

BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No 1726. VOL. XXXIII.]

SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1915.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON,
CROYDON, Surrey.
CLOCKS—BELLS—CARILLONS.



WIMBORNE MINSTER TENOR (80 cwt.)
OF THE NEW RING OF 10.

THE AUTHORITIES WRITE:—

Wimborne, Nov. 1911.

"Our expert friends tell us that we have a grand 'ring,' of which the town of Wimborne may well be proud.

The old bells were so badly out of tune one with another, that it is a great pleasure to hear a peal of ten so perfectly in tune as ours now are on the Canon Simpson Principle."

We are, dear Sirs,
Yours faithfully,

JAS. M. J. FLETCHER, Vicar.

FRANK BLOUNT, } Churchwardens.
TOM GOMER, }

ALFRED BOWELL
BELL FOUNDER,
CHURCH BELL HANGER,
IPSWICH.

GILLINGHAM VICARAGE, KENT.

April 23rd, 1913.

DEAR SIR—

You will be glad to hear from me that the restoration of our eight bells has been completed to the satisfaction and gratification of the whole neighbourhood. I have expert testimony to the fact that the new steel frame and the work connected with it fully justify the trust we had in you. The tone and tune of the bells are excellent, and we have every reason to believe that many generations will pass before any further work upon them is needed. My Churchwardens agree with me in all I am saying, and we hope that the credit you have so well earned will be the means of securing many other contracts. We never paid a bill with greater pleasure.

Yours faithfully,

W. H. ROBINS, D.D.

Vicar of Gillingham,

Hon. Canon and Rural Dean of Rochester.

FIRST-CLASS WORK.

MODERATE PRICES.

PERSONAL SUPERVISORI.

Thos. Doble & Son,
Church Bell Hangers,
11, CANON STREET,
TAUNTON. SOMERSET.

Bells hung with fittings of the most approved principle. Old Bells recast, new Bells supplied, Ropes of the best make. The Ella-combe Chime Hammers fixed. Towers inspected, and estimates furnished.

T. D. & Son are change-ringers, and having had many years' experience in Church Bell Hanging, with confidence solicits the patronage of the Clergy, Churchwardens, and ringers generally.

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CHURCH
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CLOCK AND CHIMING ROPE
Manufacturer,
LOUGHBOROUGH.

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HAVE MADE
BELL ROPES
Since the Reign of George III.

For Estimates send weight of Tenor, and number and length of Ropes required to

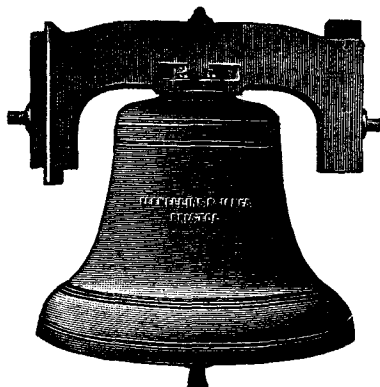
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CASTLE GREEN, BRISTOL.

CHURCH BELLS
Singly or in Rings.
BELL FRAMES
IN
Cast Iron, Steel, and
Oak.



Bells Tuned on the
Latest Improved
Principles
Initiated by the late
Canon Simpson.

SUPPLEMENTARY CATALOGUE of Handbell Music

Published by WILLIAM GORDON,
Celtic Street, Webb Lane, Stockport.
Additions to list 13, General Cata-
logues, with 19 Bells, viz., G 18
Also two F sharps and two C sharps.
No. 32A B Home, Sweet Home, three varia-
tions, new arrangement .. 2s. 6d.
No. 63 Glorious Apollo, glee by S.
Webbe, new edition .. 1s. 6d.
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once a Belle Vue Contest piece 1s. 3d.
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arrangement .. 1s. 3d.
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from G 25 to G 04, Chromatic; seven ringers.
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tions, new arrangement .. 3s. 6d.
No. 63X L Glorious Apollo, Glee by
S. Webbe, new edition .. 1s. 6d.
No. 334X L Ronssean's Dream, one
variation .. 1s. 6d.
No. 335X L The Dashing White Ser-
geant, a recollection of Belle
Vue .. 1s. 9d.
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new arrangement .. 1s. 9d.
Additions to List 7 General Catalogue, Bells
from C 22 to C 1, Chromatic; six ringers.
No. 32 Home, Sweet Home, three variations,
new arrangement .. 3s. 6d.
No. 63X Glorious Appollo, Glee by S.
Webbe, new edition .. 1s. 3d.
No. 34X Ronssean's Dream one varia-
tion .. 1s. 3d.
No. 335X The Dashing White Ser-
geant an echo of long ago .. 1s. 6d.
No. 44 The Grenadier's March and
God save the King .. 1s. 6d.
No. 242 The Marseillaise Hymn—
French National Anthem .. 1s. 6d.
No. 342 Russian National Anthem .. 1s. 6d.
No. 344 "Tipperary," the favourite
tune when marching of British
Troops .. 1s. 6d.
Through the War, and for a brief period,
the whole of the above Nos. may be had at a
reduction of 2d. in the shilling discount from
the list prices. The two Nos. 342 and 344, if
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Over 300 pieces in stock. Send stamp for
Catalogue.

WEBB & BENNETT, Church Bell Hangers & Tuners, MILL STREET, KIDLINGTON, OXFORD.

W. and B. are practical ringers, and having
had considerable experience in Church Bell
Hanging and Tuning with confidence solicit
the patronage of Clergy, Churchwardens and
Ringers generally.

W. and B.'s Wrought Iron X Frames for
Church Bells are acknowledged to be one of
the best kinds.

Towers inspected, Reports and Estimates
given. Ellacombe Chime Hammers fixed.
Bell ropes supplied.

W. and B. hung the Bells upon which the
longest peal of Double Norwich, 17,024 changes,
was rung at Kidlington, by eight members of
the Oxford Diocesan Guild, on May 22nd,
1899. Actual weight of tenor 23½ cwt.

J. F. MALLABY & CO. Church Bell Hangers & Musical Handbell Founders, BARNEY DON, DONCASTER.

CHURCH BELLS hung with every des-
cription of the latest approved fittings, in

OAK OR STEEL FRAMES.

HANDBELLS of excellent tone, made to
diatonic and chromatic scales, in sets
any number and to any size.

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Are made by Messrs.

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(Established 1768.)

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Our Ropes are the First Favourites of the
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Ropes with Yorkshire End-Pieces.

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Of either Cotton, Flax, or Hemp

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

Rings of Bells to any number hung on the most approved
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workmanship.

"BELL NEWS" WORKS,
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 1726.

SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1915

[Vol. XXXIII]

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting of this Association was held on Saturday, April 17th, when the towers represented included Martock, Stoke-sub-Hamdon, Langport, Norton-sub-Hamdon, Taunton (St. James), and Bridgwater (St. Mary's). The ringers met early in the afternoon and rang various touches. Afterwards they attended Divine Service in the Parish Church, which was conducted by the Rev. G. G. Monck (Vicar of Stoke-sub-Hamdon and Chairman of the Association).

Tea was provided in the Parish Room, the Rev. G. G. Monck again presiding. The Hon. Secretary read the quarterly report, and several members were added to the list. The party afterwards adjourned to the tower, and rang several more touches. It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at North Perrott.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A meeting was held at the Church of St. Peter, Sharnbrook, on Saturday, April 24th, when Miss E. Steel was voted to the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Members were present from St. Paul's and St. Peter's, Bedford, Elstow, Harrold, and the local company. One new member was elected. A vote of thanks was tendered to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to the local company for having everything in readiness. The methods rung were Stedman, Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Minor, Plain and Single Oxford Minor, Double Stedman, Cambridge and London Surprise.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of this Association was held at Clifton Parish Church, when representatives were present from St. Stephen's, St. Nicholas, St. James, St. Matthew's, St. George's, St. Werburgh's and Henbury. Ringing commenced at 4.15 p.m., touches of Plain Bob, Double Norwich Court Bob Major, Stedman and Grandsire Triples being rung until evening service, which the ringers attended, a member of the Association (the Rev. C. B. Watts-Moses) filling the dual office of organist and preacher.

After service an adjournment was made for tea, following which the Rev. H. L. C. de Candole (Vicar of Clifton) was elected an hon. member, and five members of the Clifton Parish Church Guild were elected performing members.

The belfry was again visited, where further touches in the above methods, with the addition of Kent Treble Bob Major, brought a most successful meeting to a close. It may be added that Clifton Parish Church tower has been uninterruptedly affiliated to the Association since 1897.

"THE BELL NEWS" will be sent to any address in the United Kingdom for 1s. 8d. per quarter, or 6s. 6d. per year.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MAIDSTONE DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the Maidstone District of this Association was held at Aylesford on Saturday, April 17th. The bells were set going at 3 p.m., and there was a short service at 5.30, at which the Vicar addressed the members with a few words of welcome. Tea was served at the George Inn at six o'clock, and there was a business meeting afterwards, the Vicar presiding. The Secretary read the report for the year, which was passed. The election of officers followed. Mr. Hazelden was re-elected Secretary, and Mr. Mannering representative. Seven new members were proposed. The next quarterly meeting will be held at Linton, and the half-yearly at Charing. There were over 70 members present during the afternoon and evening, several coming from other districts. The Vicar was thanked for his services during the visit.

DINGESTOW, NEAR MONMOUTH.

On Wednesday afternoon, April 21st, the Bishop of Llandaff performed an interesting ceremony at Dingestow Church, when he dedicated a new bell to the memory of the late Mrs. Bosanquet, and re-dedicated four old bells which had been silent for about half a century owing to being out of repair. There was a large congregation present, and the surpliced clergy were Canon Harding, R.D. the Vicar, the Rev. T. Parry Pryce, the Rev. J. Mac-liverty and the Rev. T. Davis. Among the congregation were Lady Llangattock and Mr. S. C. Bosanquet, of Dingestow Court, the latter reading the lesson. The choir rendered the anthem "Who are these like stars appearing."

The Bishop having dedicated the bell delivered the bell rope to the Vicar, asking him to receive the bell as his sacred trust. The bells were then rung in rounds, after which a special hymn, composed by Mrs. Bosanquet, (who was the organist) was sung.

The sermon was preached by Canon Harding, who said that the new bell emphasised a beautiful life and a beautiful example, and she who was dead would through it yet speak to them, calling them to go forward and respond quickly to Divine inspiration, whisper to them to be quiet, gentle, meek or patient and constant in praise.

In the evening the Bishop preached to a large congregation. It is gratifying to know that the whole of the cost of the work has been raised during the past two years, and they are now free from debt, with a small balance in hand towards a sixth bell, the frame for which is already provided. The collection was towards a sixth bell.

The work has been carried out by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, and pronounced excellent. Some weeks prior to the dedication a band selected from members of the Llandaff Association tried the bells and found the "go" and tone left nothing to be desired.

PEAL BOOKS, Price 3s. post free 3s. 6d. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association Books on application.—J. BEAMS West Ewell, Epsom,

UNVEILING OF A PEAL TABLET.

LEEDS PARISH CHURCH.

By the permission and kindly interest of the Vicar and Wardens of The Leeds Parish Church, and through the generosity of Mr. Wm. Whitaker (the first Secretary of the Yorkshire Association) a handsome tablet has been erected in the ringing chamber of the Parish Church tower recording the accomplishment of a peal of New Treble Bob Royal (5000 changes) by a band of Leeds ringers in 1830, as a token of respect and loyalty to their late Sovereign King George the Fourth. The following is a copy as recorded on the tablet:—

NEW TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

On Thursday, the 15th of July, 1830,

Being the day appointed for the Interment of his late Majesty George the Fourth,

The Amateur Society of Change-Ringers, Leeds, out of respect to their late beloved Sovereign, ascended the tower of the Parish Church a little after nine o'clock in the evening and rang with the bells muffled a peal of

NEW TREBLE BOB ROYAL,

Consisting of 5000 changes exact, which was completed at forty-three minutes past midnight, occupying three hours and twenty-three minutes in the performance.

Performer's Names.

Mr. Thos. Rafton Treble	Mr. John Mortimer ... 7
Mr. John Hudson 2	Mr. Wm. Gawkrödger ... 8
Mr. John Thorp 3	Mr. Sam Smallpage ... 9
Mr. William Groves 4	Conductor of the peal
Mr. Christopher Isles ... 5	Mr. James Naylor... .. Tenor
Mr. Joseph Moxon... .. 6	

The above peal was composed for the occasion by Mr. Hugh Wright, of Leeds, formerly of Nottingham, author of 15,163 Treble Bob Major, Albion Surprise, etc., etc.

Mr. Whitaker has been an assiduous collector of records and interesting items of change-ringing for many years, and now that he is getting well on to being an octogenarian, he is anxious to see these placed where they are of the greatest interest. Hence his desire to have this historical record of the work of Leeds ringers—nearly 100 years ago—permanently placed in the tower.

It is interesting to find that Yorkshire men of those days preferred the Kent Variation (or New Treble Bob) as it was called, to the Oxford Variation with its broken music, and the county has more or less maintained its fidelity to its first love.

Very little information of the personalities of the performers in the peal has come down to us, but there are men living who well remember Mr. Isles and Mr. Gawkrödger, who is spoken of as being a clever ringer. Mr. Whitaker succeeded the latter as President of the Leeds Society in 1874, and held the office nine years.

A very kind and brotherly custom prevailed in the Parish Church Belfry in those days. When an old member of the company became somewhat infirm, and not well able to climb the steps, he was made a pensioner, which meant that he took an equal share with the others in all monies received, and only mounted the steps to make up to a band of ten or twelve. Kit Isles was the last pensioner to stand at the tower entrance and count the men up.

Mr. Whitaker is not well-known to the present generation of ringers, but it is well they should be reminded how much they owe to men of his stamp. He was contemporary with the late Henry Hubbard, who came to Leeds from Norwich before 1867 (and many

interesting stories could be told of this very worthy old gentleman), also the late Jasper Snowdon, Tom Lockwood, and other Leeds worthies.

In connection with these men and the brothers Hattersley, Mr. Howard, Mr. Tuke, Mr. Bolland and others, Mr. Whitaker found time, during a very strenuous business career, to manage the clerical work in connection with the foundation and early years of the Yorkshire Association.

He stood shoulder to shoulder for many years with that veritable giant of the Exercise, and a man of sterling worth, the late Jasper Snowdon. These two men and Mr. Tuke were as brothers, and to hear Mr. Whitaker speak of Jasper, as he calls him, is to know that a very brotherly feeling existed between them, and they both put forth their whole energy for the common good, and it is men such as these we should think of with pride in connection with the great Yorkshire Association.

During Mr. Whitaker's long connection with the Parish Church, his high ideals of churchmanship gained for him the respect of the several Vicars, notably Dr. Jayne, now Bishop of Chester, the late Dr. Gott and others. He has maintained a close connection with the church life of Leeds, and has been Warden of the church in the district near his home.

A man's work and worth to his fellows is not always to be measured by the number of times his name appears attached to peal performances, etc., but by the amount of sacrifice of self, and work in a common cause for others, and there is no doubt that it is the practice of this virtue which has built up the sterling character so well seen in the subject of these words.

Correspondence.

Whilst always ready to insert correspondence on subjects of interest to ringers, the Editor does not hold himself responsible for the opinions expressed.

DEFINITION OF AN AXIOM.

To the Editor.

SIR,—Referring to Mr. Trollope's article in your issue of April 17th, in the last paragraph he defines an "axiom" as "a self-evident proposition". But this word has another meaning, viz.: "an established principle of any art or science," and it is in this latter sense that, in my view, "axiom" may be properly applied to what in process of time has come to be recognised as the highest form of change-ringing, namely, that every bell that can should change its place at each stroke, which is not "a self-evident proposition" at all.

Yours etc.,

ARTHUR HEYWOOD.

A TRIBUTE.

The Bishop of Barking in his capacity as Archdeacon of Essex, has been delivering his charge, in the course of which his Lordship said from the ranks of the faithful laity it is more difficult to name one by one "those that here we see no more," but of them I may mention William Chalk, churchwarden for many years at Langford, widely known as an enthusiastic bell-ringer and instructor of ringers, especially in the Maldon district.

WEST EALING.—On Sunday evening, April 25th, for service at St. Stephen's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. C. Edwards, G. Harbour, Miss Edith Jones, J. Hunnisett, Private J. A. Snow (Devons), W. Lawrence. (conductor), J. A. Trollope, G. Iles. Private J. A. Snow is stationed at Southall.

DEDICATION AT IDLE, YORKS.

The new peal of bells presented to the Parish Church at Idle, Yorks., were dedicated recently by the Bishop of Ripon. The occasion was really a great parochial festival, for the service was one at which the Bishop inducted the new Vicar (the Rev. W. T. Forster), and after the service there was a tea at which between 600 and 700 persons were present, and this was followed by a great evening meeting, at which the Vicar of Bradford presided.

The bells were the gift of Mrs. Horner, of Caton, and a native of Idle, and are a splendid peal from the Loughborough foundry. After the formal dedication the Bishop delivered a short but interesting address on "The Message of the Bells" to a large number of ringers who had assembled in the tower. The Bishop said that the bell-ringers, like other church workers, had a message. When they took part in ringing they sent a message of invitation to the people to come to church. The power of the message they sent out depended on the heart they put into the work.

The opening ringing was done by the Calverley company, who have taken a great deal of pains in training the Idle contingent. The other ringers who took part were a selected band of the Yorkshire Association, and the Shipley, Bingley, and Bolton companies. They rang various short touches of Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob Major, and Grandsire.

The ringers present included the Rev. C. C. Marshall, of Leeds (President of the Yorkshire Association), Messrs. W. Idle (Dewsbury), G. Bolland (Tong), J. Cotterill (Halifax), H. Williams (Leeds), Denison Taylor (Loughborough), J. Broadley, P. Maude (Pudsey); S. Wheatley, W. Popplewell, S. Keighley, W. Stanhope, H. Wheatley, W. Lee, C. Pratt (conductor), and F. Waller (Calverley); T. B. Kendall, J. Ross, J. Broadley, G. A. Nettleton, J. Joyce W. Joyce, E. Murgatroyd, and E. Simpson (Shipley); J. Nichols, A. Ainge, B. Norfolk, A. Gill, J. Palfreman, F. Hopwood, B. Howe, S. Palfreman (Bolton); W. Foster, A. Hopewell, J. Jacques, H. Gill, F. Goodings, G. Whittaker, and H. Foster (Bingley).

On the next Saturday the Earlsheaton Society, in answer to an invitation, visited Idle to ring on the new peal of bells. They were met at the tower by Mr. Foster, who gave them a hearty welcome. Four courses of Kent Treble Bob Major were rung, and on its completion the ringers expressed themselves highly delighted with the "go" and tone of the bells, which in their opinion were excellent. The ringers were: A. Goodall, 1; J. Garforth, 2; J. Hewett, 3; H. Dransfield, 4; W. Idle, 5; G. H. Hardy (conductor), 6; H. Dransfield, 7; G. Taylor, 8. Afterwards they were entertained to tea by Mr. Idle. The rest of the evening was spent in handbell ringing.

OBITUARY.

MR. G. A. CRIMP (South Brent).

The oldest and one of the most respected inhabitants of South Brent, Mr. George A. Crimp, passed away at his residence, Balmoral Villa, at the age of ninety-two years. Deceased was a very popular figure, having carried on a saddlery and harness business up to within a few years ago. For over a quarter of a century he was the Vicar's churchwarden. Born at Churchstow in 1822, he spent his younger days on the farm. Deceased was a good ringer, an organist, and violinist, in fact a true lover of music.

5105 STEDMAN CATERS.

BY FREDERICK H. DEXTER (Leicester).

312456789	5	16	
(531264987)			A
134265	I	3	
435261	I	3	
532461	I	2	
231465	I	3	
235461	S	3	
534261	I	2	
431265	I	3	
135264	I	3	
531462	I	1	
(214563879)			B
413562	I	3	
312564	I	3	
215364	I	2	
514362	I	3	
512364	S	3	
213564	I	2	
314562	I	3	
412563	I	3	
214365	I	1	

A commences with 3rd change of a quick six, and 2, 4, 7, 9, 11, 14.

B 4, 5, 8, 9, 12.

The bobs 14 in A, and 12 in B, give the 2nd six of these courses. The big bells are in the Queen's position at the 10th six in first half-peal.

BENTLEY SURPRISE.

BY H. MARTIN (Tonbridge).

12345678	36428517
	36245871
21435768	63428517
12437586	36248157
21345768	63421875
23147586	64328157
32415768	46231875
23145678	64213857
32416587	46128375
23461578	64218735
32645187	46127853
36241578	41628735
63425187	14267853
36245817	41268735
63428571	14628375
63245817	14263857
36428571	Bob
63245871	16423875

The above method has only two false course-ends against it, tenors together—32546 and 46253.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A well attended meeting of the Western Division was held at Pulborough. Ringers were present from Arundel, Angmering, Brighton, Billingshurst, Chichester, Heene, Slingfold, Shipley, West Tarring, Warnham, and some of the local band, and also Miss Parker, Hon. Secretary of the Ladies' Guild, Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Treble Bob and Double Norwich Major, and a course of Cambridge Surprise Major were rung, Miss Parker taking part.

The Jasper Snowdon Series.

ROPE-SIGHT. 1s. 6d., sixth ed.; 150 pages; treats Plain Bob; commences on three bells.

GRANDSIRE. 2s. 6d.; second ed.; 264 pages; commences on five bells; complete with the Charts of W. H. THOMPSON, Esq., etc.

STANDARD METHODS. 2s. 6d.; fifth ed.; revised; Diagrams alone 1s. 6d.; 41 pages; Letterpress alone 1s. 6d.; 100 pages.

STEDMAN. 2s. 6d.; 275 pages, by the Rev. C. D. P. DAVIES, M.A., with an appendix by Sir ARTHUR HEYWOOD, Bart., etc., etc.

TREBLE BOB. Part I. 1s. 6d.; second ed.; with appendix; 108 closely printed pages. Part II., suited for Conductors only; very scarce; 2s. 1½d.; 236 pages.

DOUBLE NORWICH C.B. Major. At present out of print.

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dge., Belfast Assembly Hall, Magdalen College

(Oxford), and many others to Lord Grimthorpe's designs.

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Imperial Institute, Canterbury, Edinburgh, St.
Albans, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough, Melbourne
(Australia), Rochester, Dublin (St. Patrick's), Man-
chester and Worcester Cathedrals, etc., etc.

The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1915

The Provinces.

THRAPSTON, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 17, 1915, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES.

John Coleman	Treble	Walter Gilbert	5
Frank Kirk	2	Leslie Groom	6
Wm. J. Gilbert	3	Daniel Redhead	7
Fred Arnold	4	Jas. Nickerson	Tenor

Composed by E. J. Gale, and Conducted by James Nickerson.

Rung to celebrate the 21st birthday of the ringer of the 6th.

DARLEY DALE, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(Darley Dale Society.)

On Wednesday, April 21, 1915, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 15½ cwt. in F.

Bernard Allsop*	Treble	William Taylor	5
Alfred C. Wright†	2	Edwin Blackwall	6
Henry Gregory	3	James L. Wright	7
Thomas White	4	John W. Derbyshire	Tenor

Composed by J. J. Parker, and Conducted by Alfred C. Wright.

*First peal and first attempt. †50th peal; 25th as conductor. Rung at the wedding of Mr. Hugh W. Gregory, and also on the birthday of Private John Siddall, 6th Sherwood Foresters, both members of the above Society.

SUTTON COLDFIELD, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Thursday, April 22 1915, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES 5040 CHANGES;

Thrustans' Four-Part.

Tenor 24 cwt. in E flat.

William Parr*	Treble	William Allsop	5
Charles Waitman	2	Thomas Bloore	6
George Garrison	3	Bertram G. Leedham	7
George Roberts	4	James Reynolds	Tenor

Conducted by Thomas Bloore.

*First peal away from the tenor. This peal was rung in honour of Mr. Thomas Matthews, who has now completed 40 years as a ringer in the above tower, 30 years as tower-keeper, and is in his 25th year as deputy parish clerk. In thanking him for his kindness after the peal, the ringers all expressed their best wishes, and hoped that they may be able to renew the compliment on his jubilee. All the above are service ringers except Mr. Garrison, who hails from Erdington Parish Church.

GLODWICK.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(The Oldham Society).

On Sunday, April 25, 1915, in Two Hours and Thirty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

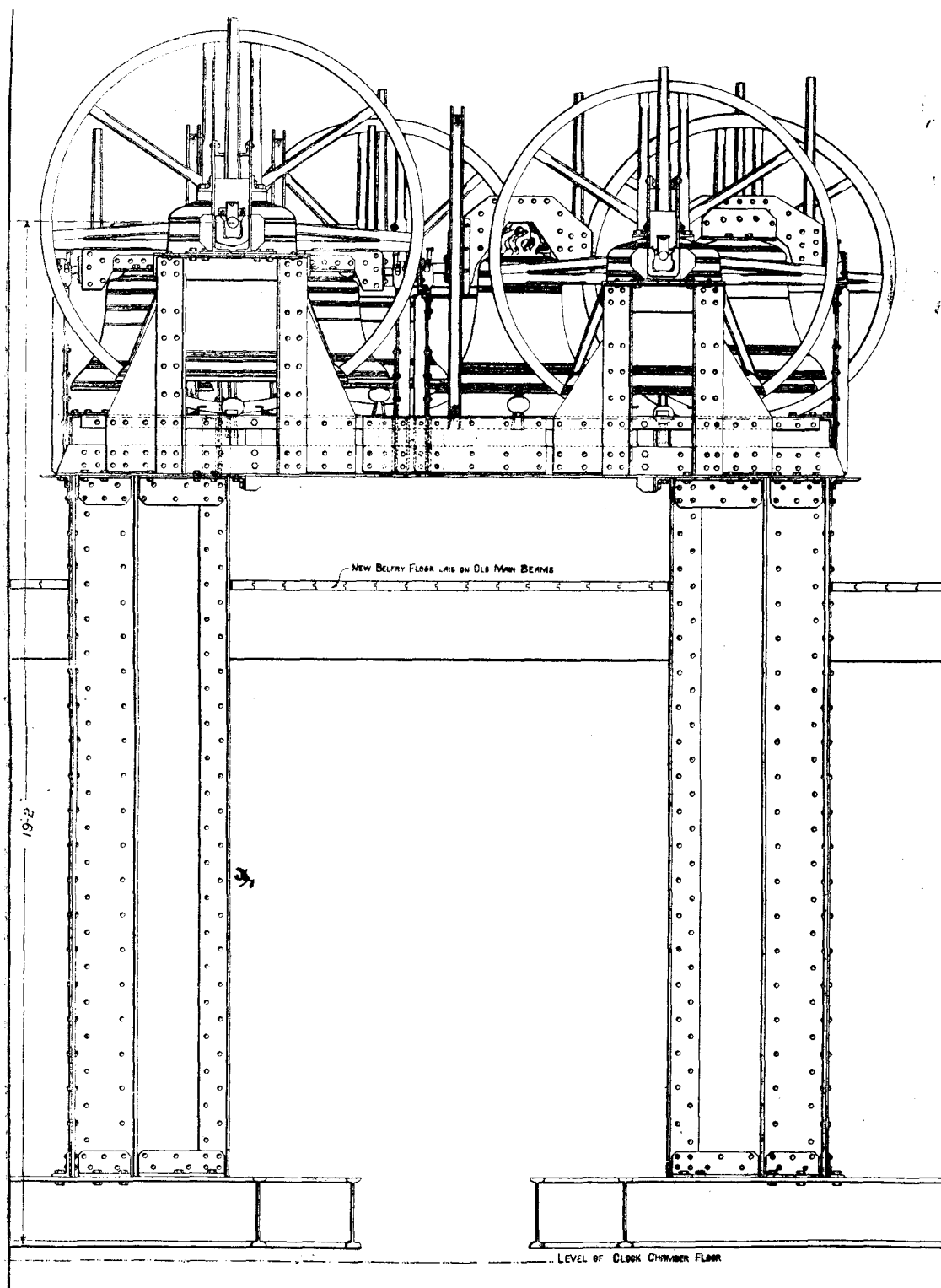
J Carter's 12-Part.

Tenor 8½ cwt.

Isaac Schofield	Treble	James W. Taylor	5
Fred Crossland	2	James Lees	6
Samuel Stott	3	Albert Clegg	7
Joseph Ogden	4	James Garlic	Tenor

Conducted by Samuel Stott.

Ms. Ogden hails from Moorside; Stott and Garlic from Oldham Parish Church.



Vertical Cantilever Bell Frame for St. Michael's Church, Bray-on-Thames
(Patent No. 14148.) (Tenor 26 cwt., Note D.)

JOHN WARNER & SONS, Ltd.,
THE SPITALFIELDS BELL FOUNDRY, LONDON, E.

LEGITIMACY OF METHODS.

By REV. C. D. P. DAVIES, C.C. SECRETARY.

(Continued).

In continuation of my objections to the obligatory imposition of Plain Bob lead-ends.

(2) It is needless. In the ordinary course of life we submit willingly to many little rules and restrictions, because experience has proved them to be beneficial. In ringing most of us would, I suppose, be ready to do the same. It would doubtless be so with the rule as to Plain Bob lead-ends, could they be shewn to serve any useful purpose. But here they signally fail. To begin with, what are these lead-ends? They are the lead-ends which happen to be produced in Plain Bob, the simplest of all treble-dominated methods—a method in which, except when the treble intervenes, the working bells course each other up and down throughout the whole course, and in which they happen to course each other in the order 2, 4, 6, 8, 7, 5, 3. That is all that they are, and nothing more. There is nothing essentially excellent in them, and no ghost of a reason why they should be adopted in any other methods. That they have been adopted in many methods is easily explicable when it is considered how methods used to be produced, viz., by piecemeal patching. Take Bob Minor as an instance. When it began to be a little monotonous, it was natural to try and see what would happen if, in addition to the second's place when the treble was in front, fifths were also made when it was behind. It was found that it would work all right, and not only so, but oddly enough, the lead-ends were positively the same, though in a different order! When Double Bob in its turn began to be wearisome, they naturally tried something else. How would it be, for instance, to let a bell make fourths just before the treble reached that place and fourths again as soon as it had passed it on its downward path? The result was satisfactory, and, wonderful to relate, the same lead-ends again appeared! The next step was easy and natural. "Let us see if we cannot find some more tricks of this sort, and yet preserve the lead-ends." And so the game went on till many methods, some good and some bad, were thus produced, including for instance, such a beautiful production as Double Norwich Major, or, in Treble Bob methods, such an one as Superlative Surprise. Nothing short of absolute proof to the contrary will convince me that they were produced otherwise than by trial and error, i.e. by haphazard and happy-go-lucky. This is quite sufficient to account for the common occurrence of the Plain Bob lead-ends, but is no sort of argument in favour of any intrinsic value inherent in them.

All that can be said in favour of the Plain Bob lead-ends is that they are the lead-ends that happen to be produced in a plain Method when the bells course each other in the order, 2, 4, 6, 8, 7, 5, 3. But the moment that we quit the more simple methods and embark on methods in which the duty of the working bells is complicated, this coursing of each other vanishes, and in the Surprise Methods there is practically not a trace of it left. In the interior of the lead the bells are completely mixed up, and to say that they course each other is to use words without meaning. In view of writing these papers I carefully studied about the first twenty or thirty of Mr. Trollope's articles entitled "What is a Legitimate Method," in the hope of finding some arguments on behalf of the definitions adopted by the Committee on this subject (of which he is a member), and in particular of finding some attempted justification

for their rule of Plain Bob lead-ends, but, so far as I could discover, he seems tacitly to take them for granted throughout, and complacently to regard them as quite outside the regions of doubt or question. It was therefore useless for me to study the articles any further. But the impression conveyed to me by those that I did read has an interesting bearing on the point immediately before us, viz., that of the complete mixing up of the bells in the interior of the lead in the more complicated methods. It is that his articles seemed to be almost, if not wholly taken up with the attempt to classify and name all the various places made in the leads of these methods, and to sort out the innumerable ramifications, substitutions, interchanges and replacements that the bells undergo, and to ticket each one of them with a label—in short the whole of them taken together form eloquent and conclusive testimony to the truth of my assertion that the bells are completely mixed in the interior of the leads. The plain fact is that all sorts of explanations and excuses have to be invented for the absence of any approach to "coursing order" within the lead. Within the lead the bells may squirm and wriggle like tadpoles in a tub, provided only that they be found squatting in the magic circle at the end of it! Then where is any real use in the magic circle, i.e. in the Plain Bob lead-ends? Emphatically none. They are needless. Curiously enough independent testimony much to the same effect, has come recently in a sentence of a letter written to me by Mr. E. H. Lewis, another member of the Legitimate Methods Committee, who, speaking of two of the Methods in the Committee's forthcoming Collection of Legitimate Major Methods, says that "they get the bells out behind out of the coursing order." So the magic lead-ends are not so magic after all! They cannot keep the bells in the "coursing order." They are not only needless; they are futile. While harmless in some respects, and quite admissible as one of many sets of lead-ends, they should certainly cease to be of obligation.

(3) I have just said that they are harmless in some ways. But so long as they are laid down as the only pattern admissible they are worse than that. They are positively mischievous, which is my third ground of complaint against them. The reason is obvious, and can be stated in a sentence or two. It is that their retention as the sole form allowable for lead-ends bars the way to the adoption and use of scores of good methods. In Triples we have only to mention Union, already named once or twice in these papers, while on other numbers of bells, even in such a comparatively small collection as that of Snowdon's Standard Methods, we have, among Minor methods, Violet, New London Pleasure, Duke of York, Woodbine, College Pleasure, City Delight, and of Major methods Double London Court that refuse to pronounce the Committee's Shibboleth. It is therefore evident that the retention of the Plain Bob lead-ends, and those of kindred nature on odd numbers of bells, as the only legitimate lead-ends acts in a mischievous manner as barring the door against a large number of methods of value and beauty.

(4) At least one more complaint do I urge against the rule in question. It is entirely new-fangled, and so far as I can discover was never heard of as a rule till it found an unhappy birth as such in the brain of some imaginative member of the Legitimate Methods committee. This is shewn by the mere mention of the methods just named above, the inclusion of which in "Standard Methods" shews beyond a doubt that the idea had never crossed the mind of such a brilliant and recent exponent

of the science as the late Jasper Snowdon. Nor had John Holt ever heard of such a whimsical notion, for then, of course, without saying that the Exercise would never have been enriched by his inimitable six-part peal of Union Triples.

On these grounds I am opposed to it. Indeed, the more one thinks of it, the more arbitrary, gratuitous, and irrational does it appear.

Hoping, as I do, to be able to induce the Council to withdraw its continuance from the definitions and rules quoted at the outset of these articles, it is incumbent on me to propose others in their stead.

WHAT IS A LEGITIMATE METHOD?

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

THE LAW OF THE PROPER SUCCESSION OF THE NATURE OF THE ROWS.—(Continued).

3. The third reason which is given why this law should be made binding, is for the sake of the music. Music in ringing depends primarily on the constant shifting of the bells, which produces a constantly changing rhythm, and it is this and this alone which saves it from intolerable monotony. Everyone who has rung call changes and is a change-ringer, must have noticed how very quickly one tires of the same row however musical it may be in itself. Five minutes of stoney seems an age. This is due no doubt chiefly to the fact that call changes make very little more demand on a man's ability than turning a mangle, to use Mr. Snowdon's simile; but it is also largely due to the monotony of the music. In call changes every bell continually makes a Place unless otherwise ordered, and the antithesis is the Method in which the fewest possible Places are made, that is the Method which observes the law. Speaking generally, then, we may say that it is for the advantage of the music that only the minimum number of Places should be made in a Method.

But that is only a part of the truth. For a Method to produce good music, two things are primarily necessary. First that it should keep as near as possible to the coursing order of its Primary Principle, and secondly that it should have as much double dodging as possible.

The first of these conditions is usually stated that the tenors should be kept together as much as possible, but of course a Method in which all the Working Bells work alike, makes no distinction between keeping 7-8 together more than 2-3 or 4-6. And, as a matter of fact, just in the same proportion that you keep 7-8 together, so you will also keep the next musical bells 8-6 together.

There are two things, and I think two things only, that really constitute music in bellringing. The first is the striking together behind or in front of bells that are musically in harmony, and the backing up of these bells (so to speak) by other suitable bells in 5-6 and 3-4. To bring out the full value of a musical combination you must have dodging, otherwise the effect is lost before it is made, and the effect of two harmonious bells dodging in 7-8 is greatly enhanced or hindered by what bells you have working in 5-6.

The second thing that makes music is the regular sustained beat of the heavy bells, the effect which is produced by the big bells coursing in the Tittum position in Grand-sire Caters, or of the big bells in plain course order in Treble Ten.

I have compared the effect of a dodge in ringing to that of a rhymed line in poetry, a repetition with a difference;

we may likewise compare the Tittum position to the stately cadence of blank verse.

Now the point is, how far will the observance of the rule that only the minimum number places should be made help us to get Methods with dodging of harmonious bells behind, or with a regular sustained beat of the big bells? And experience will answer that in many cases it is a great help and in many cases a great hinderance.

Speaking broadly, all those Methods founded on the Plain Principle in which all the places made are turning places of the Principle moved inward, will be more musical than those Methods formed by adding fresh places. For the new places alter the coursing order of the Working Bells and thus inevitably not only tend to part the tenors, but also to bring up unmusical combinations before and behind besides breaking the rhythm of the big bells.

But in Methods founded on the Treble Bob Principle it is otherwise. That Principle is naturally false, and the first thing is to clear the falseness; till that is done you cannot think of music. To clear the falseness you must add places, and experience again will show that those Methods which break the rule that there should be only a minimum number of places are more likely to produce good music than those that keep it.

Let us make a comparison. The first four rows of the plain course of Oxford keep the rule, the first four rows of Kent break it. Taken by themselves I think we may safely say that these rows of Oxford are musically more satisfying than the four of Kent. But look at the effect on the whole course. To get the superiority of those four rows, you sacrifice the musical capacity of four leads. That is a typical case, and the more one examines Treble Bob Methods (I do not mean two or three, but scores and hundreds), the more one must be convinced that if you are going to say that only these Methods are legitimate in which the minimum number of Places are made, you are going to sacrifice those Treble Bob Methods which are best capable of producing good music. I am quite prepared to admit exceptions. Superlative keeps the rule, and take it all round, the plain course of Superlative is the most musical collection of rows that there is in change-ringing. But Superlative also helps to prove my case, for directly you begin to call bobs you cannot avoid unmusical combinations, and just in proportion as the long dodging of 8 6 behind is satisfactory, so is the long dodging of 8 2 bad. Cambridge cannot produce such bad music as Superlative can and does.

NEW PUBLICATION.

Mr. John Lane has just published a book on the Carillons of Belgium and Holland, by W. Gorham Rice, illustrated with 32 photographs. This book should be of particular interest at the present time, when many of these fine peals have been destroyed, with the magnificent towers that contained them. (Demy 8vo. 6s. net.)

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PENTRE, RHONDDA.—On Thursday, April 22nd, for practice at the Church of St Peter, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 48 mins. H. Page, F. Wines, F. Lasbury, T. Page (conductor). T. Hamlin, G. Wines, W. Page, H. Crabbe. First quarter-peal in the method by the ringers of the 2nd and 3rd. Also 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. F. Lasbury, H. Page, B. Davies, W. Page, T. Hamlin, G. Wines, T. Page, J. Cross. First touch of Major by the ringer of the treble.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

Bow.—On Sunday evening, April 25th, at the Church of St. Mary, a quarter-peal of Treble Bob Major. E. Gibbs, H. Spring, all. R. Turner, J. Scholes, T. Langdon, W. Truss, E. Hall. H. Langdon (conductor). Rung in honour of the 29th anniversary of the wedding of Mr. J. Scholes.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WORTLEY (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, April 25th, for Divine Service at St. Michael's Church, 1152 Bristol Surprise Major in 46 mins. J. Butler, Dr. W. O. Talbot, R. Thomas W. Wood P. J. Johnson (R.M.), F. Smallwood, H. Lindsay, H. Williams (conductor).

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ACTON.—For Men's Service at St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, April 18th, a quarter peal of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins. W. Lawrence, H. Cooke, C. Iles, R. Holloway, C. Huot, A. Harding, F. Skevington (conductor), J. W. Fruin. For morning service at St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, April 25th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. C. Edwards, R. H. Boddington, V. Holloway, J. W. Fruin, R. Holloway, B. Brewer, Sergt. J. R. Mackman (conductor), A. E. Smith.

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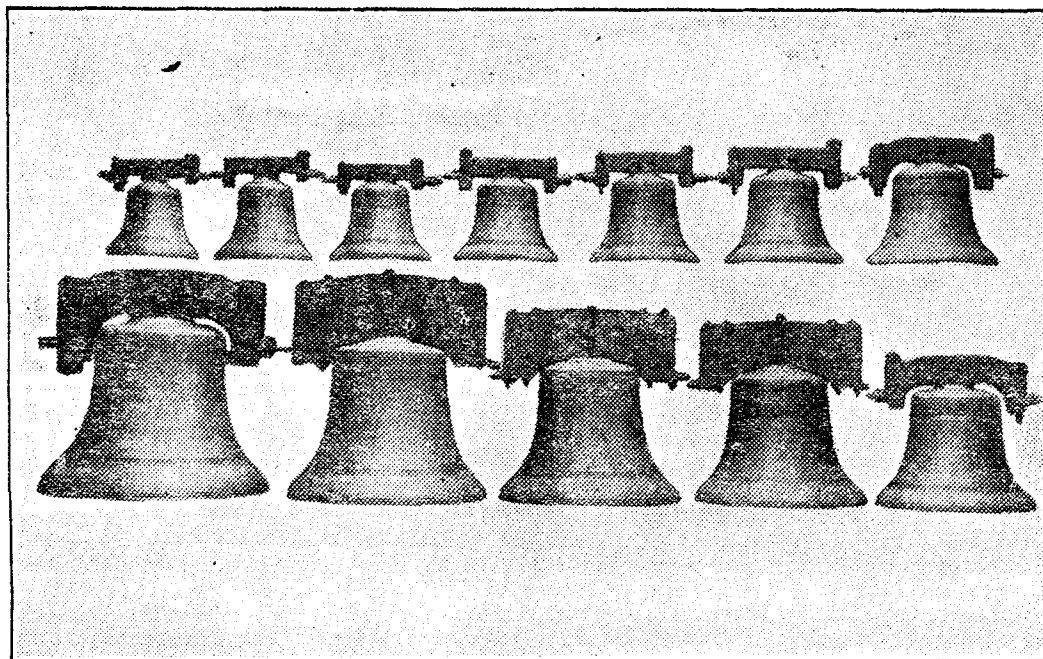
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Notices.

The charge for the insertion of Notices under this heading Sixpence for 30 words, for the first insertion; repetitions at half that price. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane E.C., for handbell practice on May 6th and 20th; and for business on May 11th and 25th, all at 8 p.m. Also at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, for practice, on Saturdays, at 7.30 p.m.

William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec.

32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths.—Ringing for Divine Service at St. Martin-in-the-Fields the first Sunday in the month, and at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, the third Sunday, both at 10 o'clock. Meetings for practice at Shoreditch every third Monday at 8 p.m.

H. J. Bradley, Sec.

Parish Church, Shoreditch.

The London County Association (late the St. James Society.—Established 1824.—Northern District.—The next meeting will be held at the Church of St. John-at-Jerusalem, South Hackney, on Saturday, May 15th. There will be ringing from 4.30 p.m. to 8.0 p.m. after which a business meeting will be held at 8.30 p.m. at the "Earl of Derby." All ringers welcome.

L. B. Porter, Hon. Sec.

1 Canonbury Mansions, Canonbury, N.

Guild for the Archdeaconry of Salop.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Church Stretton on Saturday, May 1st. Ringing at the Parish Church at 3 p.m. Business meeting at 5 p.m. in the vestry.

H. B. Beckwith, M.A., Hon. Sec.

Ridgemoat, Shrewsbury.

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Nicholas, Newchurch, on Saturday, May 1st. Bells ready from 5 o'clock. Meeting at 7.30 p.m.

J. H. Haydock, Branch Sec.

Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—A meeting will be held at Weston on Saturday, May 1st. Tea at Glass' Restaurant at 4.15 p.m. Meeting to follow. Service in the Parish Church at 5.30. Bells available all the afternoon.

Taunton

E. E. Burgess, Hon. Sec.

Alteration of Date.—The Kent County Association.—Lewisham District.—The next meeting will be held at St. John's, Deptford, S.E., on Saturday, May 8th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service and address by the Rev. W. F. Jepson (Vicar), at 5.30 p.m. Tea to follow in the Whidbourne Institute. Those who intend to be present at tea must let me know not later than first post, Tuesday, May 4th.

T. Groombridge, Hon. Dis. Sec.

35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

The Lancashire Association.—Half-yearly meeting at Middleton, Saturday, May 15th. By kind permission of the authorities the bells of St. Leonard's will be available from 3.30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the schools at 5.30 p.m.

W. H. Shaker, } Hon. Secs.
J. H. Banks, }

The Kent County Association.—Canterbury District.—The annual meeting will be held at Canterbury on Saturday, May 15th. The bells of the Cathedral (10), will be available from 2 till 2.40 p.m., and after the tea. St. Stephen's (8), St. Alphege (6), and St. Dunstan (6) from 2 till 8 p.m. Divine Service in St. Alphege Church at 4.30 p.m. Tea at Gaywood's Restaurant, High Street, at 5 p.m., for which a charge of 6d. per head will be made. Business meeting after the tea. All subscriptions should be paid before this meeting. Will all those who intend being present kindly let me know by Tuesday, May 11th.

Boughton, Faversham.

E. Trendell, Hon. Dist. Sec.

The Sussex County Association.—The Annual General Meeting will be held in Brighton on Saturday afternoon, May 8th. Meat tea at 4.30 p.m. Tickets 1s. 6d. each, followed by usual business meeting. Service in St. Nicholas Church at

6 p.m. Half fares—without limit—as also 1s. towards cost of tea, allowed only to members resident in the county, who notify me by Wednesday, May 5th, of their intention to be present. For place of meeting see next week's issue of this paper.

Vale Road, St. Leonards.

G. Watson, Hon. Gen. Sec.

The Essex Association.—The Annual Meeting will be held on Whit Monday at Chelmsford. Divine Service at the Cathedral with address by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese at 11.30. Business Meeting in the Vestry Hall at 12.30. Lunch in the Boys' Schoolroom at 1.30. Members intending to be present MUST WITHOUT FAIL notify to me before Wednesday, May 19th.

Great Totham.

Henry T. W. Eyre, Hon. Sec.

THE LANGHAM REFRESHMENT ROOMS, THORLEY, BISHOPS STORTFORD.—Accommodation for Cyclists and others. Clubs and Parties catered for.—Charges moderate.—Proprietor: HENRY J. TUCKER.

TWO QUERIES.

Could you give me the address of a band of MUSICAL handbell ringers in South London which I could join, as I particularly want to take up handbell ringing as a pastime. Would be much obliged if you could tell me the Secretary's name or address, or perhaps your readers could furnish same.

HENRY W. BARNEY.

Can a bell while being rung miss picking up part of the rope, and then after being rung back to pick the rope up next time, and the ringer be able to continue on without inconvenience? If not what is the meaning of a bell "casting its rope?" There may be more than one opinion on this. We should like to hear them.

EXMINSTER, DEVON.

A supper has been given to all the employees, their wives, and the bellringers at Towsington to celebrate the wedding of Miss May Burrington and Mr. Frederick John Discombe. Between 30 and 40 sat down to an excellent repast. After supper the health of the bride and bridegroom was drunk. The bride was well known, very popular, and much respected among all the parishioners.

SHEPshed, LEICESTERSHIRE.

An entertainment, including dramatic sketches, was given at Shepshed by Loughborough ladies and gentlemen, in aid of the Shepshed Parish Church tower and spire fund. The bells cannot be rung owing to the condition of the tower.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.**LIST OF PUBLICATIONS**

To be obtained, Post Free, from (and only from) the Hon. Librarian, Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, Broadlands, Caversham, Reading.

	s.	d.
On the Preservation of Bells	...	4
Glossary of Terms	...	5
Model of Rules for an Association...	...	3
" " Local Company	...	3
Rules and Decisions of the Council	...	6
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" " Sec. II	...	9
" " Sec. III	...	1 0

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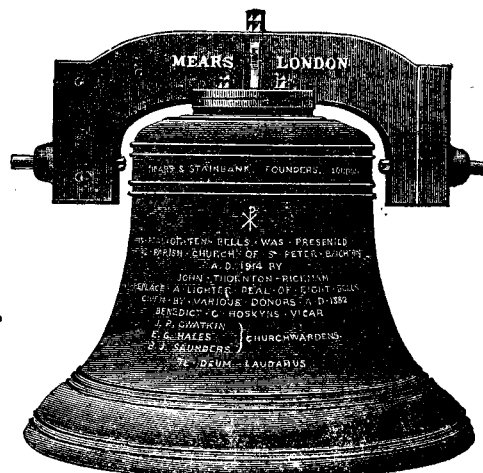
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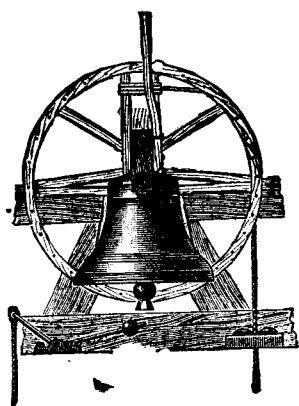
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