDLER	*Tenor.*

Composed by JOHN WRIGHT, and Conducted by JOHN HOWES.

Reference elsewhere.

BRISTOL.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 8, 1906, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 18 cwt.

GEORGE T. DALTRY	*Treble.*	PERCY WILLIAMS	5.
ALBERT STOWELL	2.	SAMUEL PHILLIPS	6.
HENRY PRING	3.	FRED G. MAY	7.
HARRY PARSONS	4.	URIAH BRAVEN	*Tenor.*

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK, and Conducted by FRED G. MAY.

Rung after meetingshort for Major.

WEDNESBURY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Friday, March 9, 1906, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5151 CHANGES.

Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs. 24 lbs.

WALTER E. BRITTAN	*Treble.*	GEORGE HUGHES	6.
ALFRED J. WALLATER	2.	EDWIN J. TYLER	7.
WILLIAM FISHER	3.	HORACE BELCHER	8.
JAMES TYLER	4.	JOSEPH LAWTON	9
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER	5.	JOHN MALPASS	*Tenor.*

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

First peal of Stedman Caters by all the band except the ringers of the 3rd and 9th. First peal of Stedman Caters on the bells for upwards of thirty years. Rung as a birthday compliment to W. E. Brittan, the ringers wishing him many happy returns.

BRISTOL.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, March 9, 1906, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5077 CHANGES.

Tenor 28 cwt.

HENRY PORCH	*Treble.*	STEPHEN THOMAS	6.
CHARLIE GORDON	2.	WALTER APPERLEY	7.
PERCY WILLIAMS	3.	CHARLIE TOMKINS	8.
RAYMOND WILKINS	4.	WILLIAM CAVE	9.
HARRY PARSONS	5.	HERBERT CAVILL	*Tenor.*

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by HENRY PORCH.

First peal in the method on the bells. The figures of this peal will be found in "THE BELL NEWS" of September 30, 1905.

KELSALE, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, March 9, 1906, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES. Tenor 16½ cwt.

WILLIAM FLEMING	*Treble.*	GEORGE BERRY	5.
CHARLES THOMPSON†	2.	HARRY THOMPSON	6.
FENTON G. THOMPSON	3.	JOHN W. AVIS	7.
WILLIAM DREW	4.	FRED W. WATLING	*Tenor.*

Composed by ARTHUR T. KING, and Conducted by WM. DREW.

†First peal in the method. This composition is now rung for the first time.

NESTON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 10, 1906, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 14¼ cwt.

GEORGE JONES	*Treble.*	GEORGE R. NEWTON	5.
EDWARD CAUNCE	2.	EDWIN H. LEWIS	6.
ROBERT SPERRING	3.	*JAMES V. WRIGHT	7.
HENRY W. WILDE	4.	JAMES MORGAN	*Tenor.*

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE, and Conducted by E. H. LEWIS.

*First peal of Major. First peal in the method as conductor. For calling see Central Council Collection, Section II., page 151, No. 14.

ALDERMASTON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(READING BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 10, 1906, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

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

GEORGE W. T. SMITH	*Treble.*	JOSEPH HANDS	5.
JOHNSON E. HERN	2.	GEORGE ESSEX	6.
RICHARD T. HIBBERT	3.	CHARLES GILES	7.
THOMAS GWYNNE	4.	AMBROSE OSBORNE	*Tenor.*

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, and Conducted by C. GILES.

Messrs. Hands and Essex were elected members of the above Guild previous to starting.

STAVELEY, DERBYSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY).

On Saturday, March 10, 1906, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

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

Tenor 19 cwt.

SAM THOMAS	*Treble.*	BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS	5.
WILLIAM LAMBERT	2.	JOHN FLINT	6.
GEORGE W. MOSS	3.	WILLIAM BIGGIN	7.
ARTHUR KNIGHTS	4.	ARTHUR WORTHINGTON*	*Tenor.*

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS and Conducted by SAM THOMAS.

* First peal in the method also first in method on the bells. Rung with the bells half muffled as a tribute to the memory of Mr. Edmund Simpson, for nearly twenty years Rector's warden at Staveley.

NEWCHURCH, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, March 10, 1906, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S. Tenor 15 cwt.

JAMES TAYLOR	*Treble.*	J. B. TAYLOR	5.
SAMUEL LORD	2.	WALTER TAYLOR	6.
ORMEROD EASTWOOD	3.	J. T. WRIGHT	7.
LAWRENCE TAYLOR	4.	J. W. ORMEROD	*Tenor.*

Conducted by W. TAYLOR.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

SHEFFIELD, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(The Sheffield and District Society.)

On Saturday, March 10, 1906, *in Three Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,*

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 41 cwt.

John Holman	Treble.	*John Thorpe	7.
John Henry Bower	2.	Alfred Windsor	8.
William Lomas	3.	Joshua Woodhead	9.
William Burgar	4.	Sam Seed	10.
Joseph Atkin*	5.	Francis Woodhead	11.
Sidney F. Palmer	6.	Clement Glenn	Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by William Lomas.

* First peal of Stedman Cinques. Rung as a birthday compliment to J. H. Bower.

OTLEY, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 10, 1906, *in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,*

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

In the Kent Variation. Tenor 15 cwt.

Fredk. R. Barraclough	Treble.	Fredk. W. Dixon	5.
Arthur Stokoe	2	John Nelson	6.
George Barraclough	3.	William Child	7.
John B. Jackson	4.	David York	Tenor.

Composed by H. Dains, and Conducted by Fredk. W. Dixon.

Rung on the occasion of the wedding of Miss Ralph,

ARKLOW, IRELAND —THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 10, 1906, *in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,*

At the Church of St. Saviour,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Holt's Original. Tenor 22½ cwt.

George Stuart	Treble.	Ferris Shepherd	5.
A. Tailyour	2.	I. Myers	6.
A. Shepherd	3.	Jas. W. Washbrook	7.
J. W. Washbrook, jun.	4.	R. Prestage	Tenor.

Conducted by John W. Washbrook.

Rung with the bells muffled as a last token of respect to Ed. Lester, one of the original Arklow band whose funeral took place the same day.

BULWELL, NOTTS.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 10, 1906, *in Three Hours and Five Minutes,*

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720s, each called differently. Tenor 17 cwt.

Thomas Jennison*	Treble.	George Clark	4.
Arthur Harrison	2.	Enoch Foster*	5.
William Spencer*	3.	William Wadsley	Tenor.

Conducted by W. Wadsley.

*First peal. First peal on the bells.

HALIFAX, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE AND HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, March 10, 1906, *in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,*

At the Church of All Souls,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

In the Kent Variation. Tenor 26 cwt.

Harry Reynolds	Treble.	Charles E. Stewart	5.
Thomas B. Kendall	2.	Albert Jagger	6.
Joseph Broadley	3.	Francis Barker	7.
Lewis Midgley	4.	Fred Salmons	Tenor.

Composed by W. Sottanstall, and Conducted by Fred Salmons.

Defective Report.—A peal of Double Norwich rung by members of the Surrey Association has been sent without the name of place.

Date Touches.

Kirkheaton (Yorks).—On Sunday, February 18th, a date touch of 1906 changes, in 1 hr. 6 mins, in the following methods: 106 Duke of York, 600 New London Pleasure, 600 Oxford, and 600 Violet. W. Swift, B. Cowling, F. Hardy conductor, H. Hanson, J. Bottom, J. Rangeley.

Miscellaneous.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

Havering-atte-Bower.—On December 26th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. H. Catterwell, A. J. Perkins, G. Roughton, R, Fenn, D. Carrier, G. Faulkner. 720 Kent Treble Bob. D. Carrier. A. J. Perkins, A. J. Carter, H. F. Dawkins, G. Faulkner, W. Watson.

Dunmow (Essex). —On Sunday, February 18th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor was rung with the bells muffled as a tribute of respect to the late King of Denmark. In the evening, 360 Bob Minor. H. Noon, H. Smith, W. Smith, W. Little, A. Ribbans conductor, G. Borrick.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

Kingston-on-Thames (Surrey).—On Tuesday, January 2nd, for practice at All Saints church, 1277 Stedman Caters, in 50 mins. J. Strutt, J. S. Strutt, E. Stacey, J. N. Frossell, A. Strutt, J. H. B. Hesse, E. Humfrey, G. Strutt, J. Howes conductor, J. Chandler. Composed by J. Wright. All the above are members of the local band.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Isleworth (Middlesex).—On Sunday, January 7th, at All Saints church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 42 mins. F. G. Goddard, W. E. Judd, E. V. Harvey, T. Beadle, W. Lidbetter, J. Howes conductor, A. Harding, J. Basden.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

Romsey (Hants).—On Shrove Tuesday, at the Abbey church, for practice, 608 Bob Major. C. Hayter, F. Paskins, W. Rowe, W. Tucker, R. White, J. Elcombe, J. Walker, G. Williams conductor. And 252 Stedman and 504 Grandsire Triples conducted by J. Elcombe.

North Stoneham (Hants).—On a recent Thursday evening, for practice at St. Nicolas' church, 720 Kent Treble Bob. E. Dumper, C. Fray, W. Rowe, jun., A. Marks, W. Rowe, sen., W. T. Tucker conductor And 720 Oxford Treble Bob. E. Dumper, C. Fray, W. Rowe, jun., A. Marks, W. T. Tucker, G. Williams conductor. First 720 of Oxford by all except the conductor, and on the bells. Rung to commemorate the 87th birthday of Mrs. Williams, mother of the conductor.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

Easton-in-Gordano (Somerset). — On Wednesday evening, Feb. 14th, at St. George's church, on the occasion of the Rector, the Rev. H. M. Tyrwhitt, returning home to take up his duties after an absence of nearly four months, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, in 44 mins. A. Rumble, M. Greenslade, A. T. Atherton, A. Rosewell, G. H. Gale conductor, H. Porter.

CENTRAL COUNCIL PUBLICATIONS.

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Special Terms to Association Secretaries for Quantities.

I.—On the Preservation of Bells, 1892	4d.
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III.—Glossary of Terms, 1901	5d.
IV.—Model Rules for an Association 1902	3d.
V.—Model Rules for a Company, 1902	3d.
VI. (a)—Collection of Peals. Section I.	1s.
VI. (b)— " " Section II	9d.
VII.—Rules and Decisions of Council	6d.

Obituary.

CONSTABLE ED. LESTER, R.I.C.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of the above-named ringer, who died in St. Patrick Dunn's Hospital, Dublin, on Thursday, the 8th inst. after undergoing a serious operation. He was one of the original Arklow band who started to learn change-ringing when St. Saviour's church was built, and Mr. J. W. Washbrook came over as instructor, and while stationed in Arklow, never missed either a practice or ringing for services, except when prevented by his duties. He rang in several peals of both Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and it was a matter of great regret to his brother ringers when he was transferred to another station, and they lost his genial presence and willing assistance on all occasions when required in the ringing chamber.

He was buried in Dublin on Saturday, 10th March, and though his brother ringers were unable to show their sympathy by carrying him to his last resting place, they rang a peal of Grandsire Triples with muffled bells at St. Saviour's, Arklow, as a mark of respect for their departed comrade.

FREDERICK WILLIAM CHALLAN.

It is with much regret that we record the death of the above-mentioned ringer, who passed away on Thursday, March 8th, at his residence 23, East Street, Epsom, aged 36 years, after only ten days illness. He was first taken with pneumonia, but passed the crisis of that on the 6th. Unfortunately peritonitis set in the following day, and being so weak from the first complaint, he passed away at 2 p.m. the following day (Thursday). Deceased formerly belonged to the Sussex Association, being a member of the Arundel Church ringers. After leaving there for Epsom, he joined the Epsom parish church ringers in the autumn of 1902, under the Surrey Association. Since then he has rung eight peals, seven of Grandsire Triples (conducted one) and one of Oxford Bob Triples. The funeral took place on March 12th at 2.30, at Epsom Cemetery. A number of his fellow ringers followed him to the grave, also ringers from Christ Church, Epsom, Ashtead, and Leatherhead. After the funeral, the usual whole pull and stand was rung, followed by a touch of Grandsire Triples, and in the evening a deeply muffled peal of Grandsire Triples was obtained, which appears elsewhere. Much sympathy is felt for bereaved wife and family.

THOMAS COOPER.

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of the above-named ringer, the sad event taking place on the 13th of March. He was eighty years of age, and had been a ringer at St. Mary's Church, North Elmham, for fifty years, and sexton and grave digger for upwards of forty years. Deceased was for several years a member of the Norwich Diocesan Association. He had not done much ringing for the last two years on account of failing health. He was interred in the parish churchyard on Friday afternoon, and on Saturday evening the North Elmham company rung a quarter peal of Bob Triples with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect. The bells were also rung muffled for morning and evening services on Sunday.

JOHN TAYLOR & CO.,

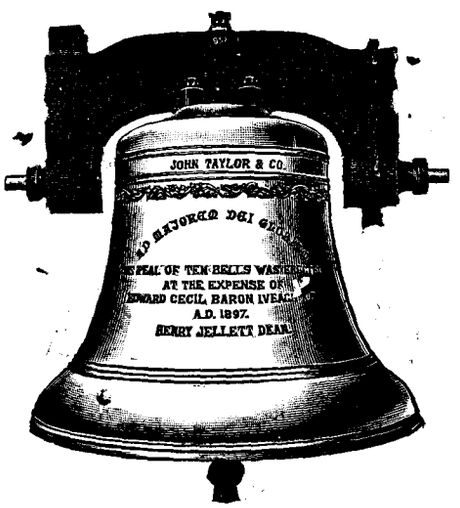
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FOUNDERS of the Ring of Bells for ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL the Heaviest Peal of 12 Ringing Bells in the World.

"This is unquestionably the grandest ringing peal in England, and therefore in the world." The late Lord Grimthorpe, K.C.—*Times*, Nov. 20, 1878.

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The Tenor Bell, St. Patrick's Cathedral Dublin.

Also Founders of the peals of Bells at the Cathedrals of Worcester, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Edinburgh (St. Mary's), Dublin (St. Patrick's), Christ Church, N.Z., and Singapore.

Also "Great John" and the ring of Ten at Beverley Minster; and the ring of Ten at the Imperial Institute.

Also the bells of Dundalk R.C. Cathedral, and "Great Bede" of Downside Abbey.

Also for the town halls of Manchester, Preston, Bradford, Halifax, Rochdale, Wakefield, Middlesbrough, Kendal, and Londonderry; and the Sydney and Adelaide Post Offices in Australia.

Also the chime of bells at Ames College, Iowa, U.S.A.

And the recast "Grandison," of Exeter Cathedral.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

MEMORIAL TO THE REV. RICHARD GREENALL.

At the annual meeting of the Guild it was decided to erect a memorial to the Rev. Richard Greenall, for many years the active secretary of the Guild. It is proposed to erect an Oak Screen under the Tower Arch at Grappenhall Church, and thus form a ringing chamber on the floor of the church. This arrangement was one which Mr. Greenall himself considered desirable, and it has the approval of the present Rector. An appeal is now made to the various branches for funds for this purpose, as it is believed that all members of the Guild will be glad of the opportunity of testifying their regard for one who did so much for it. The estimated cost is from £35 to £45. The contributions from the several branches should be sent by the end of March to the hon. secretary, at Christleton Lodge, Chester.

THE RACKHAM FUND.

FURTHER SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	£	s.	d.
Amount previously received ...	10	9	9
Calverley, per E. Pratt	0	4	0
St. Matthews, Holbeck, per H. Tomlinson	0	3	0
Guiseley, per M. Bousfield ...	0	5	0
Birstall, per W. Stainthorpe ...	0	5	0
Bolsover, per J. Flint	0	10	0
Harrogate, per J. Benson ...	0	5	0

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PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

CHIEF OFFICE: HOLBORN BARS, LONDON.

Summary of the Report presented at the Fifty-seventh Annual Meeting, held on 1st March, 1906.

ORDINARY BRANCH.—The number of policies issued during the year was 75,293, assuring the sum of £7,211,427, and producing a New Annual Premium Income of £395,029.

The Premiums received during the year were £4,123,318, being an increase of £154,302 over the year 1904.

The Claims of the year amounted to £1,812,618. The number of Deaths was 7,437, and 7,775 Endowment Assurances matured.

The number of Policies in force at the end of the year was 773,051.

INDUSTRIAL BRANCH.—The Premiums received during the year were £6,139,050 being an increase of £159 715.

The Claims of the year amounted to £2,261,748. The number of Deaths was 238,220, and 3,344 Endowment Assurances matured.

The number of Free Policies granted during the year to those Policy-holders of five years' standing and upwards who desired to discontinue their payments was 123,586, the number in force being 1,102,267. The number of Free Policies which became Claims during the year was 24,698.

The total number of Policies in force at the end of the year was 16,065,268; their average duration is eleven years.

The Assets of the Company, in both branches, as shown in the Balance Sheet, are £59,464,376, being an increase of £4,104,871 over those of 1904.

The Staff Provident Fund, which was founded in 1898 for the benefit of the outdoor staff, shows a satisfactory increase for the year, the total amount standing to the credit of the Fund being £148,941

Since the completion of the Valuation the Actuary has reported that in his opinion a general increase of *two-and-a-half per cent.* could, with safety, be granted under the principal Industrial Branch Tables if provision were made for an increase in the liability of £750,000. The Board have accordingly revised the Tables as from 1st March, 1906, and have made provision to meet the increased liability by the transfer during the current year of £750,000 from the Reserved Fund to the Life Assurance Fund in the Industrial Branch, leaving this Reserve Fund at £1,000,000. The Shareholders will be glad to know that this revision affects nearly Thirteen Million Policies, and of this number over Ten Million Policies receive an immediate increase in the sum assured.

General Balance Sheet of the Prudential Assurance Company, Limited, being the Summary of both Branches, on the 31st December, 1905.

LIABILITIES.	£	s.	d.
Shareholders' Capital	1,000,000	0	0
Reserve Funds	2,700,000	0	0
Life Assurance Funds	55,633,131	14	10
Claims under life policies admitted	131,244	10	8
	£59,464,376	5	6

ASSETS.	£	s.	d.
British Government securities	3,352,	13	9
Indian and Colonial Government securities	5,292,114	14	2
Railway and other debentures and debenture stocks, and gold and sterling bonds	6,133,775		1
Loans on County Council, Municipal and other rates	13,819,468	10	2
Freehold ground rents and Scot[illegible] feu duties	3,860,399	6	4
Freehold and leasehold property	3,685,329	4	2
Mortgages on property within th[illegible] United Kingdom	7,609,760	5	7
Railway, Gas and Water Stocks	7,581,357	0	4
Suez Canal shares	164,883	9	4
Telegraph and other shares	97,623	6	4
Metropolitan Consolidated stock and City of London bonds	258,717	2	11
Bank of England stock	200,559	18	6
Colonial and Foreign Corporation stocks	1,419,012	13	6
Foreign Government securities	1,294,215	0	7
Reversions and Life Interests	1,161,978	18	5
Loans on the Company's Policies	2,134,509	8	7
Rent Charges	297,298	2	4
Outstanding premiums and agents' balances	425,667	19	2
Outstanding interest and rents	508,463	10	9
Cash—In hands of superintendents	34,653	11	5
Ditto—On current accounts, and in hand	132,406	4	1
	£59,464,376	5	6

THOS C. DEWEY, *General Manager.*

FREDERICK SCHOOLING, *Actuary.*
D. W. STABLE, *Secretary.*

HENRY HARBEN, *Chairman,*
W. J. LANCASTER,
W. E. HORNE, } *Directors.*

We have examined the Cash transactions (receipts and payments) affecting the accounts of the Assets and Investments for the year ended December 31st, 1905, and we find the same in good order and properly vouched. We have also examined the Deeds and Securities, Certificates, &c., representing the Assets and Investments set out in the above account, and we certify that they were in possession and safe custody as on December 31st, 1905. DELOITTE, PLENDER, GRIFFITHS & CO., *Chartered Accountants.*

14th February, 1906.

District Superintendent for Walthamstow, A. FORREST, 24, *Cleveland Park Avenue*, F. W. GOFFIN, 24, *Church Hill, Walthamstow.*

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No. 287. "Orange and Blue," Scotch Air	1	6
No. 319. "Hark the bonny Christ Church Bells," varied	1	6

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The next are for 6 ringers with 12 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.

No. 320. "The Mountaineer's Waltz," on Swiss Melodies..	1	6
No. 321. "The Rose of Allandale" March	1	6
No. 322. "The Pilgrim of Love" Galop	1	6

The next are for 6 ringers, with medium peal, *i.e.* 3 octaves, C22 to C1, chromatic.

No. 217. "Belfry Chimes and Nursery Rhymes"	3	6
No. 720. "Her Majesty's Waltz" ..	3	6

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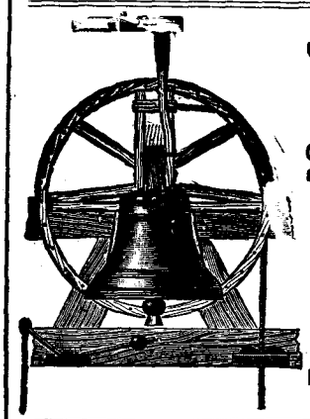
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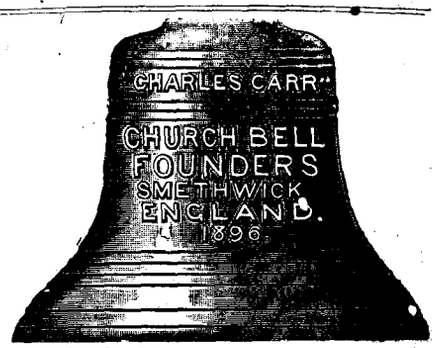
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