

1780

On Monday, the 6th of December 1779,
At ASHTON-UNDER-LINE,
Will be Rung for the first Time, by old JOHN MOSS (the Sexton there,) and his SEVEN SONS,
A New MUSICAL PEAL of Eight BELLS,
Cast by Mr. RUDELL, of GLOUCESTER;

ALSO,

On the same Day, in the Parish Church, at Ashton-under-line,
WILL BE PERFORMED,

The SACRED ORATORIO
OF

JUDAS MACCABAEUS,

The first Violin, by Mr. *Burchall*; the principal Seconds, by Mr. *W. Wainwright* and Mr. *Sidebottom*; the Violincello, by Mr. *R. Wainwright*; and the Organ, by Mr. *Buckley*.

The principal Singers at Present engaged are, Miss *Burke*; and Mr. *Ogden*. The Choruses will be rendered as full as possible, by the best Band which can be collected, with Trumpets, Drums, &c. Between the Acts of the Oratorio, will be performed a QUARTETT, by Messrs. *Burchall*, *Wainwrights*, and *Buckley*.

The doors to be opened at Eleven o'Clock, and begin at Half past.—Old Rood Loft, 2s.—Other Lofts, 1s.—Bottom of the Church, 6d.

Tickets to be had at Mr. *Cowgill's*, *Spread Eagle*, in *Manchester*; of Mr. *James Keys*, in *Mottram*; Mr. *Robert Knott*, the *White Hart*, and of Mrs. *Whitehead*, at the *Angel*, in *Ashton-under-line*.

N.B. On *Tuesday* the 14th [*sic*] of *January* 1780, will be a Prize-Ringing on the aforesaid Bells, but no Practice will be allowed, except on *Monday* the 6th of *December*, and the Day before that of Ringing.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 23 Nov. 1779 - advert; also same paper Tues. 30 Nov. 1779.)

R I N G I N G.
 On TUESDAY the 4th of *January*, 1780,
 AT THE
 PARISH CHURCH of *Ashton-under-line*,
 WILL BE

Rung for, on Eight BELLS,
 By any SET of RINGERS,
 The Following PRIZES, viz.

	£.	d.	s.	[sic]
THE best PEAL will be entitled to	-	-	2	2 0
The second best to	-	-	1	1 0
The third ditto to	-	-	0	10 6

No practice will be allowed until the 3d of *January*, to such Ringers as have already rung there; but that every Set may have a fair and equitable Chance, such Sets of Ringers as have not rung the said Bells, will be allowed to ring at any Time there, to Peals betwixt and [sic] the 28th of this Instant, and the Censurers to justify themselves from any Calumny that may be thrown upon them, for the Result of their Determination, after the Ringing is over, will make Oath that they have censured justly to the best of their Knowledge, before a Master in Chancery, if their Oaths are paid, for by those that doubt them, subject to Articles then and there to be produced.

[This will be advertised no more]

(Manchester Mercury, Tues. 21 Dec. 1779 - advert)

RINGING. On Wednesday, Jan. 5, 1780, will be given gratis, Five Pair of Wash-leather GLOVES to be rung for, on that complete peal of five new bells in Middleton, Suffolk. The peals to be rung are grandsire and old doubles. Those that chuse to ring for the prize, to enter their names by Eleven o'clock in the forenoon.

A good ordinary will be provided at one o'clock, by their humble servant,
 SAMUEL WILSON.

(Ipswich Journal, Sat. 1 Jan. 1780 – advert.)

TO be SOLD by J. GOODFELLOW, Plumber,
at KETTERING, in Northamptonshire,

One ENGINE to extinguish Fire, with a single Leaver, Copper Barrel, Iron Axle-Trees, convenient to draw up a Passage three Feet wide, required but four men to work, and may supply it with Water all the Time of Working; Cistern contains 40 Gallons, useful for Parishes, or private Property, painted in Colours agreeable to the Purchaser, price Fifteen Guineas.

One larger ENGINE, double Leavers, works with eight Men. Copper Barrel, iron Axle-Trees, Cistern 54 Gallons, convenient as above described, Price Twenty-one Pounds. One Ditto, with a single Iron Leaver, works with six Men, strong Brass Barrel, Iron Axle-Trees, Cistern 54 Gallons, Price Eighteen Guineas.

Likewise a curious Pair of STEELYARDS, made by the late Mr. Tho. Eayre, sen, of Kettering, which will weigh upwards of 30 Cwt to great Exactness, Price Five Guineas.

Also an exceeding Good PERAMBULATOR, made by the said Mr. Eayre, which he used in surveying the County of Northampton.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 3 Jan. 1780 - advert) [Thomas Eayre sen. mapped Kettering c.1720 and produced engravings for John Bridge's *History and Antiquities of Northamptonshire* which was published in 1791. He died in 1757 and his map of the county was published in 1779.]

TO be SOLD, A valuable FREEHOLD

ESTATE, at St. Neot's Huntingdonshire, situated on the River Ouse, late in the Occupation of Edward Arnold, Bell-Founder and White-Smith, consisting of a modern built Brick and sashed House, with large Warehouses, and other Conveniences proper for carrying on the above-mentioned Business, or any Trade or Manufactory where much Warehouse Room is required. The above-named Edward Arnold having assigned his Estate and Effects to Messrs. Gorham and Son, and Messrs. Rix and Hedding, of St. Neot's aforesaid, in Trust for the Benefit of his Creditors, all Persons indebted to the said Edward Arnold, are required immediately to pay their respective Debts to the said Trustees, and the Creditors of the said Edward Arnold are desired to send in their Accounts on or before the 21st of January, 1780, as the first Dividend will be paid at Two o'Clock in the Afternoon on that Day, at the Cross Keys, St. Neot's, and all Creditors neglecting to apply on or before the above Time, will be excluded from the Benefit of the same.

Farther [*sic*] Particulars relating to the Estate may be known by applying to the above Trustees.

(Advert in *St. James's Chronicle or the British Evening Post*, 4 Jan. - 6 Jan. 1780; on Sat. 29 April 1780 Edward Arnold advertised in the *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal* that he was carrying on business as usual - see below.)

On Saturday morning last the Thaxted ringers ushered in the New Year with 5040 changes of Bob major; they performed it with great regularity in three hours and 17 minutes. (*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 7 Jan. 1780)

On Monday last was rung at Shiffnal, by the Union Society of this town, five thousand and forty Bob Major, in 3 hours and 24 minutes; being their first attempt ever for the same at that place, and the only peal of Bob Major ever compleated on those bells.
(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 8 Jan. 1780; similar report in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 10 Jan. 1780)

The opening of the augmented ring of bells at Clare, Suffolk

ON Wednesday next, January 12, will be opened at Clare in Suffolk, A Peal of EIGHT BELLS, compleated by Mr. MEARS, of London, tenor weighing 27 cwt. where those gentlemen who please to favour the town with their company, will meet with agreeable accommodations. To be opened by the Cambridge Company.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 8 Jan. 1780 - advert)

On Wednesday the 12th instant was opened at Clare, in Suffolk, a peal of eight bells, by the gentlemen of Cambridge, and on Thursday morning rung a peal upwards of five thousand bob-major, in three hours and twenty minutes, much to the satisfaction of every spectator. It was observed to the honour of the gentlemen that most of the peal was struck with the greatest regularity ever heard.
(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 21 Jan. 1780; similar, but shorter, report in the *Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 22 Jan. 1780)

On Wednesday last, at the dawning of the morning, the inhabitants of Fareham were amused with a compleat peal of changes for the celebrating of the ensuing festival that day, for the friends of Jervoise Clerk Jervoise, Esq; who, at half past one o'clock, was met on the road, near Cams Park, by twelve boys in white attire, with decorations of orange and true blue, and a most respectful party of Gentlemen and Freeholders, who attended him to the place of festivity, being in the assembly room at the red lion inn, where a most elegant genteel, regular and unconfused entertainment was provided, at the conclusion of which, and after the King, Queen, and all the Royal family had been displayed by the noble President, a multiplicity of constitutional toasts were in circulation; indeed it may be justly said, that scarce ever an afternoon and evening afforded a scene of equal comfort, delight and satisfaction.
(*Hampshire Chronicle*, Mon. 24 Jan. 1780)

The first peal of Cambridge Surprise Major

On Sunday last the Society of London Youths rang, at St. Giles's in the Fields, a true and compleat peal of 5088 Cambridge Surprise, in three hours and twenty six minutes, being the first of that composition ever compleated. From the abstruse method of composition, and the peculiarity of striking the above peal, is esteemed by all connoisseurs who are masters of that art, to be the most intricate performance ever done since the art was invented, and seems to shed a lustre on the performers, so as to rival both ancient and modern performances, and render them candidates for the Temple of Fame.
(*Morning Chronicle, and London Advertiser*, Tues. 1 Feb. 1780)

On Sunday sen'night, the Society of London Youths rung at the Church of St. Giles's in the Fields, London a true and complete Peal of Five Thousand and Eighty Eight *Cambridge Surprise*, being the first of that composition ever compleated (the time, three hours and twenty-six minutes). - From the abstruce mode of Composition and the peculiarity of Striking, the above Peal is esteemed by all Connoisseurs who are Masters of that Art, to be the most intricate performance ever done since the Art was invented, and as such, rivals both ancient and modern performances, and renders the Performers Candidates for the Temple of Fame.

For the satisfaction of all real judges of the Art within the Circuit of this Paper, we give the following Specimen of the intricate mode of the Composition of the above Peal.

One LEAD and a BOB of Cambridge Surprize

12345678	28647513	75183426
21436587	82465731	75814362
12463857	84256713	57183426
21648375	48527631	51784362
26143857	84256731	15873426
62418375	48527613	51837246
62143857	45872631	15382764
26418375	54786213	15837246
62481735	45876123	
26847153	54781632	Bob
28641735	57486123	15382764
82467153	75841632	13587246
	57814362	

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 19 Feb. 1780; quoted in *Bell News* 31 Oct. 1914, without stating source. The method is now called Old Cambridge Surprise Major.)

On Monday Evening last was rung, at Harleston, near this Town, by six Youths, on the same Number of Bells, 5040 Changes complete, in three Hours and fifteen Minutes, the Tenor 20 Cwt. consisting of the seven following Peals, viz. Court Bob, Oxford Treble, Grandsire Bob, College Bob, and Oxford single [*sic*]. And on Thursday last, by the same Hands, Crown Bob, and Cambridge Surprize.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 6 March 1780; only five methods were listed in the press report, but a peal board in the tower includes College Pleasure and College Treble between Oxford Treble and Grandsire Bob (CAW))

On Friday evening the 25th of February was rung by the Lincoln Youths, at St. Peter's at Arches in the city of Lincoln, a compleat 5040 of Mr. Holt's Grandsire Tripples, which was perform'd in 3 hours and 12 minutes, by the following persons;

1st.	Wm. Kirk.	5th. W. Ramsden Eastland.
2d.	Wm. Kendall.	6th. George Bristow.
3d.	Wm. Raynor.	7th. Richard Hyde.
4th.	Wm. Winn.	8th. Jas. Simpson, watch-maker.

The peal was call'd by Wm. Kendall.

(*Stamford Mercury*, Thurs. 9 March 1780; similar report in *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 11 March 1780)

Monday last was rung at St. Peter's-church, a true and compleat peal of grandsire trebles [*sic*], containing 5040 changes, in 3 hours and 24 minutes, by St. James's ringers, being the first ever rung in that church.

(*Felix Farley's Bristol Journal*, Sat. 11 March 1780)

A few days ago died in Nottingham, William Weston, and on Wednesday his corps was deposited in St. Peter's church yard ... As soon as the Corps came near the church, the bells struck up a mourning peal: During the burial service they stop't ringing, but afterwards renewed the peal and continued ringing many hours both there and St. Mary's.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 8 April 1780)

R I N G I N G.

THIS is to give notice to all gentlemen ringers, that there will be rung for, at Binfield Church, on Wednesday the 17th of May, Five very good HATS, by any five men of a company; every company to bring an umpire with them, and the umpire of the winning company will be intitled to a hat. No man to ring but what dines at the ordinary, which will be ready at one o'clock. To begin ringing at three o'clock. No say peal to be rung that day; and no Binfield man to be allowed to ring.

(Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette, Mon. 17 April 1780 - advert)

B E L L F O U N D I N G.

EDWARD ARNOLD, St. Neots, Huntingdonshire, takes this method of informing his friends and the public, That he continues every branch in the bell and brass founding and whitesmith's business, at his foundry and shops in the Priory, in St. Neots, as usual; also makes, repairs and cleans church clocks and chimes, house clocks and watches of all sorts; likewise fire engines and weighing engines for turnpike roads, made and repaired; brass and iron work for mills of all kinds, executed in the best manner.

(Cambridge Chronicle and Journal, Sat. 29 April 1780 - advert)

The opening of the new ring of bells at Kildwick, Yorkshire

On Saturday next will be open'd a NEW PEAL of SIX BELLS, at the Parish-Church of KILDWICK, in Craven, cast by Mess. PACK and CHAPMAN, Bell-Founders, in White-Chapel, London, and hung by SAMUEL TURNER, Bell-Hanger (who has hung bells in all Parts of England) living in White-Chapel, London. - He may be spoke with the Day of opening the Bells, at the above Place.

(Leeds Intelligencer, Tues. 2 May 1780)

On Saturday the 6th inst. was opened at Kildwick, in Craven, a peal of six new bells, cast by Messrs. Pack and Chapman, of White-Chapel, London, and hung by Samuel Turner, their bell-hanger; seven seven hundreds, containing five thousand and forty changes, were rung in three hours and two minutes, by the society of ringers from Bingley; and in the same time by the society of ringers from K[e]ighley.—A great number of people assembled on the occasion, and the bells were allowed by judges to be a fine peal, and give general satisfaction.

P.S. Those persons who want single bells, or peals of bells, casting or hanging, may apply to the above Pack and Chapman, or to F. Hudson, on the Pavement, York, and they may depend on having them done with the utmost dispatch and care.

(Leeds Intelligencer, Tues. 16 May 1780)

R I N G I N G.

ON Friday the 19th of May, will be given by William Cordery, at the Bell in Odiham, Hants, Seven very good HATS, to be Rung for, on a peal of six bells, each peal to continue 15 minutes and five minutes to be allowed between each peal; each set to provide an umpire; no Odiham man will be allowed to ring or to be an Umpire; no less than four sets to ring. No person to ring who does not dine at the ordinary which will be on the table by one o'clock and begin ringing at three.

All ringers will be allowed trials on week days, and on Sundays, after divine service, but no say peals on the day of ringing. The company that rings the best peal to have the hats.

(Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette, Mon. 1 May 1780 - advert)

The augmentation of the ring of bells at Oundle, Rutland

We hear from Oundle in Northamptonshire, that the fine large peal of six bells, so much esteemed by many eminent judges, is now hanging with new frame, &c. and a subscription is rais'd by the inhabitants for the purchase of two treble bells, to make a peal of eight; the bells are cast, and will be hung by Thomas Osborn, bell-founder and hanger, of Downham in Norfolk.
(*Stamford Mercury*, Thurs. 23 March 1780)

We hear from Oundle, in Northamptonshire, that a new peal of bells were lately opened there by some of the principal ringers of that County, and are allowed by many competent judges, to be one of the finest peals of eight bells in the kingdom. The first and second bells were raised by a voluntary subscription of the inhabitants of the said parish, and were cast by Thomas Osborn, Bellfounder, at Downham, in Norfolk. The treble weighs eight hundred and eight pounds, the second nine hundred and two pounds, the tenor twenty-eight hundred. The whole peal was hung by the said Thomas Osborn, with new frames, &c.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 6 May 1780; similar report in *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 27 May 1780; short report in *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 5 June 1780)

R I N G I N G.

TO be Rung for on the 14th of June next, at Hurst, Berks, given by William Wernham, Six very good HATS, to any set of ringers that shall ring the best round peal; each peal to continue 15 minutes, and five minutes between each peal. Each set to bring their umpire and no less than four sets will be allowed to ring unless it is the Landlord's pleasure, and no person to ring (or be an umpire) unless he dines at the ordinary, or pays the same as the ringers. No Hurst man to ring or be an umpire. Dinner to be on the table at one o'clock, and to begin ringing at three.

N.B. Coffee, Tea, Cheesecakes, &c. as usual, and the Bowling-Green is in excellent order.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 22 May 1780 - advert)

The Society of St. Martin's Youths, of this Town, rung on Saturday last 5220 Tittum Bob Royals at St. Michael's Church, Coventry, in three Hours 41 Minutes. - It was the first Peal in that Method ever rung in that City.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 22 May 1780; reported, but with different wording, in *Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 22 May 1780)

RINGING. On Monday the 19th instant will be opened, at Wickham-Skeith in the county of Suffolk, A Complete Peal of Six Bells, the trebles new, and lately cast by Thomas Osborn of Downham in Norfolk, and the peal completed by Henry Haward of Wickham aforesaid. - Likewise to be opened on the same day, A Peal of Twelve Hand-Bells, at the Swan in Wickham aforesaid, where a good ordinary will be provided, and the company of all gentlemen ringers and others esteemed a favor,

By their humble servant, GEORGE LEABON.

☞ Dinner to be on the table by Two o'clock.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 10 June 1780 - advert)

[Ad. by James Green, successor to the late Mr. Robert Romley, bell-founder...]

(*London Evening Post*, Sat. 17 June - Tues. 20 June 1780)

Tuesday se'nnight died suddenly at Swavesey in this county, sincerely regretted by his friends and acquaintance, Mr William Mitham, carpenter and joiner; he was a very ingenious man, and universally esteemed to be the best six-bell ringer in this county.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 1 July 1780 - per Gareth Davies)

R I N G I N G.

TO be Rung for, at WILLIAM MANCEY'S
at SWALLOWFIELD CHURCH, on Thursday the third
of August, FIVE GOOD HATS, and one for the umpire
of the winning set, each set to bring their umpire; the set that
rings the best peal to have the hats, each peal to last fifteen
minutes. No Swallowfield man will be allowed to ring, nor
any set unless they dine at the ordinary, which will be on
the table at one o'clock, and to begin ringing at two. No
less than three sets to ring, and no say peal allowed the day
of ringing.

(Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette, Mon. 10 July 1780 - advert)

On the 9th of July was rung at Thaxted in Essex, a compleat peal of 5040 bob-major, in three hours and five minutes, by J. Cooper 1; J. Lawson 2; J. Moore 3; R. Ingram 4; T. Everitt 5; W. Boatman 6; D. Boatman 7; and A. Redhouse 8. And on the 29th of June, a compleat peal of 5712 bob-majors was rung on the same bells in three hours and 32 minutes, by J. Cooper 1; J. Boatman 2; J. Lilley 3; R. Ingram 4; T. Everitt 5; D. Boatman 6; A. Redhouse 7; and W. Boatman 8. Both the peals were called by J. Cooper.

(Cambridge Chronicle and Journal, Sat. 15 July 1780)

Last Saturday being the Birthday of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, also of his coming of age, there were great rejoicings at East-Bourne, in this county: The morning was ushered in with the ringing of bells, and in the evening there was a bonfire and all illuminations and a ball for the Ladies, which we hear, was honour'd with the presence of their Royal Highnesses the young Princes and Princesses resident there, and was uncommonly grand and splendid.

(Sussex Weekly Advertiser, 14 Aug. 1780)

We hear from Doncaster, that on Thursday afternoon and Friday morning last, the inhabitants of that town were agreeably entertained by the Leeds ringers, who performed several peals of changes, with the greatest propriety, and the best ringing that has ever been remembered by the oldest man living; some attempts indeed were made for the whole peal of Gran[d]sire Tripples (in which there was not the least doubt of success) but was accidentally and repeatedly prevented by the breaking of some of the bell-ropes; however they concluded with the half peal containing 2520 changes, which was performed with the greatest propriety, nicety and distinction, in one hour and 41 minutes, to the great admiration of all that heard them; and what is most remarkable is that in ringing seven thousand changes there was not a single jumble made during the whole performance, notwithstanding the great superiority in weight of metal unto which they had never been accustomed.

(Leeds Intelligencer, Tues. 12 Sept. 1780)

Yesterday se'nnight was rung at Bewdley, in this county, for the first time, a compleat peal of eight bells, cast by Mr. Thomas Rudhall, of Gloucester.

(Berrow's Worcester Journal, Thurs. 5 Oct. 1780)

WRAXHALL, near BRADFORD. WILTS.

TO be RUNG FOR on TUESDAY the 31st of
October, 1780, by any Set of Ringers,
SIX HANDSOME SILVER PUNCH-LADLES.

The Set that Ring the best 30 Minutes Peal will be allowed
the Prize— —Proper Umpires to be chosen there present and
Articles of Ringing to be produced before Ringing.

N. B. Trials any Day except Sunday.

(Bath Journal, Mon. 9 Oct. 1780 - advert)

On Monday November the 6th, will be opened at Wroxham, near Norwich, a new peal of bells, cast by Mess. Pack and Chapman, Bellfounders in London.

(Norwich Mercury, Sat. 28 Oct. 1780)

On Sunday was rang, at St. Olave's, Tooley-street, by the antient and amicable Society of College Youths, a complete peal of 5120 Oxford treble bobs, eight in; it was completed in three hours and 16 minutes.

(*London Chronicle*, Sat. 28 Oct. - Tues. 31 Oct. 1780)

We hear that St. Peter's of Mancroft ringers will begin their annual ringing on Tuesday next.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 4 Nov. 1780)

HALIFAX, October 30th, 1780.

Brass - Foundery.

WILLIAM BOLLAND, Tin - Plate-Worker, Brazier, and Founder, Hereby informs the PUBLIC, That he has fitted up a commodious Brass - Foundery, at Halifax; Where he casts and makes all Sorts of Clock, Engine, and Jack Work; Brass and Princes Metal Candlesticks; bright Brass Pans; Mortars; Brass Ladles; large Brass Cocks; Clock Bells; open Clapper Bells, from 4 oz. to 2 cwt. round Horse Bells; Hand Bells tunable, and compleatly fitted up in Setts of 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 each; Warming Pans; Tea Kettles, &c. Copper Nails and Tacks; Tea Kettle Handles and Knobs ; Brass Condray Plates, and polished in the finest Manner; Boxes for Press Screws of a very approved mixt Metal; Fire-Engine Brass Work compleatly finished; Steps to any Pattern for Mills, Engines, &c. Brass Pullies of any Size; Copper Bottomland Cranes, with any other Article in the Brass Foundery, Braziery or Tin Business:— And where Clock-Makers, Braziers, Engineers, Mill-Wrights and others, may NOW be furnished with the above Articles with Expedition, and upon reasonable Terms.

☞ COACH-HARNESS, &c. matched by Sending a Pattern.—Ready Money for Old Copper and Brass, or the same taken in Exchange for Goods.

(advert in *Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 7 Nov. 1780, per Chris Pickford; also same paper, Tues. 14 Nov. 1780; *Newcastle Courant*, Sats. 4 & 11 Nov. 1780 and *Newcastle Chronicle*, Sat. 11 Nov. 1780.)

On Sunday last, it was requested by several lovers of the Art of Change Ringing, that the Sherwood Society of Change Ringers in this town, would on the morning of Christmas Day favor [*sic*] them with a Peal of Grandsire Triples at St. Peter's Church. - Accordingly 8 of that Society met on Monday morning and rung (for their Amusement only) Mr. Holt's true peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples compleat, on the Musical Peal of 8 Bells at the above Church. The time, 3 hours & 16 minutes.

(*Creswell & Burbage's Nottingham Journal*, Sat 30 Dec. 1780; also *Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 30 Dec. 1780; and *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 1 Jan. 1781)

On Monday December 25, 1780, was rung at Maidstone, 5760 of Bob Major, in three hours and fifty-five minutes by the following Youths

William Walter	Treble	James Swinnock	5
Thomas Cutbrush	2	George Highland	6
Thomas Rawlins	3	Thomas Swinnock	7
Edward Jury	4	Thomas Wellen	Tenor

(*Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 30 Dec. 1780 - Wed. 3 Jan. 1781)

AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE.

From the Barbados Mercury, Oct. 28.

[Description of damage caused by a hurricane]... But amongst all the buildings that were in this place, there is none that strikes the spectator so forcibly as that once noble structure, St. Michael's church!— to see all in ruins a building dedicated to the service of God, which, not more than twenty-eight years ago, had been rebuilt and finished with elegance, a building of one hundred feet in length and sixty wide, within the walls, exclusive of very large chancel, and which had often held more than three thousand persons at a time, in which was an organ in complete order, worthy of a place in the largest church in the world, a steeple (which contained an excellent clock and a peal of eight bells) whose height from the foundation was one hundred and twenty-four feet; to behold all this tumbled into one heap, and in many places levelled with the ground, seems to fill the Christian soul with more than it can bear;...

(*Saunders's News-letter*, Fri. 5 Jan. 1781)

1781

Cambridge, Jan. 2.

Monday morning last, being the commencement of the new year, a complete peal of 1781 Grandsire Catons was rung at St. Mary's church in this town, in one hour and sixteen minutes, and called by Mr. Hazard, master of the Bell public house on the Pease-Hill. It is to be observed, to the honour of the composer of this singular length, that the greatest variety of melodious changes are alternately diffused throughout the peal; to which add the serenity of the morning, and the regularity of the striking, with the reverberation of the adjacent water, rendered it one of the most pleasing performances that can be produced in the composition of ringing.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 5 Jan. 1781)

On New Year's Day was rung at Christ Church Cathedral, by the Company of Oxford Youths, a complete Peal of One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty-one Grandsire Catons.

Also on Thursday last was rung, at the same Place, by the said Company, a complete Peal of Five Thousand One Hundred and Forty-Eight Grandsire Catons, in three Hours and Thirty-five Minutes; being the greatest Number rung at that Place for upwards of Forty Years.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 6 January 1781; similar report in *Reading Mercury*, and *Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 8 Jan. 1781, under the by-line 'Oxford, Saturday, January 6.')

On Monday last (New Years Day) the Society of Change Ringers of this Town, rung a compleat peal of 1781 Grandsire Catons, (being the date of the year) the peal was composed by Mr. John Martin, in which was contained the long twelve hundred course with the sixth behind the ninth.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 6 Jan. 1781)

A peal at Leeds, Kent

Monday the 1st instant was rung at Leeds, a complete peal of 5040 changes Bob Major in three hours and eighteen minutes, by the Leeds *Youth*, methodically in the following order, viz. — Henry Tilby the Treble, aged 81 years; Richard Masters 55; Thomas Barham 58; Abraham Barham 65; John Crispe 55; John Freeland 69; James Barham 55; and Thomas Lacey 53, the Tenor; which number of years added together is 491: and who have a sufficiency of ambition to ring with any eight *Striplings* in the whole world, whose number of years added together are equal to the above quantity.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Wed. 3 Jan. - Sat. 6 Jan. 1781; also *Canterbury Journal*, Tues. 9 Jan. 1781)

EULOGIUM CAMPANALOGICUM.

To the Tune of the Abbot of Canterbury.

IN seventeen hundred and eighty and one,
To begin the new year as the old one was gone,
Eight sprightly young striplings were met in Leeds
steeple,

All ringers of fame, and I'll tell you the people.

Derry Down.

These active Leeds youths, who accomplish'd this
peal,

Went to it like lions with hearts true as steel.,
In measure and time made the clappers to beat,
Five thousand and forty bob majors compleat.

Derry Down.

The first, Harry Tilby the treble did ring,
He sometimes says Amen, and sometimes does sing,
He rang his bell well from the time he begun,
And I'll tell you his age, it was eighty and one.

Derry Down.

The second, Dick Masters, his bell at command,
And struck her so smart at ropes end and at hand,
In his fifty-fifth year he most artists excels,
In making of shoes and in ringing of bells.

Derry Down.

The third was young Barham, a very good striker,
Than steady young Thomas none keeps his bell

righter,
For he rings her in time, both behind and before,
His age fifty-eight and what would you have more.

Derry Down.

The fourth called Abrah'm, a miller so jolly,
With ringing delighted to drown melancholy,
Sixty five is his age, and a Barham is he,
And understands rightly Campanalogy.

Derry Down.

The fifth, Johnny Crispe, ever steady boys steady,
To make one at any thing always is ready,
His age fifty five, sweet in temper though slow,
Agreeable always, he never says no.

Derry Down.

The sixth was John Freeland, no hater of wine,
Basket making his trade, though his age sixty nine,
He rings always well, though as deaf as a beetle,
And is second to none of the youths in Leeds steeple.

Derry Down.

The seventh, a Barham of very great fame,
A noted bob caller, and James is his name,
His age fifty-five and he bobs them about,
And keeps his bell right till the peal is rung out.

Derry Down.

The eighth was Tom Lacy, a sturdy young blade,
And perfect in time the deep tenor he play'd,
There's none can excel him a tenor to ring,
His age fifty-three; and so God save the King.

Derry Down.

Such a noble performance has never been done,
Their ages four hundred and ninety and one,
You'll ne'er find their equals, I'd venture to tell,
If you search the world round they will still bear the
belle.

Derry Down.

So now brother ringers of every degree,
With your bells and your bottles be merry and free,
Then fill up your glasses for here my song ends,
Drink a health to brave Fairfax, and Martin, and
friends.

Derry Down.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 27 Jan. - Wed. 31 Jan. 1781; a report of the peal appeared in the same paper on Sat. 6 Jan. 1781, for which see above.)

On New Year's Day was rung by the Crypt Youths, a complete peal of 1781 changes grandsire tripples.
(*Gloucester Journal*, Mon. 8 Jan. 1781)

Last Friday (being Old Christmas-Day) was rung, at Spratton, in this County, by the Society of Ringers there, 5520 Changes, on five Bells, being 46 Six-Scores, in three Hours and 18 Minutes.
(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 8 Jan. 1781)

On New Year's day was rung at Wakefield, by the ringers of that place, 3360 changes of tripples [*sic*] bob, commonly called Union Bob, in 2 hours and 13 minutes, with the greatest exactness.
(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 9 Jan. 1781)

On New-Year's Day was rung at Wakefield, by the Ringers of that Place, 3360 Changes of Tripple Bob, all Eight in, commonly called UNION BOB, in two Hours 13 Minutes, being the first Time that Peal Has ever rung in this County. It was performed with the greatest Propriety and Distinction, to the Admiration of all who heard it. The Tenor is 24 Cwt.
(*York Courant*, Tues. 9 Jan. 1781)

On Thursday the 4th inst, was rung through at Biddenden, a true and compleat peal of seven hundred and twenty changes of Oxford Treble Bob, by the Biddenden Youth. [*sic*]

Robert Pullen	Treble	William Chantry	4
John Stone	2	John Hopper	5
Richard Pullen	3	Thomas Dean	Tenor

It is expected in future that the Gentlemen Ringers, who wish to proclaim their fame through the County do pay for the same.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 6 Jan. - Wed. 10 Jan. 1781; the footnote is in italics - clearly an editorial comment, and subsequent reports of appear as adverts.)

If the Gentlemen Ringers will refer to our paper of Saturday, January the 10th, they will there see what is necessary to be done if they wish to publish to the world their fame and abilities.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 20 Jan. - Wed. 24 Jan. 1781; the day of the week is as given in the editorial comment.)

BRASS CANNON

ARE made at T. PYKES Foundry in Bridgewater, Somerset, upon a new and improved construction, and of a new composition, which stand the Woolwich or Government pr[?]. Merchants and Captains of privateers may be supplied on the shortest notice. These guns are mounted upon swivel stocks, sliding carriages, or wheel carriages, like the common guns now in use on board his Majesty's ships of war; and, by means of a semi-circular solid piece of brass, working on a spring, are pointed and fired at any object with ten times the ease, expedition, and exactness, of any other gun now in use. Fourteen ounces of cannon powder, of the best sort, is a proper load for a six-pounder on the above construction, and will throw a ball and hit a mark near two miles; the four-pounder requires ten ounces, and carries one mile and three-quarters; the two-pounder six ounces, and carries one mile and a half; the one-pounder three ounces, and carries upwards of one mile; swivels in proporti[o]n. The small quantity of powder used in these guns, and their intrinsic value when out of use, as old brass, make them come to the purchaser cheaper than the common cast iron guns.

(Advert in *London Chronicle*, Thurs. 11 Jan. - Sat. 13 Jan. 1781)

On Monday last was rang, by the Belchamp company, at the parish church in Belchamp Walter, and performed with great ease in 2 hours and 59 minutes, a complete peal of 5120 changes of treble bob major. The bobs were called by Robert Halls, Esq; of Broom-hall, Essex.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 13 Jan. 1781; similar reports in *Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 19 Jan. 1781; also *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 20 Jan. 1781, beginning 'On Monday the 8th of January...')

On Monday night last was rung at St. Chad's Church, in this town, by the Union Society, Five thousand and forty Bob Royal, with the 6th in the Tittum course, and at home each eleven times; being the first of that curious composition ever compleated and performed in 3 hours and 24 minutes.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 27 Jan. 1781; similar report in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 29 Jan. 1781)

On Saturday last was rung, at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, by the Society of Cumberland Youths, a true and complete peal of Tittum Bob Royal Ten in, with 40 Bobs only, the Sixth at home, twelve times together; consisting of 5,040 changes, and was completed in three hours and fifty four minuets [*sic*].

(*Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Wed. 28 March 1781)

THOMAS OSBORN, CHURCH BELL-FOUNDER,

continues carrying on the bellfoundery business as usual at his foundery, at DOWNHAM, in Norfolk, where church bells are cast, and likewise gentlemen's dinner bells, shop bells, with or without their hangings, compleated, and sent to any part of the kingdom; best hard brass for mills, on reasonable terms.

N.B. Downham being situated against the side of the river Ouze, church bells may be conveyed by water to many of the principal counties in this kingdom, and on much lower terms than land carriage.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 5 May 1781 - advert)

The opening of the new ring of bells at St. Mary's, Ely

A new peal of eight bells, cast by Edward Arnold, bell-founder, of St. Neots, for the parish church of St. Mary in Ely, will be opened on Monday se'nnight.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 5 May 1781)

On the 11th a new peal of eight bells, cast by Mr. Arnold of St. Neots' for St. Mary's-church, in Ely, was opened by the Cambridge youths, who next day rung 5040 bob majors in three hours and 12 minutes. These bells are allowed by experienced judges to be as fine a peal for their weight as any in the kingdom; the hanging, brasses and iron work, which are on a new construction, are executed in a very masterly manner, and do great credit to Mr. Arnold.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 19 May 1781; also *Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 26 May 1781; and *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 28 May 1781)

On Monday morning last was rung, at All Saints church in this city, by the society of All Saints Youths, a true, complete, and musical peal of 5040 Bob-majors in three hours and 29 minutes. At the close of the peal a concourse of people assembled, who greatly applauded the performers.

(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 24 May 1781)

R I N G I N G.

To be given gratis, at Jacob Pocock's, the Half Moon at Wokingham, Berks, on Tuesday the 3d of July next, Seven handsome gold-laced Hats, to the Company that rings the best round peal; each peal to continue fifteen minutes. No company allowed to ring but what dines at the ordinary, which will be ready at one o'clock, and to begin ringing at three. Each company to provide their own umpire. Two men allowed to the tenor. No Wokingham man allowed to ring; nor will the hats be given, unless there are three companies.—☞ A handsome Silver Watch to be Bowled for, on Monday the 4th inst. at the above house.

(*Reading Mercury, and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 4 June 1781 - advert; also in the issue of Mon. 2 July 1781, without the final reference to bowling.)

On Monday last was rung at Walsall, Holt's peal of 5040 grandsire tripples, in three hours and 16 minutes.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 11 June 1781)

R I N G I N G.

TO be RUNG for, at Cookham, near Maidenhead, Berks, on Friday the 27th instant, Seven Silver-laced Hats, on a peal of six bells. Six Hats for the winning Ringers, and one for the Umpire. Each peal to be fifteen Minutes, and each Set to provide an Umpire.—To begin ringing precisely at Ten o'Clock.

All Ringers will be allowed to ring on Week Days, and on Sundays, after Divine Service; but no Essay Peals on the Day of Ringing.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 7 July 1781—advert; also *Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mons 9 and 16 July 1781.)

Monday last was rung at Belchamp Water [*sic*], in this county, a complete peal of 5040 bob-major, in two hours and fifty-eight minutes. What makes this worthy of observation, is, that one of the gentlemen was Mr. Hale, of Gestingthorpe, who is in the 88th year of his age: his son also, and grandson were of the set. After bringing the bells round, they finished with a course of treble-bob. (*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 20 July 1781; also *Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 21 July 1781; and *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 28 July 1781, starting 'On Monday sen'night was rung at Belchamp Walter in the county of Essex...')

We are desired by several Subscribers to insert the following List of all the Six-Bell Peals that have been rung by the present Ringers of Prestwich—Single Peals, Grandsire Bob, Colledge single ditto, London single ditto, Oxford single ditto, Britannia, and Proud Pedlar.—Double Peals, Colledge Double Bob, Grandsire Double ditto, London double ditto, Oxford double ditto, London Delight, Lancashire ditto, and Court Bob.—Treble Peals, Oxford treble Bob, Colledge treble ditto, Colledge Pleasure, Crown Bob, Morning Exercise, Evening Star, Primrose, Violet, and Tulip.

(*Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 21 July 1781; also *Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 24 July 1781, starting after 'to insert')

The opening of the new ring of bells at Great Baddow, Essex

R I N G I N G

At GREAT BADDOW, near Chelmsford, Essex, a new peal of EIGHT BELLS will be opened on Monday the 13th instant, cast by Mr. MEARS of London. Any number of ringers will be admitted, if they choose either five or six bells, after the company which is first to open them.

(Advert in *Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 3 Aug. 1781)

R I N G I N G at GREAT BADDOW

As a New Peal of Eight Bells will be opened on the 13th instant, at Great Baddow,

Charles Harman at the White Horse Inn, informs his friends and the public, that a good ordinary will be provided at the said Inn.

☞ Dinner on the table at half past two o'clock.

(Advert in *Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 10 Aug. 1781)

R I N G I N G

Monday the 13th Instant, being the Day appointed for opening of a new peal of eight bells at Great Baddow, in the county of Essex, an ordinary will be provided at the Blue Lion, at Great Baddow aforesaid, where the company of all gentlemen will be esteemed a favour by their most obedient servant,

THOMAS NORFOLK,

N.B. Dinner on the table at two o'clock.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 10 Aug. 1781 - advert.)

On Monday a musical peal of bells, cast by Messr. Mears, of London, was opened at Great Baddow, in Essex, by the Chelmsford ringers, who, besides other peals, rung with ease and propriety the complete peal of 5040 bob-majors, in 2 hours and 53 minutes, striking the bells close, to an excellent pitch; and giving full satisfaction to a respectable company assembled on the occasion.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 18 Aug. 1781; also *Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 17 Aug. 1781)

On Monday last was rung, at New College, by eight of the Oxford Youths, a complete Peal of Five Thousand and Forty Grandsire Triples, in three Hours and twelve Minutes. (*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 8 Sept. 1781)

On Monday the 3d instant, was opened by the Society of Leicester Scholars, a peal of ten bells at Norton, in this County, who rung a compleat peal of 5040 Gransire [*sic*] Cators, in three hours and nine minutes. (*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 8 Sept. 1781)

NOTICE to BELL-FOUNDERS.

THERE is wanted at STAVELY, near Chesterfield, in the County of Derby, some eminent and capital Bell-founder, for the Purpose of re-casting one or more of the Church Bells;— and also either a first or sixth Bell is wanted.—Any Person that can produce proper Specimens and Certificates of superior Skill and Abilities in the Profession, may send at the fame Time their Proposals of re-casting per Cwt. and likewise of the Expence of the new Bell per Cwt. to Mr. RICHARD FLINT, Church-Warden of the Parish aforesaid.

STAVELY, Sept. 5th, 1781.

(*Derby Mercury*, Sat. 13 Sept. 1781 - advert)

The Young Society of Wakefield Ringers rang on Sunday last, a true and compleat peal of 5040 trebles, in three hours and 24 minutes. — There is a new peal of eight bells, cast by Mr. Chapman of London, for the church at Sowerby near Halifax, which will be hung by Samuel Turner from London. (*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 25 Sept. 1781)

On Monday last was rung on Chesterfield eight Bells, a Peal of Old Tripples of 5045 [*sic*] in three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes, by the Sheffield Ringers, viz. Jonathan Wyld, Joseph Tricker, John Makin, Antepass Stevens, Richard Owin, Samuel Dutton, Thomas Bab, William Lee, and George Fletcher, Tenor. (*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 27 Sept. - Thurs. 4 Oct. 1781)

The opening of the new ring of bells at Finchingfield, Essex

RINGING.

On Monday next will be opened, a New Peal of Eight Bells, at Finchingfield, in Essex, cast by Mr. OSBORN, of Downham, in Norfolk; gentlemen ringers and others may be agreeably accommodated at the Red-Lion Inn, and their favours will be gratefully acknowledged by

JOHN GREEN

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 5 Oct. 1781 - advert)

E S S E X

On Monday next, Oct. the 8th, will be opened a new peal of EIGHT BELLS, at FINCHINGFIELD in the county of Essex, cast by Mr. Osborn, bell-founder, at Downham in Norfolk.

Gentlemen ringers and others may be agreeably accommodated at the Red Lion inn, and their favours gratefully acknowledged, by their humble servant, J. GREEN.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 6 Oct. 1781 - advert)

On Monday last was opened at Finchingfield, in this county, by a society of gentlemen from Belchamp Walter, a new peal of eight bells, cast by Mr. Osborn, of Downham, in Norfolk. From a numerous company of auditors, the peal was allowed musical, good, and recommendable; demonstrations of joy and satisfaction universally appeared, and the evening concluded with a ball, by the young gentlemen and ladies in the neighbourhood; and after much good ringing the first day, the second day was closed by a select society of gentlemen from Belcham Walter and Cambridge who performed 5040 changes of bob major, in three hours and two minutes, and after bringing the bells round, ended with a course of treble bob.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 12 Oct. 1781; also *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 13 Oct. 1781)

On Monday last was opened at Finchingfield, in Essex, by a society of gentlemen from Belchamp Walter, a new peal of eight bells, cast by Mr. Osborn, of Downham, in Norfolk. From a numerous company of auditors and judges, the peal was allowed musical, good, and recommendable; the second day a select company of gentlemen from Belchamp Walter and Cambridge performed 5040 changes of bob major, in three hours and two minutes, and after bringing the bells round, ended with a course of treble bob.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 13 Oct. 1781)

On Monday last a fine peal of eight bells (cast by Mr. Osborn, of Downham in Norfolk, the tenor in F) was opened at Finchingfield in the county of Essex; and the next morning a compleat peal of 5040 bob-major was very accurately rung, in three hours and two minutes, by part of the society of Cambridge youths and company [*sic*] of Water-Belcham [*sic*], who concluded it with an excellent course of treble-bob, in presence of a numerous company of ringers from various parts of England.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 13 Oct. 1781)

At a general meeting of the parishioners of the Abbey yesterday evening, it was unanimously agreed, that the present Eight Bells should be converted into a Peal of Ten and the whole rehung; towards the expence of which a subscription was immediately opened, when the Union Society of this Town subscribed Forty Pounds.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 20 Oct. 1781)

The new peal of eight bells, cast by Mr. Arnold of St. Neot's, for St. Martin's church in this town, arrived on Wednesday night ... and we hear will be opened on Friday next with a peal of 5040 Grandsire Tribles.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 3 Nov. 1781)

The opening of the new ring of bells at Sowerby, Yorkshire

On MONDAY, October 29, 1781,
WILL BE OPENED,
A New PEAL of EIGHT BELLS,
AT
SOWERBY CHURCH, near Halifax,
They were cast by Mr. *Chapman*, Bell-Founder, in *White-Chapel*, LONDON, and are putting up by *Samuel Turner*,
Church-Bell-Hanger, from *London*.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 23 Oct. 1781 – advert; different advert, *Leeds Intelligencer*, same date.)

On the 29th Inst. will be open'd at Sowerby, near Halifax, a new Peal of eight Bells, cast by Mess. Chapman and Co. Whitechapel, London, and hung by Mr. Samuel Turner, their Bell-Hanger. - Those who want single Bells, or Peals of Bells recasting or hung, may apply to Mess. Chapman and Co. London, or to Mr. Francis Hudson on the Pavement, York.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 23 Oct. 1781)

We hear that on Monday last, the new Peal of Bells was opened at Sowerby church, to a very great number of spectators. At 11 o'clock in the forenoon was performed in the church, the Oratorio of Joshua, to a very crowded audience. Miss Barnes from Manchester, was the principal singer, and gave general satisfaction to the greatest concourse of people they ever had at any meeting. There was upwards of sixteen hundred in the church, and the utmost attention was given through the whole of the performance.

(*Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 3 Nov. 1781)

Yesterday se'nnight, a new peal of eight bells was opened at Sowerby church near Halifax, to a very great number of spectators: at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, the Oratorio of Joshua was performed in the church, to upwards of 1500 persons.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 6 Nov. 1781)

Yesterday Se'nnight was opened at Sowerby, near Halifax, a fine new Peal of eight Bells, by three different Societies of Ringers, who rung 5040 Changes each with the greatest Accuracy and Exactness.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 6 Nov. 1781)

Yesterday se'nnight was opened at Sowerby, near Halifax, a new peal of eight fine musical bells, where a great concourse of people assembled on the occasion, and a variety of ringers, from Wakefield, Halifax, Ashton-under-Line, Leeds and Bradford, who rang alternately all the day; and what is remarkable, there was not less than three times 5040 changes rung on the occasion, by Wakefield, Halifax and Leeds ringers, besides a curious short peal of Bob Major, which was rung by the Ashton ringers in half an hour, with the greatest propriety and exactness; but the best peal that was rung was the original Grandsire Bob Tripples, in six courses compleat, which for regularity, harmony and concord, exceeds every peal of the kind, and was performed by the Leeds ringers in three hours and twenty minutes with the greatest nicety and distinction, and to the intire [*sic*] approbation of all that heard them.

(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 6 Nov. 1781)

We hear from Halifax, that at the opening of the new peal of bells at Sowerby, Oct. 29th, the Wakefield Ringers were first introduced by the Bellhanger, who rung the preceding evening 5040 changes in three hours and 27 minutes, and were attempting a second peal the next morning, but were soon out, when the Halifax Ringers took the turn, and rung the Original Grandsire Bob Tripples in six courses complete, in three hours and one minute only.

(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 13 Nov. 1781)

On Saturday died, aged 70, John Verbruggen, Esq. Master Founder of His Majesty's ordnance at Woolwich.

(*Morning Herald and Daily Advertiser*, Thurs. 1 Nov. 1781; also *London Courant*, and *Westminster Chronicle and Daily Advertiser*, both of the same date.)

The opening of the new ring of bells at Saddleworth, Yorkshire

On MONDAY, Nov. 5, 1781, will be Opened, at SADDLEWORTH Church, in Yorkshire

A New PEAL of SIX BELLS,

Cast by Mr. RUDHALL, of Gloucester, and hung by JOS.

WRIGLEY, of Manchester.

And on Wednesday, November 14, the following PRIZES

will be Rung for:

The first best for ringing 720 Changes £2 2 0

The second ditto 1 1 0

The same Day for Ringing Round.

The first best 1 11 6

The second ditto 1 1 0

The third ditto 0 10 6

Each Party to bring an Arbitrator along with them; and if there be two or three Sets from a Church, only to have one.

All Ringers have Liberty to practice, and to be agreeable to Articles provided. To begin at half Hour past eight o'Clock in the Morning.

(*Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 3 Nov. 1781 - advert; also *Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 6 Nov. 1781.)

Yesterday a new peal of Six Bells was opened at Saddleworth, near Huddersfield.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 6 Nov. 1781)

To all R I N G E R S.

NOTICE is hereby given, That on Wednesday the 14th of November Inst. the following PRIZES are to be rung for, on Six Bells, at the Parochial Chapel of SADDLEWORTH, viz.

£. s. d.

For the Set of Ringers who shall ring			
720 changes, the best,	-		2 : 2 : 0
The second best Ditto,	-		1 : 1 : 0
For that Set of Ringers who shall ring			
the best Round Peal,	-		1 : 11 : 6
The second-best Ditto,	-		1 : 1 : 0
The third-best Ditto,	-		0 : 10 : 6

All those who intend ringing for the above Prizes, may have an Opportunity to practise on the said Bells, any Day before the Time above-mentioned; and every Set or Sets of Ringers belonging to one Church, will be permitted to bring a Censor with them, who shall determine the Prizes, agreeable to Articles to be then and there produced.

N.B. Those who ring Changes will not be suffered to ring for the Round Peal Prizes.

(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 6 Nov. 1781 - advert; cf advert in *Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, 3 Nov. 1781)

The Oldham ringers performed the peal of 720 last Sunday at Saddleworth, in the space of 27 minutes. 'Tis very remarkable that the above set have been together, without the loss of a man, 32 years, within a few days.

(*Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 10 Nov. 1781; *Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 13 Nov. 1781)

At the prize-ringing on Wednesday last at Saddleworth-Church, the senior set of ringers from Ashton-under-line, rung 720 changes in 25 minutes and a half, for which they were adjudged the first prize. It was allowed by all judges present to be the best peal of Grandsire-Bob ever rung.

(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 13 Nov. 1781)

On Wednesday last, the prize ringing at Saddleworth was conducted with the greatest generosity and candour, when the senior set of ringers belonging to Ashton-under-line, rang 720 changes in 25 minutes and a half so skilfully, that every person was equally amazed and delighted at the masterly manner in which it was performed, and for which they had the first prize. It was allowed by all judges present, to be the best peal of Grandsire Bob, that ever yet was rung.

(*Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 17 Nov. 1781; *Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 20 Nov. 1781)

We hear that St. Peter's of Mancroft Ringers will begin their annual ringing on Sunday next.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 10 Nov. 1781)

On Monday last was rung on the new peal of eight bells, at St. Martin's Church, in this town, by a set of the Society of Leicester Scholars, Mr. HOLT's compleat peal of 5040 Grandsire Tripples - the time, 3 hours and 26 minutes. - The above-mentioned new peal of bells were cast and hung by Mr. ARNOLD, of St. Neots, Huntingdonshire, and were opened (or rung the first time) on the 9th instant, when the Tones of the Bells were universally allowed by all judges to be exceedingly fine.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 17 Nov. 1781)

Last Wednesday [*sic*], being the Birth Day of Charles Duncombe, Esq; eldest Son of C.S. Duncombe, Esq; of Duncombe Park, who then entered his 18th Year, there was rung at Helmsley, by the Ringers there, a Peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 Changes in two Hours and 54 Minutes.

(*The York Courant*, Tues. 11 Dec. 1781)

Colchester, Dec. 26. This day was rung at St. Peter's steeple in this town, by a company of gentlemen from Long Melford, a compleat peal of 5040 of bob major, in 3 hours and 15 minutes; the first performance of the kind ever performed here, though often attempted, and by many different companies.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 29 Dec. 1781; also *Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 28 Dec. 1781 and *Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 29 Dec. 1781, starting 'Wednesday last was rung at St. Peter's steeple...')

1782

Tuesday last being New-Year's Day, the year was welcomed in with a curious peal of 6048 regular changes of Bob Major, which was rung upon that delightful and melodious peal of eight bells lately erected in the tower of that elegant structure, Thaxted church, which was performed in three hours and fifty minutes, by their own company of ringers; the judicious method in calling the peal, which was done by Mr. Ambrose Redhouse, and the exact manner of striking the bells does great credit to the whole company and gave general pleasure, particularly to those who were judges of good ringing.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 4 Jan. 1782)

On Friday evening last, at the parish church of St. Olave, Tooley-street, was rang by the Ancient Society of College Youths, a compleat peal of Oxford Treble Bob, Eight-in, in three hours 29 minutes. This masterly composition consisted of 5632 changes, being the most that can be rung in 14 courses, and is supposed to be the greatest number of changes ever compleated true in that method on eight bells.

(*Lloyd's Evening Post*, Fri. 4 Jan. – Mon. 7 Jan. 1782)

Yesterday se'nnight, at the parish church of St. Olave's, Tooley-street, London, was rang by the ancient Society of College Youths, a compleat peal of Oxford Treble Bob Eight-in, in three hours and 29 minutes. This masterly composition consisted of 5632 changes, being the most that can be rung in 14 courses, and is supposed to be the greatest number of changes ever compleated in that method on eight bells.

(*Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 12 Jan. 1782)

On Wednesday last the 9th inst. was Rung on the Peal of Eight Bells at Oswestry, by the UNION SOCIETY of this Town, the compleat Peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, composed by Mr. Holt of the Society of London College Youths, containing Five thousand and forty Changes, in 3 Hours and 14 Minutes, being the first Attempt of the Union Society at that place for the same.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 12 Jan. 1782; similar report in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 14 Jan. 1782)

Last Thursday was rung at Polebrook near Oundle, by the society of ringers of Polebrook, 42 peals upon five bells, in three hours and 17 minutes, which number of peals consist of 5,040 changes, without being lost or standing.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 26 Jan. 1782; also *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 2 Feb. 1782.)

Tuesday last was rung at St. Maryport-church in this city, by St. James's ringers, a peal of Union Treble Bob, containing 5120 changes. - It was rung in 3 hours and 40 minutes, which is allowed to be as capital a performance as any ever executed in this kingdom, London and its neighbourhood excepted.

(*Felix Farley's Bristol Journal*, Sat. 16 Feb. 1782)

Campanalogia, or the art of ringing, is carried to great perfection by the *Sherwood Society* in Nottingham, where there are two very harmonious peals, the one of ten, the other of eight bells; on the latter of which Mr. Holt's true peal of five thousand and forty grandsire triples have been repeatedly rung by that society, but never better than on last Shrove Tuesday. This Society have [*sic*] opened several new peals in different parts of the country, diffusing a taste for that divine harmony in which *grandeur* and *simplicity* are so happily united!

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 23 Feb. 1782)

On Tuesday last in the Afternoon, was rung at St. Peter's in this town, Mr. Holt's true Peal of Five Thousand and Forty Grandsire Triples (the Time three Hours and eleven Minutes). The third Bell was rung by an HONEST YORKSHIREMAN, the rest of the Performers were of the Nottingham Society.

(*Creswell & Burbage's Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 16 Feb. 1782; also *Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 16 Feb. 1782; and *Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 21 Feb. 1782, starting 'On Tuesday se'nnight...St. Peter's in Nottingham...'; also *Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 23 Feb., 1782, starting 'On Shrove-Tuesday was rung at St. Peter's in Nottingham...'; similar reports in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 18 Feb. 1782; *Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 16 Feb. 1782, starting 'On Tuesday last...'; *York Courant*, Tues. 19 Feb. 1782; and *The Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 18 Feb. 1782)

On Tuesday last the following unfortunate accident happened at Turlangton in this County... William Smith a Carpenter of that place, going into the Church steeple to fetch a nail-passer, which his son, who had been at work there on Monday, had left in the window of the steeple; one of the bells which was left up-set by some boys, who had been ringing on Monday night, suddenly fell upon him, fractured his skull, and killed him upon the spot. - The Coroner's inquest sat on the body and gave a verdict Accidental.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 2 March 1782)

R I N G I N G.

CRATFIELD, SUFFOLK.

NOTICE is hereby given, That a complete Peal of SIX BELLS, hung by Mr. Savage of Bungay, and put in tune by Mr. Field of Halesworth, will be opened on Monday the 11th day of March instant, by the Halesworth company, at Ten o'clock, and by Twelve will be free for any company of gentlemen ringers, and their favours will be gratefully acknowledged, By their humble Servant,

JAMES BARBER, at the Sign of the BELL.

☞ Dinner at Two o'clock.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 2 March 1782 - advert)

On Friday last (being St. David's Day) a Peal of 5160, was rung at Desborough, in this County, in three Hours and twelve Minutes, by five Welchmen [*sic*], residing at Desborough.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 4 March 1782)

The first peal at Hitchin

On Wednesday Evening the 28th of February, at Hitchin, in Hertfordshire, the complete Peal of 5040 (Plain Bob Trebles) was rung in three Hours and twenty-eight Minutes, by the Youths of that Place, being the first Peal that ever was rung on those Bells.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 4 March 1782: Feb. 28 was a Thursday; the Osborn MSS give the date as 20 Feb., confirmed by the report below.)

On Wednesday evening the 20th of February was rang at Hitchin in the county of Hertford, the complete peal of 5040 plain bob triples in 3 hours and 28 minutes, by the youths of the same place, it being the first peal that was ever rang on those bells.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 16 March 1782)

On Monday evening was rung by the ancient Society of College Youths, at St. Mary le Bow, a compleat peal of bob royal ten-in, which consisted of 5040 changes, with the sixth eleven times wrong and eleven times right, at [?], and was compleated in three hours and fifty-seven minutes. This was the first peal ever rung in that method on those bells, and likewise the first by eleven men only.

(*General Advertiser and Morning Intelligencer*, Wed. 6 March 1782; the peal is not recorded in the College Youths' peal book.)

On Wednesday evening the 20th of February was rang at Hitchin in the county of Hertford, the complete peal of 5040 plain bob triples in 3 hours and 28 minutes, by the youths of the same place, it being the first peal that was ever rang [*sic*] on those bells.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 16 March 1782; cf *Northampton Mercury*, 4 March 1782)

On Monday night last, was rung at Pontefract, a peal of grand [*sic*] triples, consisting of 5040 changes in three hours and twelve minutes by their town society of ringers.

(*York Chronicle*, Fri. 15 March 1782; also *Leeds Mercury* and *Leeds Intelligencer*, both Tues. 19 March 1782; and *Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 23 March 1782)

A peal of eight bells will be opened at Rotherham, in Yorkshire, part new, cast and hung by Thomas Hilton of Wath, and to be rung by Sheffield Ringers on Easter Monday.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 23 March 1782)

On Monday last Mr. Holt's peal of 5040 grandsire triples was rung on the musical peal of 8 bells, at Uppingham, in the county of Rutland; by the society of Change ringers in that town...The time three hours and twenty five minutes...The bells were cast in the year 1773, by Messrs. Lester and Pack, of White Chappel, London.

On Monday last was opened at Rotherham, a peal of 8 bells by Sheffield ringers, called Sheffield tribbles; which was rung in three hours and twenty six minutes. - Three of the said bells were cast in tune by Mr. Thomas Hilton, of Wath, and gave great satisfaction.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 6 April 1782. The Uppingham report also appeared in *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 8 April 1782 and *Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 13 April 1782, both starting 'On Monday last...' The Rotherham report also appeared in *York Courant*, Tues. 9 April 1782, starting 'At Rotherham, on the 1st Inst. ...')

On Easter Monday Mr. Holt's compleat peal of 5040 grandsire triples was rung at Uppingham in the county of Rutland, in three hours and 25 minutes, by the society of change ringers of that place: John Barrett, treble; James Holmes, 2; Thomas Mould, 3; Wm. Holmes, 4; James Sneath, 5; Francis Bennett, 6; John West, 7; and William Thorp, tenor.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 13 April 1782; transcript verified 26 Aug. 2023.)

On the 31st Ult. the St. Martin's Youths of this Town, rang on the new Bells at Bewdley, a complete Peal of 5040 Bob Major, in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes. This was the first Peal ever rung on those Bells.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 8 April 1782)

Thursday the 28 ult. was married at Boston, Mr. John Daft, carcass-butcher, to Mrs. Cottman, of the same place, on which occasion the half peal of grandsire triples was rung, consisting of 2520 changes, and performed in one hour and twenty-three minutes.

(*Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 13 April 1782)

The opening of the new ring of bells at Otley, Yorkshire

On Monday the 15th of this Instant April will be opened at OTLEY, a NEW PEAL of EIGHT BELLS, cast by Messrs. Chapman and Co. Bell-Founders in White-Chapel, London, which are now hanging with Samuel Turner.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 2 April 1782)

On Monday next, the 15th Inst. will be open'd at Otley a new Peal of eight Bells, cast by Mess. Chapman and Co. White-Chapel, London, and hung by Mr. Samuel Turner, their Bell-hanger. Those who want single Bells, or Peals of Bells casting or hanging, may apply to Mess. Chapman and Co. or to Mr. Francis Hudson in [*sic*] the Pavement, York, and may depend on having them done with the utmost Dispatch and Care.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 9 April 1782)

Yesterday se'nnight a new peal of eight fine musical bells was opened at Otley, previous to which the Otley ringers and sundry others, rung several short peals; afterwards there were twice 5040 changes rung on the occasion, first by the Wakefield ringers, in three hours and 26 minutes; the second was performed by the Leeds ringers in three hours and ten minutes.

(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 23 April 1782)

On the 15th instant was opened at Otley, a new peal of eight musical bells, when a variety of changes were rung by the Leeds, Wakefield, Knaresbro' and Bradford ringers.
(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 23 April 1782)

On Monday the 15th Inst. was opened at Otley, a fine new Peal of eight Bells, where a Variety of Ringers assembled on the Occasion, viz. Wakefield, Leeds, Knaresborough, and Bradford, who rang alternately all the Day. The original Peal of Grandsire Bob Triples, consisting of 5040 Changes in eight Courses complete, was performed by the Wakefield Ringers in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes, with the greatest Nicety and Distinction, and allowed, by Judges, to be the best Peal ever rung in this County.
(*York Courant*, Tues. 23 April 1782)

A dispute at Saddleworth, Lancashire

On Sunday last, was rung at Saddleworth on six bells, by the junior set of ringers of Oldham, 720 changes of grand sire [*sic*] bob in 23 minutes and 15 seconds, and is allowed by the ablest judges, to be scarce ever exceeded for regularity and harmony. It may be truly said, they can vie with any set of ringers in the kingdom.
(*Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 27 April 1782; also *Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 30 April 1782, still beginning 'On Sunday last...'.)

We hear that on Saturday the 27th of April, there appeared in one of the Manchester Papers, an Account of a Peal rung of [*sic*] 6 Bells, at Saddleworth Church, 720 Changes, of Grandsire Bob, in 23 Minutes 15 Seconds; whereas the Time was nearly 27 Minutes.
(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 7 May 1782; the reference is to *Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 27 April 1782, qv)

We are assured from the parties, that the 720 changes of grand sire [*sic*] bob, rung at Saddleworth, the 27th [*sic*] ult. was performed with perfection in 23 minutes and 15 seconds, as then mentioned.
(*Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 11 May 1782)

R I N G I N G.

WOKINGHAM, April 26, 1782.

THIS is to give notice, that on Whit-Wednesday will be given to be Rung for, A Set of HATS value three guineas, to the set of ringers that best performs a round peal of fifteen minutes, by Jacob Pocock, late of the Half Moon, but now removed to the Six Bells near the church. No less than five sets to be allowed to ring. Each set to dine at the ordinary, which will be provided precisely at one o'clock and begin ringing at four. No trial peal to be rung on the day of ringing, and no Wokingham man to be allowed to ring. Each set to provide their own umpire.

N.B. If the winning set should not approve of the hats, the money to be paid instead of them, on condition of spending five shillings.

☞ Mr. Pocock returns thanks to his friends for their past favours, and requests the continuance of their custom in the Shoe-making business, which he now carries on in all its branches as usual.

(*Reading Mercury, and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 29 April 1782 - advert)

A correspondent informs us that on Monday the 22d of April a new peal of eight bells was opened at Hertford, cast by John Briant of the same place, and hung upon an entire new construction. The improvements in hanging the bells enabled the ringers to ring 17000 [*sic*] changes of Oxford treble bobs with ease.
(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 18 May 1782; this refers to St. Andrew's church.) [This report implies that a complete ring of eight bells was cast by John Bryant. If so, then at various times within a few years he recast the four largest bells.]

Redenhall, May 7. Saturday evening last, a true and compleat peal of bob-major, consisting of 5040 changes, was rung here by a young company, belonging to Redenhall and Alburgh society, who performed it in three hours and twenty minutes.
(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 18 May 1782)

On Thursday last, was rung at St. Martin's church in this town, a complete peal of 5040 Bob-Major, in three hours and one minute, by eight of the society of change ringers of this place, on an excellent peal of 8 bells, cast by Mr. Edward Arnold, of St. Neots, which was opened the 9th of last December, the tenor weighs 22cwt.
(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 25 May 1782)

On Tuesday a Peal of upwards of 5300 Bob-Majors was rung at St. Ives in Huntingdonshire, by the Society of Cambridge Youths, in three Hours and 25 Minutes, being the greatest Length ever rung in that County. And on Wednesday the new Peal of six, at Somersham, cast by Mr. Arnold of St. Neot's, (the Tenor in G) was opened by the same Company, with three different Peals, Plain, Double, and Oxford Treble-Bob, performed with that Judgement and Accuracy which have hitherto characterised that Society; And, in Gratitude to the meritorious Abilities of Mr. Arnold, in the Art of Bell-founding, this Peal, in every Respect, is unanimously and justly acknowledged by those who have seen the Neatness of it's Construction and heard the pleasing Effects of it's Melody, to be executed both to his own Honour, as well as to the Credit of the Town of Somersham.
(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 27 May 1782; also *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 11 May 1782, but with 'Oxford triple-bob')

On Saturday the 13th Instant, was rung by a junior Set of Ringers who never rang a Bell before November last, on a Peal of six Bells at Saddleworth Church, 720 Changes of Grandsire-Bob in 30 Minutes.
(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 28 May 1782; also *Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 4 June 1782 and *Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 8 June 1782, both starting 'On Saturday se'nnight was rung...' See *Manchester Mercury*, etc. Tues. 23 July 1782 for a report of another young band at Staveley.)

R I N G I N G.

ON Wednesday the 12th instant will be given by Jacob Pocock, at the Six Bells, at Wokingham, A set of GOLD LACED HATS, to be rung for. No less than three sets will be allowed to ring; each peal to continue 15 minutes. No trial peal to be on the day of ringing.

No person to be allowed to ring but what dines at the ordinary, which will be on the table at one o'clock.

To begin ringing at three o'clock.—By desire, no Hurst or Wokingham man to be allowed to ring or be an umpire.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 3 June 1782 - advert)

On Wednesday the 29th of May, the anniversary of the Restoration of King Charles II, the society of ringers at Kildwick in Craven, rang, on six bells, 5040 Triple Changes, in three hours and 40 minutes, to the satisfaction of all that heard them.
(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 11 June 1782; also *Leeds Intelligencer*, same date.)

Tuesday last being the anniversary of his Majesty's birth-day, one eight [*sic*] part of the grand peal of Bob Majors, was rung by the society of ringers at Otley, containing 5040 changes, in three hours and 20 minutes, with the greatest regularity; - something to the credit of the society, which has only had seven weeks practice on eight bells.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 11 June 1782; similar report in *York Courant*, Tues. 11 June 1782)

R I N G I N G.

ON Friday, the 28th instant will be given by William Peacock, at the White Hart at Harting, A set of HATS to be rung for: No less than three sets will be allowed to ring; each peal to continue 15 minutes. No trial peal on the day of ringing, and no person to ring but what dines at the ordinary, which will be on the table at one o'clock.—No Harting man to ring or be an umpire.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 17 June 1782 - advert)

Lately was cast by Mr. Thomas Rudhall, bellfounder, in Gloucester, a maiden peal of six bells, for the parish church of Michaelstone Vedow, in the county of Monmouth. They were first rang by the six sons of Mr. Jones, of Yillans Farm, Lanedarn.

(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 20 June 1782)

We hear also from Paulton, in Somersetshire, that the church was very much injured on Tuesday last by the storm which entered the tower, killed one man that was in the belfry, and knocked down two others, who happily recovered.

(*Felix Farley's Bristol Journal*, Sat. 22 June 1782)

R I N G I N G.

ON Tuesday the 30th of July, will be given to be Rung for, by Stephen Richards at Hurst Church, in the County of Berks, A Set of good plain Hats. Each company to provide an umpire, and the umpire of the winning set to be entitled to a hat. Each peal to continue 15 minutes, and no trial peal on the day of ringing; no man to ring or be an umpire but what dines. A good ordinary will be on the table at one o'clock, and to begin ringing at three. No Hurst man to ring or be an umpire.

☞ The Bowling is in good order.—Coffee, Tea, and Cheesecakes, as usual.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 24 June 1782 - advert)

Competition at South Wraxall

King's-Arms-Inn, South-Wraxall, Wilts.

TO be RUNG For, on FRIDAY, the 2d Day of AUGUST next, SIX ELEGANT PUNCH-LADLES, Value THREE POUNDS.

The aforesaid Prize to be rung for by all young Ringers who never rung for any Prize whatever; and the Company that rings the best thirty-minute Peal, will be entitled to the Prize.

☞ Proper Umpires will be provided.

WILLIAM CHARMBURY.

(*Bath Journal*, Mon. 1 July 1782 - advert)

King's-Arms-Inn, South-Wraxall, Wilts.

TO be RUNG For, on FRIDAY, the 2d day of AUGUST next, SIX ELEGANT PUNCH-LADLES, Value THREE POUNDS.

The aforesaid Prize to be rung for by all young Ringers who never rung for any Prize whatever, and the company that rings the best Thirty Minute Peal, will be intitled to the prize, according to the plan and conditions as shall be produced and fixed upon at the time of ringing.

(*Bath Journal*, Mon. 29 July 1782 - advert)

The opening of the new ring of bells at Staveley, Derbyshire

On Thursday the 27th of June a new Peal of six bells cast by Mr. Arnold of St. Neots in Huntingdonshire was opened at Staveley near Chesterfield, by three Companies of Ringers, viz, Dronfield, Eckington and Beighton, and to the credit of Mr. Arnold, are, universally allowed to be the best Peal of Six Bells in that neighbourhood.

The many excellent Peals of Bells cast by Mr. Arnold do great credit to his abilities in his profession, and the dispatch he used upon the above occasion in recasting the five old Bells and a new Tenor, will do him equal credit for attention to business – The Wagons with the five old Bells left Staveley on Monday, June the 10th, arrived at St. Neots, just a hundred miles distant, on Thursday the 13th - the five bells were new cast and a new Tenor wt. 18c.-3-22 pitch F was cast the next day Friday the 14th. On Monday the 17th they were taken up, tuned and placed in the wagons on Wednesday evening the 19th, - which arrived at Staveley on Saturday the 22nd - and on the 27th of June the new peal was opened.

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 5 July 1782; also *Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 6 July 1782; shorter report in *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 8 July 1782, where the distance travelled was stated to be 110 miles.)

On Thursday the 27th ult. a new peal, of six bells, cast by Mr. Edward Arnold, of St. Neots, Huntingdonshire, the tenor in F, weighing 19 cwt. was opened at Staveley, near Chesterfield in Derbyshire. To the credit of the founder, whose ingenuity daily leads him to carry the art to the summit of perfection, this, as a peal of six, is justly allowed, both for tune and tone, to be excelled by none, if equalled by any in the kingdom.

(*Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 20 July 1782; also *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 6 July 1782, starting 'On Thursday the 27th of June, a new...')

A dispute with claims made by the parish clerk of Chapel-en-le-Frith

Thursday the United Society of Ashton Under-line Youths rung on their excellent Peal of eight Bells, in a very masterly Manner, a true Peal of Grandsire Tripples, consisting of 5040 Changes, as composed by Mr. John Holt, at the first Attempt. The same was performed in three Hours and nine Minutes, and must be allowed by all candid Judges of the Art, to be a very extraordinary Performance, the weight of the Tenor being upwards of a Ton. The above Peal is the only one ever yet completed in this County.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 13 Aug. 1782; also *Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 10 Aug. 1782, starting 'On Thursday the 8th inst the United...' and ending at 'extraordinary Performance.')

On Tuesday last was performed by the celebrated Youths of Oldham, on their Peal of eight Bells, 5040 Changes of Bob Major, composed by Mr. T. Monk. This masterly Peal was performed without Intermission, in two Hours and fifty Minutes. The Art and Activity in Ringing may be noticed here, the Tenor Bell Ringer being only 134lb. Weight.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 20 August 1782; also *Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 17 Aug. 1782, starting 'On Tuesday the 13th inst. was performed...')

On Sunday last was rung at Saddleworth Church, by the junior Set of Ringers from Rochdale, the favourite Peal of Grandsire Bob, consisting of 720 Changes, which they performed with much ease in 22½ Minutes; it was allowed by several competent Judges, to be the best Peal ever rung on those Bells, whatever may be asserted on similar Performances.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 27 Aug. 1782; also *Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 24 Aug. 1782)

Notwithstanding what has been inserted concerning the different Changes lately rung by the Youths of Ashton and Oldham, we are credibly informed, that the same could not have been completed by them, had not the Clerk of the Parish Church of Chapel-in-le-Frith (who is thought to be the best Change Ringer in the Kingdom) given Assistance to both Set [*sic*] of Ringers. - It is no less strange than true, that he has lately instructed a Set of young Fellows, who no longer ago than last Friday Se'night rung the 720 Change [*sic*] of Grandsire Bob, in 20 Minutes and one Second.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 3 Sept. 1782)

On Sunday the 8th Inst. was rung at Ashton Under-line, by the Ashton Unions, a compleat Peal, containing 6000 Changes of Bob Major, and the same was performed in three Hours and 48 Minutes. The curious Composition, the great Length of Time, and the masterly Manner in which it was rung, may justly entitle it the finest Performance in this Art ever yet atchieved [*sic*] in this County. The Peal, as well as the former, was composed and rung without any Assistance from the Clerk of Chapel-le-Frith [*sic*], who never was known in this Town to be a Ringer.
(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 10 Sept. 1782; the first sentence was repeated in the *Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 17 Sept. 1782)

Thursday the United Society of Ashton Under-line youths rung, on their excellent peal of eight bells, in a very masterly manner, the true peal of Grandsire Tripples, consisting of 5040 changes, as composed by Mr. John Holt, at the first attempt. The same was performed in three hours and nine minutes, and must be allowed by all candid judges of the art, to be a very extraordinary performance; the weight of the tenor being upwards of a ton. The above peal is the only one ever yet completed in the county of Lancashire.
(*Parker's General Advertiser and Morning Intelligencer*, Sat. 17 Aug. 1782)

The first peal on the bells at Whitchurch, Shropshire

On Monday last was rung at Whitchurch, by the UNION SOCIETY of this town, a peal of BOB MAJOR, containing *Five thousand and forty changes*, in three hours seven minutes. The composition of this peal was such as to produce the most harmonious courses contained in the whole peale [*sic*], consisting of forty thousand three hundred and twenty changes, and for justness of striking cannot be excell'd by any performers in this art. This was the first and only attempt of this Society at that place for the same, and the first peal ever rung on those bells.
(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 7 Sept. 1782; similar report in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 9 Sept. 1782)

Last Week was rung, on eight Bells, at Whitchurch, in Shropshire, by a Company of Gentlemen call'd *The Union Society*, a complete Peal of Bob Major, consisting of 5040 Changes; which, for Regularity and Melody, it is supposed, cannot be excelled by any Performers in that Art. - This was the first Attempt of that Society at the above Place, and the first Peal of Changes ever rung on those Bells.
(*Adams's Weekly Courant* (Chester), Tues. 10 Sept. 1782; similar report in *Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 14 Sept. 1782)

On Monday the 2d of this Month, was rung on the eight Bells at Whitchurch in Shropshire, by a Set of the Union Society from Shrewsbury, 5040 Changes in two Hours and fifty-three Minutes, called a Triple Bob. It was run [*sic*] in less Time by several Minutes than they had done before at other Churches, and was such a Thing as was never known before in that Town.
(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 16 September 1782)

The opening of the new ring of bells at All Saints' Church, Northampton.

The new Peal of eight Bells, cast for All-Saint's Church, in this Town, by Chapman and Mieres [*sic*], of White-Chapel, London, are now completely hung, and will be opened this Day (Monday) by a Society of Change-Ringers.
(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 9 Sept. 1782)

On Monday last was opened at the beautiful church of All Saints, in Northampton, a compleat whole peal of 8 new bells, cast by Messrs. Chapman and Mears, of Whitechapel, London, (successors to the late Messrs. Lester and Pack, deceased.) - As most of the capital new peals that have been put up in the kingdom within the last forty years were cast at that ancient foundery, a universal opinion prevailed that this peal would turn out exceedingly compleat and truly fine, from which circumstance (and it being the time of the race) a great number of real judges attended on the occasion from different parts of the country; - and accordingly when the bells were rung, they in all respects answered the character that had previously been conceived of them.
(*Stamford Mercury*, Thurs. 12 Sept. 1782; similar report in *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 14 Sept. 1782.)

On Monday last was opened at the beautiful Church of All Saints, in the town of Northampton, a compleat whole peal of eight new bells, cast by Messrs. Chapman and Mears, of White Chapel, London, successors to the late Messrs. Lester and Pacy [*sic*], deceased, on which occasion, (and it being the time of the Race) a great number of the real judges attended from different parts, who universally pronounced the peal of bells to be exceedingly compleat and truly fine. - Several Changes were rung in different methods with the greatest nicety, particularly by the Society of Change Ringers from Birmingham (who opened the bells); and by a Society of Change Ringers (the College Youths) from the City of London. - The weight of Tenor about 23 hundred - they were hung by Mr. Turner, of Whitechapel.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 14 Sept. 1782)

Extract of a Letter from Northampton, Sept. 11.

“On Monday last was opened at the beautiful church of All-Saints, in the town of Northampton, a compleat whole peal of eight new bells, cast by Messrs. Chapman and Mears, of Whitechapel, London.—As most of the capital new peals that have been put up in the kingdom within the last forty years were cast at that ancient foundery, a universal opinion prevailed, that this peal would prove exceedingly complete and truly fine; from which circumstance (and it being the time of the race) a great number of real judges attended on the occasion from different parts of the country—and accordingly when the bells were rung, they answered, in all respects, the character that had previously been conceived of them.”

(*Morning Herald and Daily Advertiser*, Sat. 14 Sept. 1782)

On Monday last, the new peal of eight Bells, cast by Messrs. Chapman and Mears (of Whitechappel) for All Saints' Church in this town, were opened by the Society of Change-ringers from Birmingham, and the College-youths from the City of London; by whom several Changes were rung with the greatest exactness. Many real Judges from different parts attended on this occasion, who universally pronounced the Bells to be truly complete and musical. Weight of the tenor upwards of 23 hundred.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 16 Sept. 1782)

The new Peal of eight Bells at All Saints Church, Northampton, cast by Messrs. Chapman and Meers [*sic*], and hung by Samuel and Robert Turner all of Whitechapel, London; the Tenor, 23 cwt. was opened on Sunday Morning, the 8th Inst. by the Society of St. Martin's Youths, of this Town, to the Pleasure and Satisfaction of a Number of the Nobility, and others, who were assembled there on that Occasion.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 16 Sept. 1782)

WANTED to be erected at Colyton, in the county of Devon, A Sett of CHIMES. If any person, or persons, shall be willing to undertake the same, may apply at the Vestry Meeting of the parish church of Colyton aforesaid, on Monday the 7th day of October next, by ten o'clock in the forenoon; or in the mean time, to Mr. John Down or Mr. William Teape, church-wardens, of Colyton aforesaid.
Colyton, September 23, 1782.

(*Sherborne Mercury*, Mon. 23, 30 Sept. 1782 - advert)

On Tuesday last was rung at St. John's Church, in this Town, by a Set of the celebrated Society of Ringers from Ashton-under-Line, a true Peal of Grandsire Tripples, consisting of 5040 Changes in 3 Hours 18 Minutes, with great Accuracy and harmonious Truth; being the first Performance of the Kind here, and so judiciously executed, that they think themselves authorised to challenge any Set to do the like with equal Merit.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 1 Oct. 1782; also *Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 28 Sept. 1782)

On Thursday last was rung at Ansty in the County of Leicester upon five Bells, 5280 Grandsire Bobs, in three Hours and ten Minutes.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 3 Oct. 1782; also *Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 28 Sept. 1782, which says... 'Ansty, in this County...')

Two reports of a peal at Oldham

On Monday last the junior set of Oldham ringers perform'd 10,080 changes, being one fourth of bob-major, in five hours and fifty-one minutes: What is remarkable, several of them are under 20 years of age; and the eighth bell ringer, (who went through the whole without help) only weighs 134 pounds. The above was performed with the greatest pleasure, and to the entire satisfaction of all who heard them.

(*Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 5 Oct. 1782)

On Monday the 30th of Sept. was performed by the celebrated Youths of Oldham, on their Peal of 8 Bells, 10,080 Changes of Bob Major, in 5 Hours and 51 Minutes; the most masterly Performance ever known in these Parts. They must be allowed by all of that Art, to be the most spirited and ingenious Set of Youths ever remembered, as their Tenor Bell Ringer is only 134 lb. wt. who performed the whole without any Assistance; it being a Master Peal, and the greatest Number of Changes ever compleated at one Time in this County.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 8 Oct. 1782)

RINGING.

TO be Rung for at Bramfield in Suffolk, on Saturday next, Oct. 12, FIVE PAIR of GLOVES, and a pair for the judge. The peals to be rung are GRAND-SIRE and OLD DOUBLES. The gloves are not to be given unless there are two companies. All gentlemen and others who are desirous to attend are requested to meet at the sign of the Swan in Bramfield aforesaid, where they will meet with a hearty welcome, From their humble servant,

☞ Dinner at One.

JOHN ADAMS.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 5 Oct. 1782 - advert)

On Monday last a Peal of 5040 Treble Bob, ten in, composed by Purser, was rung single handed, in three Hours and forty-six Minutes, at St. Martin's Church, by the Society of St. Martin's Youths, in this Town. Weight of the Tenor 36 Hundred.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 14 Oct. 1782; also *Northampton Mercury*, same date, beginning 'On Monday the 7th instant...', and '...in that Town...', but omitting the weight of the tenor, and *Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 17 Oct. 1782, beginning 'On Monday se'nnight...' and '...in that Town...'.)

On Sunday morning was rung, by the society of ringers at Otley, Grandsire Bob Triples, containing 5040 changes, in eight courses compleat, in three hours and sixteen minutes; and in the afternoon was rung 1120 of the Union Tripple Bob, by the same society.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 22 Oct. 1782; also *Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 26 Oct. 1782, starting 'On Saturday morning...')

On Sunday morning was rung by the Society of Ringers at Otley, *Grandsire Bob Triples*, consisting of 5040 changes, in eight courses compleat, in three hours and 16 minutes; and in the afternoon was rung by the same Society, 1120 of the *Union Tripple Bob*.

(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 22 Oct. 1782)

PATRICK and OSBORN,

BELLFOUNDERS, Whitechapel, London,

MAKE and sell Church Bells, and every Article in the Bell founding Business, on the most reasonable and satisfactory Terms, and humbly solicit the public Favour. Mr. Patrick married the Grand-daughter of Mr. Thomas Lester, who was the original Proprietor of the Bell Foundery in Whitechapel, and likewise Daughter-in-Law and Devisee of the late Mr. Thomas Pack, surviving Partner, with Mr. Lester.

N.B. Patrick and Osborn have retained in their Service the best and most ingenious Workmen, who were many years employed by Lester and Pack.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 26 Oct. 1782 – advert; also *Norwich Mercury* of the same date.)

On the 20th Instant the Society of Wakefield Youths rang a Peal of 5040 Triple Bob Triples in three Hours and 21 Minutes, being the first Time that Composition was ever compleated in Yorkshire, and deemed by all Connoisseurs of that Art to be the most intricate Performance ever done since the Art was invented; and, what is more remarkable a Boy of 14 Years rang the second Bell.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 29 October 1782)

SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

THE Anniversary Feast of the Society will be held on Tuesday next, the 5th of November, at the Paul's Head Tavern, in Cateaton-street.

Dinner on Table at Three o'clock precisely.

The Master and Stewards are apprehensive that some of the gentlemen of the Society have not received their Tickets, such Gentlemen are particularly requested not to impute the neglect to any disrespect, but to the present indisposition of the Warner.

(*Parker's General Advertiser and Morning Intelligencer*, Wed. 30 Oct. 1782 - advert)

On Monday evening last a peal of Grandsire Tripples, consisting of five thousand and forty changes, was rung upon the eight bells, at the Collegiate Church in three hours and two minutes, by a set of ringers from Ashton; which was allowed by judges, considering the weight of metal, to be a very great performance, and what is very extraordinary, although the bells (cast by the famous Ruddal of Gloucester) have been rung upwards of 70 years, it was the first peal of tripples ever rung upon them.

(*Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 9 Nov. 1782)

New bells for Charlestown, Plymouth

A Letter from Plymouth says, that on Sunday the 27th ult. a new Peal of Eight Bells was opened at the Parish Church of Charles, in that Place; they were cast by Mess. Chapman and Mears (late Lister [*sic*] and Pack) Bell-founders, London, and gave universal Satisfaction.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 11 Nov. 1782)

Extract of a Letter from Plymouth.

"Sunday the 27th of last Month was opened, at the Parish Church of Charles, at this Place, a new Peal of eight Bells, cast by Messrs. Chapman, and Mears, of London:—What is rather remarkable to be observed, the Mayor and Aldermen went in Procession from the Guildhall to the above Church on the Occasion, when the Bells first struck out to usher them in. Many short Peals were rung on the Day be different Societies.—The Bells gave general Satisfaction, and are allowed of their Weight be as good a Peal as any in the Kingdom."

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 11 Nov. 1782)

Yesterday Se'nnight, the Society of Change Ringers from Ashton-under-line, came to the Collegiate Church in this Town, and Rung 5040 Changes of Ghandsire [*sic*] Trebles, in 3 Hours and 20 Minutes, with uncommon skill and ability, to the satisfaction and astonishment of numerous Hearers, some of whom were compleat judges in the Art of Ringing.

.....

On Thursday Se'nnight was Rung, by a junior Set of Ringers, at the Parochial Chapel of Saddleworth, the sweet Peal of 720 Changes of Grandsire Bob, in 20 Minutes and 32 Seconds; and what does more honour to these Ringers, they have only rung Changes since last Whit-Monday. (*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 12 Nov. 1782; last part only in *Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 5 Nov. 1782)

Three varying reports of 'Tittum-Bob-Royal' at St. Michael's Church, Coventry

On Monday last was rung at St. Michael's, by the Society of Coventry Youths, 6000 Tittum-Bob-Royal, being the most of that Kind ever rung on those Bells. It was completed single handed in four Hours and twenty-eight Minutes, and composed of such Music that gave great Satisfaction to all the Admirers of that Art, who had an Opportunity of hearing such a masterly Piece. - Tenor 32 Cwt. (*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 25 Nov. 1782)

Monday last was rung, at St. Michael's, in this city, a complete peal of 6000 tittom bob-royal, being the most of that method ever rung on those bells; it was completed, single-handed, in 4 hours and 28 minutes, by a society of St. Michael's youths. What adds to this performance is, that the tenor, which is 32 cwt. was rung by a man who weighs no more than 9st. 2lb. (*Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 25 Nov. 1782)

On Monday last was rung at St. Michael's Church, Coventry, by the Society of Coventry Youths, a complete Peal of 6000 Tittom Bob Royal, in four Hours and 28 Minutes, single-handed, being the greatest Performance ever rung upon those Bells. Tenor 32 Hundred. (*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 25 Nov. 1782)

On Wednesday evening last, was rung by the celebrated youths of Oldham, on their peal of eight bells, a complete peal of grandsire tripples, consisting of 5040 changes, in two hours and forty-five minutes, in a very exact and harmonious manner. (*Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 30 Nov. 1782)

On Friday se'nnight as some persons were ringing the bells at Battle Church (it being fair-day), a young fellow fell down the belfry-stairs, and fractured his skull. He was immediately taken proper care of, but died on the Sunday following. (*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 2 Dec. 1782)

On Saturday the 7th instant, was rung by the Chapel Society of Bewdley, Holt's Peal of 5,040 Grandsire Triples, in three hours 20 minutes, being the first compleat peal of that kind ever rung on those bells.

To congratulate the public on the happy prospect of preliminaries of peace being amicably settled between Great-Britain and America, the society of All Saints Youths in this city, on Monday last, rung single handed a complete and musical peal of 5040 Bob Royal in three hours and 35 minutes, being the first peal of ten in ever rung on those bells. (*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 12 Dec. 1782; also *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 16 Dec. 1782; the second paragraph in *Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 19 Dec. 1782.)

The following curious inscription is copied from the door of a house in a small village in Dorsetshire: - John Sibbins, Taylor, and Astronomer - I also keep a Journeyman to do all sorts of Blacksmith and Carpenter's work, and to Hang Bells - Any Gentleman as Bespeaks a coat may have it on Friday or Saturday - without fail. N.B. It being rumoured that I intend to leave off Business on Account of my being Elected Churchwarden I hope my Friends will not give Ear to Such Blood thirsty Reports - By their Humble Servant, John Sibbins. (*Pugh's Hereford Journal*, Thurs. 19 Dec. 1782)

On Monday last the Society of College Youths rang at the parish church of Saint Mary le Bow, Cheapside, a true and compleat peal of 5040 Oxford treble bob royal, in four hours and ten minutes, with eleven men only, being the first peal of that kind, as also the most distinguished performance ever done on those bells. What renders the circumstance truly worthy of remark, (the extraordinary weight of those bells considered) is the amazing strength and nicety of judgment requisite to conduct them through so important a task, it having been ever thought by those connoisseurs and judges of that art impracticable, and vain to attempt it with eleven persons only. It is presumed this masterly achievement [*sic*] will give great satisfaction to all true lovers of that curious and athletic art, and not only reflect the greatest honour on the performers themselves, but at the same time transmit to posterity a further and lasting testimony of the result of steady and indefatigable perseverance.
(*Parker's General Advertiser and Morning Intelligencer*, Wed. 25 Dec. 1782)

On Monday last the society of College Youths rung at the Parish-church of St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, a compleat 5,040 Oxford Treble Bob Royal, in four hours and ten minutes, with eleven men only, being the first peal of that kind, as also the most distinguished performance ever done on those bells; and what renders it a circumstance worthy of remark is, the extraordinary weight of those bells, the tenor weighing two tons 13 lb [*sic*], and the whole peal upwards of 11 tons.
(*Morning Herald and Daily Advertiser*, Wed. 25 Dec. 1782)

On Saturday last was rung at Shirland, in this County, by five industrious working men of the Town, a Peal of 5400 Grandsire Bobs upon five Bells, without Intermission, in three Hours and five Minutes.—Our Correspondent says, he does not remember hearing of a like Performance being inserted in any Paper.
(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 26 Dec. 1782 – Thurs. 2 Jan. 1783)

On Tuesday the 31st ult. being the last Day of the old Year, a Peal was rung on the 8 Bells at Whitchurch in Shropshire, which continued 3 Hours and 10 Minutes without Intermission, called the Crown Bob, which was rung by the Ringers of that Town; the Weight of the Tenor twenty-one Hundred.
(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 13 Jan. 1783)

1783

On New-Year's day a new peal of eight bells was opened at Hatfield-Broad oak, by seven Thaxted ringers, and Mr. Webb, jun. of Hatfield, with a short peal of 1000 regular changes of bobmajor, and other short peals, which gave great pleasure to the company assembled in the course of the day; and the next morning a compleat peal of 5512 regular changes of bobmajor, was rung by the same persons in three hours and forty minutes; the peal was called by Mr. Redhouse, of Thaxted, and the exact manner of striking the bells did honour to the whole company. Some short peals of bob major, treble, and court bob, were rung by a company from Chelmsford, and the next day 5040 compleat bob major, in something less than three hours.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 10 Jan. 1783)

On the first inst. was rung at Elland, by the ringers of that place, the following peals upon six bells, viz. Oxford-Treble, College-Treble, College-Pleasure, Tulip, Violet, Primrose, and Symphony, the whole consisting of 5040 changes, which was performed in three hours and seven minutes.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 14 Jan. 1783; also *Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 14 Jan. 1783 and *Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 18 Jan. 1783, both starting 'On Wednesday se'nnight, was rung...')

Monday the 6th Instant, was rung at St. John's Church, in this Town, at the first Attempt, a Peal of Grandsire Tripples, consisting of 5040 Changes, in three Hours and 15 Minutes, by the celebrated Sets [*sic*] of Youths from Oldham. The Tenor Bell Ringer who is only 134 lb. wt. went thro' the whole without any Assistant. The Tenor is near a Ton Weight, and was never rung 5040 by one Man before.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 14 Jan. 1783; also *Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 18 Jan. 1783; similar report in *Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 21 Jan. 1783)

'Heteroclital Agitation'

Saturday last being the Anniversary of her Majesty's Nativity, the Society of College Youths, in honor [*sic*] to the auspicious occasion, rang, at the Parish Church of St. Michael's Cornhill, a compleat peal of 5,170 Grandsire Cinques, in four hours and fifteen minutes, with *thirteen* men only, being the first peal which has been rang at that church for these 40 years; about which time a most tremendous fire happened in Cornhill, and communicating to the steeple, consumed part of the frame which contains the bells, and otherwise so much damaged the whole, as to render it almost impracticable ever since to ring them for such a length of time. The novelty of this achievement, the extraordinary weight of those bells, the heteroclital agitation which they continually incur, and the Herculean fortitude and perseverance requisite to conduct them through such an Augean exploit, render the performance truly meritorious.

(*Parker's General Advertiser and Morning Intelligencer*, Mon. 20 Jan. 1783)

The Society of College Youths rang a compleat Peal of Five Thousand One Hundred and Seventy Grandsire Cinques on those truly musical but difficult Bells in St Michael's Cornhill; a thing never performed before by thirteen men, in honour of her Majesty's birth day.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 18 Jan. – Wed. 22 Jan. 1783)

On Saturday being the day appointed for celebrating the birthday of her most gracious Majesty, the same was celebrated with becoming joy due to so good a Queen; the College Youths rung a compleat peal of 5170 grandsire cinques on those truly musical but difficult set of 12 bells at St. Michael's, Cornhill, in four hours and [15] minutes, a thing never performed by 1[3] [men.]

(*Morning Chronicle*, Mon. 20 Jan 1783; certain figures and letters are obscured by a library stamp, and have been inserted from other sources; longer report in the issue of the *Morning Chronicle* of Tues. 21 Jan. 1783, short report in the *Public Advertiser*, Tues. 21 Jan. 1783.)

A Brother Bob, on Bell-ringing, complains of a fulsome compliment being paid to the College Youths who rang a peal at St. Michael's, Cornhill, and asserts, that there are bells in London heavier, by twelve or thirteen hundred weight, than those of St. Michael's.

(*Parker's General Advertiser and Morning Intelligencer*, Fri. 31 Jan. 1783)

The new ring of eight bells at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate

Yesterday eight new Bells, with the whole of their Apparatus, were conveyed in Carts to the Parish-Church of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, there to be erected, and the first Peal to be rung by the Youths of one of the Colleges, being customary on such Occasions, which will be performed some Day next Week.

(*Public Advertiser*, Sat. 25 Jan. 1783; also *Morning Herald and Daily Advertiser*, Thurs. 30 Jan. 1783, starting 'Saturday...')

Yesterday the new and musical peal of bells, erected at the parish church of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, were opened by the Society of College Youths, who, by order of the Churchwardens, ascended the steeple at seven o'clock in the morning, and, having a parish patent for monopoly, rang on them the first peal, consisting of 5,120 Treble Bobs; after which each went to his respective home to render himself a decent being, obligated to cut a pretty figure, by reason that they were invited to dinner with the Churchwardens, and the more especially as the shirts and clothes they had on hung in such a variety of ribbans [*sic*], that it would have puzzled the art of the greatest mathematician of this age to have put them on without being previously taught how. About three o'clock the Churchwardens, &c. assembled at the White Hart Tavern in Bishopsgate-street, when the heroes of the day, in conjunction with many more of their fraternity, who were capable of appearing a *little spruce*, were admitted to partake of an elegant repast, provided on the occasion, and where cormorants, like these gentlemen of the firing, rang so compleat a peal with their knives and forks, as to astonish those, who, from the fulsome panegyrics lately *imposed* on that Society, expected to see some *gentility*. After dinner several toasts were drank in honour to the occasion, and as evening approached Bacchus reared his crest, and after each of them had loaded himself with a *treble bob charge*, they *fired* off to bed as well as they could.

(*Parker's General Advertiser and Morning Intelligencer*, Sat. 8 Feb. 1783; this rather derogatory report ignores the fact that, after the first peal on the new bells, a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by the Cumberland Youths, and another peal of Treble Bob Major by the Ancient Society of College Youths, all on the same day. These were reported in the *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 31 May 1783, and *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 7 June 1783, for which see below.)

A new peal of eight bells, lately cast by Thomas Osborn, of Downham, in Norfolk, for the parish of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, London, was opened by the society of college youths, with a peal of 5120 Oxford treble bob changes, which was performed in three hours and thirty minutes by the following persons:—Winstan [*sic*] Richardson, treble; George Scarebrook, 2d; James Dirquett [*sic*], 3d; John Povey, 4th; William Lyforth [*sic*], 5th; James Holdsworth, 6th; James Sylvester, 7th; and Samuel Muggeridge, 8th. The same day the society of Cumberland youths rang in the same steeple a complete peal of 5040 grandsire trebles, which was completed in three hours twenty-two minutes, by the following persons: viz. Joseph Cowling, treble; John Lamey, 2d; William Lester, 3d; Joseph Patrick, 4th; Isaac Bray, 5th; Joseph Cross, 6th; John Jackson, 7th; and W. Castle, 8th. Also on the same day, the ancient society of college youths rang a peal of 5216 treble bob changes, which was performed in 3 hours 29 minutes by the following persons: viz. John Reeves, treble; John Invil [*sic*], 2d; John Anderson, 3d; Nathaniel Williamson, 4th; Francis Beale, 5th; Thomas Poole, 6th; Allen Grant, 7th; and George Harris, 8th.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 7 June 1783; also *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 31 May 1783)

On Monday the 14th Inst. Robert Wright, of Austrey, in this County (commonly called by the Name of Blind Bob) who goes about playing on the Violin, for a Livelihood, and never rang a Bell before he was deprived of Sight, strange as it may appear, rang the Treble Bell through a Five Bell Peal of Changes, on the Musical Bells of that Place, the second Time of Trial, to the great Astonishment of the Standers by; and what is still more remarkable, he hath since rung on the same Bells sundry Kinds of different Peals of Changes, in the greatest Regularity and Order.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*: Mon. 27 Jan. 1783)

On Monday last was rung by the Union Society at the Abbey Church in this town, a complete and true peal of Oxford Treble Bob, eight in, containing Five thousand, one hundred and twenty changes, in three hours and thirty nine minutes.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 1 Feb. 1783; similar report in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 3 Feb. 1783)

Thursday se'nnight was rung on eight bells, in St. Mary's church at Ely, a compleat peal of 5040 bob majors, in three hours and five minutes, by the ringing society of Ely youths. (*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 1 Feb. 1783; also *Bury Post, And Universal Advertiser*, Thurs. 6 Feb. 1783, where the society was described as 'the royal society of Ely youths.')

READING, Saturday, Feb. 1.

On Saturday last, upon receiving the news of the Preliminary Articles being signed, a compleat peal of 6048 bobmajors [*sic*] was rung in the parish church at Long Crendon, Bucks, by eight youths of that place, in three hours and 48 minutes. (*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 3 Feb. 1783; also *Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 1 Feb. 1783)

On Monday the 27th ult. was rung at Bradford, by the ringers of that place, the Gransire Bob Tripples, containing 5040 changes, in three hours and five minutes, allowed by judges present to be the best Gransire Bob Tripples ever rang there.

On receiving the agreeable news of a General Peace, the ringers at our Parish Church, on Tuesday morning last, rang a new peal of Union Tripples, in three hours and ten minutes, intituled, *The Double Union, or, Peace with America*.—It is calculated on a new improved plan, and divided into six courses, which being united together, by a variety of double changes, make one compleat peal of 5040. It was composed by one of the said ringers some time ago, but reserved till this happy period; and for harmony, regularity, unity, and concord, is equal, or rather superior, to any peal ever rang before. (*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 4 Feb. 1783; also, with slight variations, *York Courant*, Tues. 4 Feb. 1783)

A few days ago was rung at Wakefield, a complete peal of 5040 changes of Gransire [*sic*] Bob Tripples, in three hours and 16 minutes, on a musical set of 8 hand bells, performed by four youths of that place, each ringing two bells; being the first peal ever rung in this county by any set of ringers. [*sic*] (*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 18 Feb. 1783; also *Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. Feb. 1783, which gives the time as 3h. 6m.)

On Monday last was rung, at the Parish Church of St. Trinity, in Coventry, by the Society of St. Michael's Youths, 5120 Oxford Treble, Eight in, in three Hours and twenty Minutes. (*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 24 Feb. 1783)

On Sunday last, at the parish church of St. Giles's in the Fields the ancient Society of College Youths, rung a true and compleat peal of Cambridge Surprize, eighteen [*sic*], consisting of five thousand one hundred and fifty-two changes, - which masterly performance they completed in three hours and nineteen minutes. (*Morning Chronicle, and London Advertiser*, Tues. 25 Feb. 1783)

On Tuesday last was rung at St. Martin's church in this town, a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, in three hours and eleven minutes, by eight persons belonging to this Society of Change Ringers of this town, on a Peal of Bells lately cast by Mr. Arnold of St. Neots, which are allowed by the best Judges to be a perfect Peal, and for tone and tune very much admired. (*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 8 March 1783)

On Tuesday last was rung at St. Martin's-Church, in Leicester, a Peal of 5040 Grandsire Tripples, in three Hours and 11 Minutes, by eight Persons belonging to the Leicester Society of Change-Ringers, on a Peal of Bells lately cast by Mr. Arnold, of St. Neot's. (*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 10 March 1783)

Last Sunday the young Cumberland youths rung, at St. Mary Walthamstow, a peal on eight bells, of 5800 bob majors, single; which was rung in three hours and 58 minutes. The greatest performance that ever was rung on those bells. (*Parker's General Advertiser and Morning Intelligencer*, Tues. 18 March 1783)

The Bankruptcy of Robert Patrick

[Creditors of Robert Patrick, Bell-founder, to meet]

(*London Gazette*, Sat. 22 March 1783)

BANKRUPTS... Robert Patrick of Whitechapel, Middlesex, bell-founder.

(*Pugh's Hereford Journal*, Thurs. 17 March 1785)

[Creditors of Robert Patrick, Bell-Founder, to meet assignees of the said Bankrupt's Estate and Effects.]

(*London Gazette*, Tues. 22 March 1785)

[Commissioners in Bankruptcy for Robert Patrick, Bell-founder, to meet to make a dividend.]

(*London Gazette*, Tues. 2 Dec. 1788)

THURSDAY'S POST.

From the LONDON GAZETTE.

.....

DIVIDENDS *to be made to* CREDITORS.

...

Robert Patrick, of Whitechapel, Bell-founder, at Guildhall

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 15 Dec. 1788 – per CJP)

[Commissioners in Bankruptcy for Robert Patrick, of Whitechapel, in the County of Middlesex, Bell-Founder, Dealer and Chapman — to meet on 17 February to make a dividend, by adjournment from 17 January.]

(*London Gazette*, Tues. 20 Jan. 1789)

KENNINGHALL, NORFOLK.

On the 23d Instant was rung a complete Peal of 6720 Changes Bob Major, in three Hours and forty-four Minutes, Tenor Seventeen Hundred Weight, by the Persons hereafter mentioned: James Chase, treble; Humphrey Lovack, 2d; John Negus, 3d; Mark Mordey, 4th; William Upcraft, 5th; George Wharton, 6th; William Fuller, 7th; George Mordey, tenor, and called the Peal. - They all reside in the said Parish.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 29 March 1783; shorter report, without the ringers' names, in *Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 29 March 1783; different, shorter, report in *Bury Post*, Thurs. 3 April 1783)

The opening of the bells at St. Giles's, Northampton

We can assure the Public, that the new Peal of Bells, cast by Mr. Edward Arnold, of St. Neot's, for the Parish-Church of St. Giles, in this Town, will be opened by the Leicester Society of Change-Ringers, on Monday the 7th of April next, precisely at ten o'Clock in the Forenoon.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 31 March 1783)

On Monday last, the new peal of eight Bells, cast by Mr. Edwd. Arnold, of St. Neots, in Huntingdonshire, for the Parish Church of St. Giles in this town (the tenor whereof is in D sharp, weighing 25 hundred), was opened by the Society of Change-ringers from Leicester; when a variety of peals were rung in the hearing of a great number of persons assembled on the occasion, who expressed the greatest satisfaction at the pleasing and harmonious tone of them; After which, a respectable meeting of the inhabitants of the town, with the Society, dined at the Saracen's Head Inn, where the day was spent in the greatest harmony and good humour. And on Tuesday morning the above-mentioned Society went through Mr. Holt's complete peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hours and 22 minutes, which was allowed by the best judges to be a most excellent performance; at the conclusion whereof the Society walked in procession from the Church, (preceded by a Band of music) to the above Inn, amidst the plaudits of a great number of spectators, well-pleased with such a melodious entertainment. - The Bells are hung upon a new construction, and do the greatest credit to Mr. Arnold as an artist in his profession.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 14 April, 1783 – per Julian Parker; also *Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 12 April 1783; *Stamford Mercury*, Thurs. 17 April 1783; and *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 26 April 1783 starting 'On Monday se'nnight, the new peal...')

Extract of a letter from Moreton-Corbet, April 8.

"Yesterday the bells which were generously presented to this church by Andrew Corbet, Esq; of Shawbury Park, were opened with a peal of grandsire, rung by the Union Society, of Shrewsbury." (*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 12 April 1783)

BUCKINGHAM, April 10, 1783.

THE Public are hereby requested to take Notice, That on Easter Tuesday, being the 22d instant, will be Opened a PEAL of eight new fine-toned BELLS, cast by Messrs. Chapman and Mears, Bell-Founders, White-Chapel.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 14 April 1783 - advert)

At King's Norton, on Friday the 25th Inst. will be opened the new Peal of eight Bells, which are cast by Messrs. Chapman and Mears, and hung by Mr. Robert Turner of London; the greatest Satisfaction is expected from the well-known Abilities of the above Persons.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mons. 14 & 21 April 1783)

On Monday last in the afternoon was rang at the parish church of St. Andrew's in Hertford, by the society of Hertford College Youths, a compleat peal of Oxford treble bob, with the sixth nine times wrong and 12 times right, which consisted of 6,176 changes, being the greatest number ever compleated true in that method, and the most that can be rung true in seventeen courses only; performed in 3 hours 43 minutes.

(*Parker's General Advertiser and Morning Intelligencer*, Thurs. 24 April 1783; also *London Courant* of the same date.)

On Monday last in the afternoon was rung at the parish church of St. Andrew in Hertford, by the society of Hertford College Youths, a compleat peal of Oxford treble bobs, with the sixth nine times wrong, and 12 times right, which consisted of 6,176 changes, being the greatest number ever compleated true in that method, and the most that can be rung true in seventeen courses only; performed in three hours and forty-eight minutes.

(*Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 3 May 1782; derived either from the report above, or a common source; the Hertford Youths' peal book gives the date of this peal (correctly) as Monday, 21 April, and the time as 4h. 2m. In the peal the tenor was rung by John Bryant, and the performance was commemorated by a peal board.)

On Sunday the 20th inst. was rung at Shiffnal, Holt's celebrated peal of 5040 Grandsire Tripples, in three hours and ten minutes, by the society of ringers there.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 26 April 1783; also *Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, 26 April 1783; similar report in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 28 April 1783)

On Sunday the 4th Inst. was rung at King's-Norton, upon a new Peal of Bells (opened a few Days before) and cast by Mess. Chapman and Meers [*sic*], a complete Peal of 5040 Bob Major, by the St. Martin's Youths of this Town, in three Hours, and Twenty-one Minutes; and Yesterday Morning 5152 Bob-major, by the Chapel Youths of Stourbridge, in three Hours and a Half. Another Set of Ringers were upon a fresh Peal, when this Account came away. - The above Bells are reckoned the best and most harmonious of their Weight in the Kingdom.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 12 May 1783; a report of the peal rung by the Chapel Youths appeared in *Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 15 May 1783)

THOMAS SMITH,

Wheelwright, Carpenter, and Bell-hanger,
At BRADFIELD ST. GEORGE, Suffolk,

BEGS Leave to acquaint the Public, that he has taken the shop late in the occupation of his Father, who has declined on account of his ill state of health, where he hopes for the favours of his father's friends as he has been in the practice of the above branches upwards of 20 years. At the same time, he returns his sincere thanks to those who have already favoured him with their commands, and assures them that the utmost care and dispatch shall be used to merit their continuance.

(*Bury Post*, Thurs. 15 May 1783 - advert.)

TO be RUNG for, on Wednesday the 18th of June,
at South Wraxall near Bradford,
Six Handsome PUNCH-LADLES,
By Ringers that never won any prize.—A thirty-minute Peal.
An Ordinary at the King's-Arms in South-Wraxall, at
one o'clock, at 1s. 6d. each. No person to ring that does not dine
at the ordinary.—Umpires to be chosen by the company.
WM. CHARMBURY.

(*Bath Chronicle*, Thurs. 29 May 1783 - advert)

RINGING.

TO be given at J. Pocock's, the Six Bells,
Wokingham, SEVEN HATS, to that Set that rings
the best Round Peal of 15 minutes, and that Set that rings
the second best is entitled to seven pair Gloves, and the
third Ribbons. No Wokingham nor Hurst man allowed to
ring, nor stand umpire. No prize will be given without
five sets ring. No set to ring but what dines at the ordi-
nary, which will be ready precisely at one o'clock, and to
begin ringing at four. No trial peal on the day of ringing,
which will be on Whitsun-Wednesday next.

(*Reading Mercury, and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 2 June 1783)

On the 11th of May was rung, by the youths of Humberstone in Leicestershire, 5040 changes on five bells, or 42 grandsires, in three hours and 16 minutes. The names of the ringers are as follow [*sic*] : Wm. Cross, treble; John Carter, second; Richard Holmes, third; Wm. Booth, fourth; and John Bass, fifth.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 7 June 1783; similar report, but without the ringers' names, in *Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 10 June 1783; also *Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 14 June 1783, which says '...or twenty four grandsires,...')

BELL FOUNDRY at ROTHERHAM. This is to inform the PUBLIC, THAT the BELL FOUNDRY lately carried on at WATH-upon-DEARN, IN THE County of York, is remov'd to ROTHERHAM in the said County; where PEALS of all Sizes and Weights properly tuned, as well as single BELLS may be had on the shortest Notice. Any Orders we may be favour'd with will be punctually and speedily executed on the lowest terms, by WALKER and HILTON, who will also compleat the Frames, and hang them if required.

(Advert in *Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sats. 18 June and 5 July 1783; similar advert in *Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 26 June 1783.)

On Monday last, about Four o'Clock in the Afternoon, the weather being cloudy, and Thunder heard at a Distance, a Ball of Fire, to Appearance of considerable Size, fell in the Belfry of Naseby Church, in this County, where several young men were met to ring: Two of them, (names John Cheney and John Wright) were struck to the Ground, and their Clothes and Stockings singed in a most wonderful Manner! but providentially no Lives were lost, or any material Damage done.—A strong sulphurous Vapour remained upon the Spot for some Minutes.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 23 June 1783)

June 19th 1783

ANY Person qualified to cast and hang a Peal of SIX BELLS, in the Parish of Drewsteington, in the County of Devon, let them deliver their Proposals to WILLIAM PONSFORD, of Drewston, Churchwarden of the said Parish, on Monday the 7th of July next. - A Security for performing the work will be expected.

(*Trewman's Exeter Flying Post*, Thurs. 26 June 1783 – advert. The following year a ring of six bells was cast for the parish by John Pennington III and Christopher Pennington IV of Stoke Climsland.)

The well-known competition at Sonning

R I N G I N G.

THE latter end of July or the beginning of August, NINE HATS, of a Guinea value each, will be given by a Gentleman to be RUNG for at Sonning, 1000 bob-majors, on eight bells. Further particulars will be advertised in due time.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 30 June 1783 - advert)

To Gentleman Change-Ringers.

TO be RUNG for, at Sonning near Reading, in the County of Berks, on Monday, August the 4th, A SILVER CUP, value six guineas, to the gentlemen who ring 1000 of bob major with least faults; and a SILVER CUP, of three guineas value, to the second-best.

☞ The above is the free gift of a gentleman.

N. B. A good ordinary will be provided at the Bull at one o'clock.

(Advert in *Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 21 and 28 July 1783; the former omitted the final line above. The cup was won by the College Youths in competition with the Oxford and Farnham Societies, and it remains in the possession of the College Youths. Its inscription shows that it was given by Mr. Peter Bluck, of Sonning, and the names of the band, inscribed on the reverse, are those of members of the 'Junior' Society.)

On the 21st of June was rung, at Keslingbury, near St. Neots. in Huntingdonshire, 5160 Changes, by a Society of Change-Ringers of that Place, on a Peal of five Bells, in three Hours and twenty-five Minutes, which is allowed by Judges to be an excellent Performance.—The Bells have lately been hung by Mr. Arnold, Bell-Founder and Bell-Hanger, at St. Neots. (*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 7 July 1783; also *Stamford Mercury*, Thurs. 3 July 1783, which says '... at Kislingbury, near Northampton,...')

On Thursday last was rung at New College, by eight of the Company of Oxford Youths, a complete Peal of five Thousand and forty Grandsire Tripples, in two Hours and two Minutes. (*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 26 July 1783; also *Bath Chronicle*, Thurs. 31 July 1783, where the place was qualified as 'New College, Oxford,...')

Sunday last the ringers of St. Nicholas in this city, rung at Almondsbury, in Gloucestershire, a compleat peal of 5040 Grandsire Trebles, in three hours and 28 minutes. (*Felix Farley's Bristol Journal*, Sat. 16 Aug. 1783)

Tuesday last in honor [*sic*] of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales coming of age, the Wakefield ringers, rang a new compleat peal of Bob Tripples, call'd Prince Royal, consisting of 5040 changes in twelve courses, composed for the occasion, which they performed in three hours and twenty six minutes and a half. (*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 19 Aug. 1783; also *Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 23 Aug. 1783)

Last Tuesday being the Anniversary of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales's Birth-Day, when he entered into the 22d Year of his Age, it was celebrated here by ringing of Bells, &c.

The same Morning, in Honour of the above Event, the Wakefield Ringers rang a new complete Peal of Bob Triples, called *Prince Royal*, consisting of 5040 Changes, in 12 Courses, composed for the Occasion. It was performed in three Hours 26 Minutes and a Half, with proper Distension, as all Peals ought to be rung.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 19 Aug. 1783)

R I N G I N G.

ON Thursday the 18th of September, 1783, will be given gratis by James Beakhurst, at the Ship at Wokingham, Seven very good HATS to that company that rings the best Round Peal on Wokingham Church Bells, which peal is to continue 15 minutes, and not less than four companies to ring, nor any company to ring but what dines at the ordinary, which will be provided by the said James Beakhurst, at the Ship, near the church, and will be on the table precisely at one o'clock, and to begin ringing at three.

No Wokingham person to ring or be an umpire.—Each company to provide their own umpire, as the above is to be decided by the majority of them. .

(*Reading Mercury, and Oxford Gazette*, Mons. 1 and 15 Sept. 1783 - advert)

On Monday last was rung, at the Old Church at Macclesfield, Cheshire, by a junior set of ringers, from Ashton-under-line, the first time they ever attempted it) [*sic*], Mr. Holt's true peal of grandsire tripples, consisting of 5040 changes, which was completed in two hours and fifty-five minutes, with great exactness and regularity.

(*Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 13 Sept. 1783)

On Saturday was rung at Kighley [*sic*], on six new bells, 5040 Tripple Changes, in three hours and forty minutes, by the old society of ringers at Kighley [*sic*] and Kildwick, which gave general satisfaction to all that heard them.

(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 16 Sept. 1783)

We hear from Birstal, that the old ringers at that church, rang on Sunday evening last 5040 changes, contain'd in seven different six bell peals, or treble bobs, with great exactness in three hours and twelve minutes.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 7 Oct. 1783; also *Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 11 Oct. 1783)

The death of Thomas Rudhall

Last week died, in Gloucester, after a lingering and painful illness, which he bore with great resignation, Mr. Thomas Rudhall, bell-founder, of that city; his unshaken principles, his great attention and punctuality in his business, recommended him to the esteem of the public; and his integrity and benevolence endeared him to all who knew him.

(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 23 Oct. 1783)

Yesterday se'nnight died at Gloucester, after a lingering and painful illness, which he bore with great resignation, Mr. Thomas Rudhall, Bell-founder, a man of great eminence in that business, which has been for many generations in the family: and universally respected for the undeviating rectitude of his conduct.

(*Pugh's Hereford Journal*, Thurs. 23 Oct. 1783)

Glocester

Charles and John Rudhall, Successors to their Brother, T. Rudhall, Bell-Founder, deceased, beg Leave to return their most grateful Acknowledgements to the Public for the Favours so constantly conferred upon their Family for a hundred Years past, of which they humbly hope for a Continuance: They likewise desire to inform them, that the Business will be carried on in the most extensive Manner: and all orders for Bells will be executed with the utmost Dispatch, and upon Terms as reasonable as at any Foundry in the Kingdom.

Orders addressed either to Mr. John Rudhall, at Gloucester; or to Mr. Charles Rudhall, at Brightelmstone, Sussex, will meet with due attention.

Those persons, who are indebted to the late Thomas Rudhall, are requested to pay the same to Mr. Abraham Rudhall, Mercer, Gloucester.

(*Gloucester Journal*, Mon. 3 Nov. 1783 - advert; also *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 17 Nov. 1783 – advert; also *Pugh's Hereford Journal*, Thurs. 30 Oct., 1783, with minor differences)

Last Week died at Gloucester, Mr. Ruddall [*sic*], the most considerable Bell-founder in the Kingdom. The Business is carried on the same as in late Mr. Ruddall's Time, by his Brothers Messrs. J. and W. [*sic*] Ruddall.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 4 Nov. 1783; also *Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 8 Nov. 1783)

At Ashton-under-line on Wednesday last, was rung by the junior Set there, a true Peal of Bob Major, consisting of 10,240 Changes, in six Hours and a Half. The Tenor being upwards of a Ton Weight, was rung single-handed by Neddy Moss, who called the Bobs.

A solemn Mourning Peal was afterwards rung by the same Youths, as a grateful Acknowledgment due to the Memory of the late Mr. Rudhall, of Gloucester, who was the Founder of their excellent Peal of Bells.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 11 Nov. 1783)

By a letter from Ashton-under-Line, in Staffordshire, we are informed, that when the ringers received information of the death of Mr. Rudhall, of this city, who was founder of their harmonious peal of bells, they assembled and rang a solemn peal upon the occasion, as a grateful acknowledgement, to the memory of the deceased artist,

(*Gloucester Journal*, Mon. 8 Dec. 1783)

Wednesday evening last the ringers of St. Nicholas, in this city, rung a solemn peal on those bells, on the death of Mr. Tho. Rudhall, bell founder, late of Gloucester, it being the only peal of his casting in this city.

(*Felix Farley's Bristol Journal*, Sat. 13 Dec. 1783)

On Sunday the ringers at Birstall church rung 5040 tripple changes, which they performed in three hours and two minutes, with great exactness, and afforded much satisfaction to a number of hearers.

(*Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 1 Nov. 1783; also *Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 28 Oct. 1783, but ending '...a great number of hearers.')

On Wednesday Se'night was rung at Ashton-under-Line, Lancashire, by the junior Sett there, a true Peal of Bob Major, consisting of 10,240 changes, in six Hours and a Half. The Tenor, being upwards of a Ton Weight, was rung single-handed by the Person who called the Bobs.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 18 Nov. 1783; also *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 22 Nov. 1783, the latter per Gareth Davies.)

On the 18th inst. was rung upon hand bells, by Godmersham men, a compleat Peal of 5040 Bob-major, in two hours and twenty-five minutes.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Wed. 19 Jan. - Sat. 22 Nov. 1783)

A few Days ago, a Peal of 5400 Changes was rung at Harpole, in this County, by five Youths of that Parish, in three Hours and 45 Minutes.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 24 Nov. 1783)

On Tuesday last was rung at Bradford, by the junior ringers of that place, the original Grandsire Bob Tripples, in six courses compleat, the whole containing 5040 changes, in three hours and fourteen minutes. It was allowed, by all judges present, to be the best peal ever rung at that place.

(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 16 Dec. 1783; also *Leeds Intelligencer*, same date.)

The death of William Fortrey

On Thursday last, died at his seat at Norton by Galby, William Fortrey Esq; aged 85 years. His death was occasioned by the following unfortunate accident; about three weeks ago as he was going into the garden before he went to bed, he fell down the flight of stone steps in the front of the house, and not being able to recover himself, and the only servant that slept in the house gone to bed, he lay out all night, and was found in the morning by the servant, but not quite dead, and from that time languished to the above period...The deceased was descended by the female line and enjoyed the fortune, of the ancient family of the WHALEY'S! who from the time of the Conquest have been settled at Norton and Galby and held large possessions there. He is said to have been a good classical scholar, - a mechanic and Mathematician; - had a remarkable fine ear for music; with a very superior knowledge in the Art of Change Ringing. Amongst other marks of his munificence he rebuilt the church at Galby, to which he gave bells; he also built at his own expense, gave bells, and an organ, to that beautiful structure the new church at Norton. - He died unmarried, and is succeeded in his fortune by his nephew, the Rev. Mr. Green of Rolleston in this county.
(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 13 Dec. 1783)

Thursday se'nnight died, universally regretted, Wm. Fortrey, Esq; of Norton by Galby in Leicestershire, and formerly of St. John's college in this university. In him the poor have lost a valuable friend, his domestics a kind master, and the world an ornament. As monuments of his piety the churches of Norton and Galby will be lasting witnesses; the former of which he built, and is, perhaps, one of the most elegant spire steeples in the kingdom; he endowed it with 10 bells, a complete set of chimes, and an excellent clock. His death was occasioned by a cold he caught a few nights before, in falling from the steps of his house into his garden, where he lay all night, not being able to call anybody to his assistance.
(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 10 Nov. 1783 – per Gareth Davies)

On the 18th. instant died, at his seat at Norton by Gaulby, in Leicestershire, William Fortrey, Esq., aged 85... Among other marks of his munificence, he rebuilt the church at Gaulby, to which he gave bells; he also built at his own expence that beautiful structure the New Church at Norton, to which he gave bells and an organ.
(*Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 22 Dec. 1783)

On Friday evening was rang at St. Martin's church in this town, a Mourning Peal of Triples and another of Majors - as a tribute of respect to the memory of the deceased Wm. Fortrey Esq; whose remains were that evening interred at Norton.
(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 27 Dec. 1783)

NORTHAMPTON, Dec. 20, 1783.

NOTICE is hereby given, That the PEAL of SIX BELLS, Belonging to St. SEPULCHRE'S Church, in this Town, are completely NEW HUNG and TUNED, by Mr. ARNOLD, Bell-Founder, of St. Neots. And on Tuesday next, the 23d of this Instant December, the following Prizes are to be rung for:

First, the Ringers of the best Six-Bell-Peal, to be entitled to a Gold-Laced Hat.

The Ringers of the best Five-Bell-Peal and Tenor cover, to be entitled to a Silver-Laced Hat.

To open at Nine o'Clock in the Morning. Judges, and proper Peals to be nominated at the Time of Opening, by Mr. Arnold.

N.B. There will be an ORDINARY at the Ram Inn.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 22 Dec. 1783)

R I N G I N G.

To be RUNG FOR at SITTINGBOURN,

On MONDAY, the 29th of December,

Six neat Pair of DOE-SKIN GLOVES,

By any Gentlemen who chuse to meet on the Occasion.

To meet at the WHITE HART,

Where good Attendance will be given by their humble Servant,

JOHN HOGWOOD.

☞ The best of Three Peals PLAIN BOB.

Dinner at Two o'Clock.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 20 Dec. - Wed. 24 Dec. 1783 – advert.)

On Thursday morning last, was compleatly rung on the 8 bells at St. Peter's church, Nottingham, Mr. Holt's peal of 5040 grandsire Triples, for the amusement of the performers. - The sixth bell was rung by one of the Birmingham society, the seven other performers were of the Nottingham company of change ringers. The time was three hours and fifteen minutes.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 27 Dec. 1783; similar reports in *Burbage's Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 27 Dec. 1783; *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 29 Dec. 1783; *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 29 Dec. 1783; and *Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 3 Jan. 1784)

Last Week the Society of Ringers of Sheffield, met at the Old Church, and rung 5040 Changes of Bob-Major, Eight in, which they performed in three Hours and thirty-five Minutes.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 30 Dec. 1783; also *Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 6 Jan. 1784 and *Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 10 Jan. 1784, both beginning 'Tuesday se'nnight in the morning...' vice 'Last Week...')

Chelmsford, Jan. 2.

Last Saturday a compleat peal of 6000 bob-major was rung on our bells, by the Chelmsford company; 5th. once quick down and trice 5-6 going out; twice in 4ths, once wrong way behind; - and the exactness of calling and striking the peal displayed the judgment of the performers. The same company rang 5040, in three hours, at Baddow on Tuesday; and the same peal here last night, in three hours and 20 minutes; tenor 22 cwt.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 2 Jan. 1784)

READING, SATURDAY, *Jan.* 10.

...

At the election at Ludgershall, Wilts, on Saturday last, a round peal was rung on five bells, by five men of that place whose ages together amount to 350 years.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 12 Jan. 1784)

On Monday last the Ancient Society of College Youths rang at the parish church of St. Saviour's, Southwark, a true and compleat peal of 6288, Oxford Treble Bob Maximus, in five hours and six minutes, being the greatest number of changes ever compleated in that method on twelve bells, and was performed by twelve persons only.

(*Gazetteer and New Daily Advertiser*, Mon. 19 Jan. 1784; the peal is not recorded in the College Youths' peal book.)

Opening of the new ring of bells at St. John's, Horsleydown

A few days ago a peal of eight bells were cast by Mr. Mears, of Whitechapel, the largest of them weighed upwards of nineteen hundred weight, the smallest upwards of seven hundred weight; the process did not continue upwards of twenty minutes, and executed with the greatest safety and mechanical judgment: They are intended for Horsleydown [*sic*] Chapel.

(*Morning Post and Daily Advertiser*, Mon. 18 Aug. 1783)

Monday last being kept as the Anniversary of her Majesty's nativity, a grand opening of the new Peal of ten bells erected at the parish Church of St. John, Horsleydown, took place, when a Society of gentlemen, who are lovers of the art of ringing, in honour of the occasion, gave ten gold laced hats and a dinner to be rung for by different ringers. About ten o'clock a set of *young gentlemen* ascended the steeple in order to gratify a number of impatient listeners (who were by that time assembled) with a specimen of their *unparalleled* abilities in that art, and so proved in the end; for before they had reached 4000 changes, all those so lately described platoons, divisions, sub-divisions, grand-divisions, &c., were again repeated with large additions, and greater energy than ever, so that they were obliged to quit the steeple through private doors in order to avoid that loud reception which was prepared for them by the auditors, and which was so justly deserved. After this the Society of Cumberland Youths ascended the steeple, and amid the acclamations of upwards of 10,000 spectators, rang the first peal compleat, consisting of 5,399 Grandsire Caters, in three hours and 58 minutes, but notwithstanding that they had won the hats by a great majority of changes and fineness of striking, the before mentioned *young gentlemen*, contrary to all order, were admitted to a second trial, with a view, it is supposed, to retrieve their lost honour and "transmit to posterity a lasting testimony of their superior abilities and indefatigable perseverance;" but how great was the disappointment proved far inferior to the first and became the object of contempt and ridicule! And although they had been worsted by a considerable odds, yet, *fortunately* for them, they had chose for their umpire a squinting oyster man, who being so much infatuated with the glory of his post as to loose his best sense, viz., that of thinking and judging right; and who it is believed was b-d for the occasion, gave it in favour of the *select performers*, because they rung *College Horn-book*; and the gentlemen who gave the hats confiding in the *superiority* of his judgement, the supposed victors were, contrary to equity and good conscience, crowned with the laurels they had so egregiously lost and admitted to partake of the dinners provided for the occasion.

(Newscutting, source unknown, from the Trollope MS)

On January 19th, 1784, a new ring of ten bells from Whitechapel was opened at St. John's, Horsleydown, and to mark the occasion the leading ringers of the day were invited to compete for a prize which consisted of ten gold laced hats provided by a number of local gentlemen. The winning band was also to be entertained at the dinner which, as usual, concluded the ringing.

The ancient Society of College Youths started first, but got out after ringing about four thousand changes. Then the Cumberlands rang 5,399 Grandsire Caters, composed and conducted by [the older] George Gross. Then the College Youths rang 5,040 Oxford Treble Bob Royal conducted by John Povey. The latter had their best band, which was made up of Winstanley Richardson, Joseph Holdsworth, George Scarsbrook, John Povey, Joseph Monk, James Darquitt, James Worster, William Lyford, Edmund Sylvester and Samuel Muggeridge.

Both peals are entered in the respective peal books. Nothing is said about any match, but the prize was awarded to the College Youths. We should have known nothing about it had it not been for a

reference in a contemporary newspaper. This was clearly inspired by the Cumberlands, who took their defeat very badly. It was mainly a bitter attack on their opponents, who were accused not only of bad ringing but of bribing the umpire.

.....

This screed has no value as history, but it is good evidence of the feeling between the societies, for it is pretty certain it was inspired by the Cumberlands, who took their defeat badly. The sneer about 'transmitting to posterity' was a sarcastic reference to the College Youths' peal board lately erected in St. Leonard's belfry.

(From articles by J. Armiger Trollope in the *Ringling World*, 9 Oct. 1942, p.456 and 19 March 1943, p. 123.)

Last week was rung at Oldham by that noble set of youths, a new peal of bob major, composed by Mr. Thomas Kay of the above parish and consists of 14,480 changes, which they performed compleat in 8 hours and 23 minutes.

(*Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 17 Jan. 1784)

Last Monday was rung at Finchingfield, in this county, and by their own company, 5040 changes of bob-major in three hours. Thomas Stammers 1st, Samuel Dod, 2d, Joseph Martin 3d, Thomas Atherton 4th, Thomas Beddell 5th, Thomas Stammers, jun. 6th, Richard Giver 7th, Joseph Dawson, 8th, who called the peal. Such a peal is not so singular in itself, as in these performers; for it was never performed there before except when the bells were opened, although attempted at different times by different reputable companies. The striking in general was astonishingly pleasing, and conveyed grand harmony to the musical sensation.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 23 Jan. 1784)

Leicester, Feb. 20

On Sunday evening was rung by the Change Ringers of the town (on that much admired new peal of eight bells at St. Martin's) a mourning peal of Tripples and another of Bob-Major - as a testimony of their regard for their late worthy deceased Member.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 21 Feb. 1784)

On Shrove-Tuesday last, the Society of Leicester Scholars (for their own Amusement) rung Mr. Holt's complete Peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, in 3 Hours and 28 Minutes, on the much-admired Peal of eight Bells, at St. Martin's, in Leicester.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 8 March 1784)

On Shrove Tuesday last was rung by the society of ringers at Beighton, in the county of Derby, the following six bell peals, making in the whole 5040 changes in 2 hours and 59 minutes, viz. Violet; Tulip; Primrose; Cheapside Bob; College Trebles; College Pleasure; Oxford Treble Bob.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 13 March 1784)

To CLOCK-MAKERS.

Wanted at Burton-upon Trent,

A NEW CHURCH CLOCK, and a Complete Sett of CHIMES on Eight Bells.—All Persons desirous of undertaking them, are desired to send their Proposals (sealed up) to the Church-Wardens, on or before Easter Monday next, at 12 o'Clock.

GEORGE WAINWRIGHT, / WILLIAM SMITH, } *Church-Wardens.*

BURTON, 14th March, 1784.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 11 March - Thurs. 18 March 1784; also next issue.)

On Friday the 12th instant was rung at Hatfield Broad-Oak, in this county, on that new and harmonious peal of eight bells, cast by Mr. Robert Patrick, of London, a compleat 5,040 of bob major, in three hours and ten minutes, and called by Wm. Webb, who rung the second. 'Tis very singular in these performers, it being the first time they ever attempted it, the regular striking of this peal gave general satisfaction.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 19 March 1784)

On Wednesday morning last was rung at the Abby [*sic*] Church, by the Union Society, a peal of six thousand Bob Major, which was compleated in four hours and twenty minutes. (*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 20 March 1784; similar report in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 22 March 1784)

On Wednesday morning, the 17th inst. was rung at the Abbey Church, in Shrewsbury, by the Union Society, a peal of bob major, containing six thousand changes, with the sixth in the tittom course, and at home each eleven times, and the 7th and 8th at home every course end. The peal was exceeding finely struck, and compleated in four hours and twenty minutes. (*Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 27 March 1784)

A few Days ago was rung, at St. Leonard's Church, Shoreditch, the compleat Peal of twelve thousand Changes of Oxford Treble Bob Royal; which is the longest Peal ever compleated; taking up the Space of nine Hours and five Minutes, and reflects the greatest Honour on the Cumberland Youths, who were the Performers. (*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 24 April 1784; also *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 3 May 1784.)

SOUTH-WRAXALL, WILTS.

RINGING on Whit-Wednesday, at the King's Arms inn, at Mr. Wm. Bowyer's,

SIX SILVER PUNCH LADLES, value Three Guineas. The company that ring the best half-hour peal shall be entitled to the Ladles; and the second-best to half a guinea. If only two companies ring, the best Ringers to have the Ladles only. No Companies admitted to try the bells on Sundays.

Proper umpires to be chosen at the time. No Companies admitted to ring unless they dine. Dinner on the table at two o'clock.

(*Bath Chronicle*, Thurs. 29 April & Thurs. 13 May 1784 - advert)

TO be RUNG for, at Stephen Herring's the Jack of Newbury, Binfield Church, on Tuesday in the Whitsun-Week, FIVE GOOD HATS: the set that rings the best round peal, to continue 15 minutes, to be entitled to the hats. Each set to bring an umpire with them, and the umpire belonging to the winning set to have a hat. No person will be allowed to ring or be an umpire but what dines at the ordinary, which will be ready at one o'clock, and to begin ringing at three.—No Binfield man to ring or be an umpire, and not less than three sets to ring.—
No say peal to be rung on that day.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 3 May 1784 - advert)

Two reports of a peal at Halesowen

On Sunday last was rang, at Hales-Owen, by the society of Stourbridge and Bromsgrove Chapel Youths, Holt's peal of Grandsire Treble, containing 5040 changes, in three hours and 12 minutes. (*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 13 May 1784)

On Sunday the 9th of May, was rung at Hales-Owen, by the Society of Chapel Youths, of Stourbridge and Bromsgrove, Holt's famous long Peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in three Hours and twelve Minutes, which was acknowledged by all who heard it, to have been the best Peal ever rung on those Bells. (*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 17 May 1784)

On Thursday last was rung, at St. Mary Magdalen College, by the Society of Oxford Change-ringers, a Peal of Six Thousand Bob-Majors in three Hours and fifty Minutes. (*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 29 May 1784; also *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 5 June 1784, under the by-line 'OXFORD, May 29.')

On the 29th of May a peal of eight bells, cast by Messrs. Rudhalls, of Gloucester, was opened at Chaddesley-Corbet, in Worcestershire, by the chapel youths of Stourbridge, with Holt's peal of grandsire [*sic*] triples, consisting of 5040 changes, which (by the bells remarkably good, and hung in a compleat manner) they accomplished in three hours and five minutes. This is almost the first instance of so long a peal having been rung when bells were first tried.

(*Gloucester Journal*, Mon. 21 June 1784; shorter report in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 7 June 1784)

On Monday last (being Whit-Monday) was rung at St. Giles's Church, in this Town, on the much admired Peal of eight Bells, cast by Mr. Arnold, of St. Neots, the complete Peal of 5040 Bob-Majors, in three Hours and twenty Minutes.—The above Performance does great Honour to the Northampton Youths, it being the first Attempt they ever made on that Peal.—Weight of the Tenor 25 Cwt.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 7 June 1784; similar report in *Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 19 June 1784, omitting the reference to the Northampton Youths, but ending 'We are informed that Mr. Arnold is forming a foundry at this place, which is nearly completed.')

On Sunday last the antient Society of College Youths rang, at the parish church of St. Giles's, [*sic*] in the Fields, the whole peal of Grandsire Trebles, (being 5040 changes) with two new Singles, and was performed in three hours and eleven minutes.

(*Parker's General Advertiser etc.*, Wed. 9 June 1784; the peal is not recorded in the College Youths' peal book.)

BELL FOUNDING

EDWARD ARNOLD, Bell Founder and Bell Hanger, from St. Neots, in the county of Huntingdon, is removed to, and has erected a New BELL-FOUNDRY, near the South Gates in Leicester, where he purposes carrying on the bell Founding Business in all its Branches, and flatters himself he shall by his diligence and care, continue to deserve that favourable Attention the Publick have heretofore bestowed upon him.

He continues to make upon the best Principles, repairs and cleans Church Clocks and Chimes, Turret and other Clocks, Watches, &c. — Also makes upon the most approved Plans, repairs and adjusts Machines for weighing Carriages, and Engines for extinguishing Fire; casts Brass, and makes Iron Work for Mills, and executes every Branch in the White and Jobbing Smith Business with the greatest expedition and most moderate terms.

The Bell Foundry Business only will be continued at St. Neots by the said Edward Arnold.
(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 24 July 1784)

On Sunday last, was rung on that musical peal of bells, at Bewdley, by the Chapel Society of that place, Holt's peal of 5040 grandsire tripples, in 3 hours and 27 minutes.

(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 29 July 1784; similar report in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 2 Aug. 1784, beginning 'On Sunday the 25th of July ult. ...')

ST. IVES, August 12, 1784.

THE FRAME of the BELLS, belonging to BLUNTISHAM CHURCH, in the county of Huntingdon, being out of repair, the Churchwardens and principal Inhabitants of Bluntisham aforesaid, wish a proper person to apply and contract for the reparations thereof.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 21 Aug. 1784 - advert)

On Monday September the 13th will be opened at Terrington St. John's, Marshland, in the County of Norfolk, a new peal of Six fine Musical Bells, cast and hung by Thomas Osborn, Bellfounder and Bellhanger at Downham in Norfolk.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 28 Aug. 1784)

RINGING at MAIDSTONE

On Friday next the 3d of September, 1784, will be opened an entire new Peal of Ten Bells at Maidstone, cast by Chapman and Mears, of London; on which will be rung Five Thousand Oxford Treble Bob, by the Leeds Youths. To begin at Seven o'Clock in the Morning.

N.B. There will be an Ordinary at the Queen's Head, at One o'Clock.
(*Kentish Gazette*, Wed. 25 Aug. - Sat. 28 Aug. 1784 - not an advert)

On Monday the 13th of September will be opened at Terrington St. John's, Marshland in the county of Norfolk, a new peal of six fine musical bells, cast and hung by Thomas Osborne, bellfounder and bellhanger, at Downham in Norfolk.
(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 4 Sept. 1784)

On Saturday was rung, at Chaddesley-Corbett, by the Chapel Youths of Bewdley, 5040 Gransire [*sic*] Tripples in three hours and 12 minutes.
(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 9 Sept. 1784; similar report in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 13 Sept. 1784, beginning 'On Saturday the 4th inst. ...')

On Monday last was rang, at St. Mary Walthamstow, Essex, by the Society of Young Cumberland Youths, a true and compleat peal of 5040 changes of Grandsire Tripples. This is the first peal rang on those bells, in that method, and was completed in three hours and nineteen minutes.
(*Parker's General Advertiser and Morning Intelligencer*, Fri. 10 Sept. 1784)

On Saturday last was compleatly rung on the new musical peal of bells, at Chadesley Corbet, by the Kidderminster Society of change ringers, Holt's peal of 5040 Grandsire Tripples in three hours and 12 minutes. This is the first peal ever performed on those bells by eight men.
(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 16 Sept. 1784; also *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 20 Sept. 1784, starting 'On Saturday the 11th inst. was completely rung...')

On Monday last was opened at Rothley, a new peal of 5 bells, cast by Mr. Arnold, late of St. Neots (but now of Leicester) being the first peal cast by him since his removal, and the first peal cast at Leicester, since the time of Hugh Watts, the celebrated Bell-founder, who was Mayor of that borough in 1633.- -The new peal at Rothley is allowed by all judges of bell-music to be a most pleasing and perfect peal, and for their weight and size inferior to none in the kingdom. They were opened by the Leicester Society of Change Ringers, with 5 different peals of 120, to the great entertainment of the inhabitants, and a number of persons from the adjacent towns. The subscribers and a number of gentlemen dined together at Mr. Bywater's, at Rothley-house, and concluded the day in the most agreeable and friendly manner.
(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 27 Sept. 1784; also *Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 25 Sept. 1784; *Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 23 - Thurs. 30 Sept, 1784, starting 'On Monday the 13th Inst...'; and *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 2 Oct. 1784)

Saturday the 19th was rung, at Chadesley, by the Society of Chapel Youths of Stourbridge and Bromsgrove, in three hours and five minutes a compleat peal of 5040 gransire [*sic*] trebles; allowed to be the best ringing ever rung on those bells.

Monday morning was rung at all [*sic*] Saints in this city, by that society only a true, compleat and musical peal of 5120 Oxford treble bob, eight-in, in three hours and twenty-one minutes.
(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 30 Sept. 1784)

Monday last was rung at Walsall, Holt's celebrated peal of 5040 gransire triples, in three hours and thirty minutes, by the Walsall Society; the tenor weighed 25 cwt.
(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 4 Oct. 1784)

On Monday the 27th of Sept. was rung at Walsall, Holt's celebrated peal of 5040 Grandsire Tribles, in three hours and 30 minutes, by the Walsall Society; and there is not a doubt but it was as well rung as that favourite peal of Mr. Samuel Green's was at Chadesley, by the Stourbridge and Bromsgrove Society, in which they assume to themselves so much self merit, in declaring it the best ringing ever rung on those bells. People who are ignorant of change ringing may be made to believe so; but all judges of the art will allow that 1000 of Oxford Tribble Bob is superior to that stale peal of Grandsire Tribles, which is the first and most easy method learnt, and the first peal young artists attempt to ring.
(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 7 Oct. 1784; cf *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 4 Oct. 1784)

On Sunday last was rung by the Society of Cumberland Youths, at Stt [*sic*] Margaret's, Barking, Essex, a true and complete peal of 5040 changes of grandsire triples: it is the first peal ever rung on those bells in that method, and was completed in five [*sic*] hours and 25 minutes.
(*Whitehall Evening Post*, Tues. 12 Oct. – Thurs. 14 Oct 1784)

ST. NEOTS, October 1, 1784.

EDWARD ARNOLD, Bell-founder, returns his sincerest thanks to his friends in the town of St. Neot's, and to the Gentlemen who in any way employed him, and takes this opportunity of acquainting them, That tho' he is removed to LEICESTER, he intends carrying on the business of Bell-founding at St. Neot's as formerly.

Those who please to favour him with their commands in that way, may depend upon having them punctually obeyed.

Mr. Arnold informs his friends, That Robert Taylor, his late apprentice, has taken his shop, and begs a continuance of their favours to him, as every other branch of business will be carried on in the shop as formerly; those who please to confer their favours upon him, will have them executed with the utmost expedition, and on the most reasonable terms.

N.B. Agreements and estimates, may be had by applying to Mr. Francis Arnold of St. Neots.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 16 Oct. 1784 - advert)

On Sunday evening the 10th of this month was rung, at the parish church of St. Peter and St. Paul, Tunbridge, Kent, by the Society of Bromley Ringers, the ten-course peal of grandsire triples, consisting of 5040 changes; completed in 3 hours and 14 minutes, and the first peal of 5040 changes ever rung on those bells.

(*General Evening Post*, Tues. 19 Oct. – Thurs. 21 Oct. 1784)

READING, SATURDAY, Oct. 30.

...

This day, between one and two in the afternoon, a fire broke out in an out-house belonging to Mr. Plumber, bell-founder of Pangbourn; but by the timely assistance of a great number of the inhabitants, it was extinguished without any further damage, than burning the same.—The fire is supposed to have been occasioned by some hot peat ashes being put in the house.

(*Reading Mercury*, Mon. 1 Nov. 1784)

On Sunday last was rung at Stourbridge, a compleat peal of bob major's, containing 5040 changes, in three hours and twenty minutes, by the society of Chapel Youths of that place, the above being rung single handed by eight of the young artists of the same society, the eldest not exceeding 19 years of age, although being brought up in that stale way of grandsire tripples, as some incorrect people deem it, the above being allowed by all judges of that art to be far superior to 1000 of Oxford treble bob, which was so lately rung at Chaddesley Corbett by a certain society, who had three days trial in completing the same.

(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 4 Nov. 1784)

On Friday last, being the 5th of November, was rung, on the musical Peal of eight Bells at All-Saints Church, in this Town, by the St. Sepulchre's Youths, the complete Peal of 5040 Bob-Majors, in three Hours and twenty-one Minutes.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 8 Nov. 1784)

On Monday the 8th of November, was rang by the Leed's [*sic*] youths, on the ten new bells at Maidstone, 5760 changes of new Oxford tripple bob ten-in. This peal (never rung before but by the Leed's [*sic*] youths) was compleated in four hours and six minutes, by William Tilby, Thomas Austen, William Davis, William Cook, Benjamin Bottle, Thomas Sweetlove, Thomas Butcher, James Barham, Thomas Lacy, George Tilby with Tho. Barham, tenor.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 13 Nov. - Wed. 17 Nov. 1784)

The Leeds and College Youths should be content with sounding their own praise from the steeple, it is from thence and not from the paper that the Public may decide, Whether the peal of Treble Bobs or the peal of Oxford Treble Bobs was best performed?

(*Kentish Gazette*, Wed. 17 Nov. - Sat. 20 Nov. 1784; evidently an editorial reference to the Leeds Youths and College Youths peals at Maidstone on November 8th and 15th respectively - the former was reported above, the latter is in the College Youths' peal book)

Sunday se'nnight in the evening was rung at Wakefield, by the society of ringers there, the peal called Union Bob Tripples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 24 divisions complete, in three hours and 25 minutes. This Peal was rung in honour of that noble institution the Sunday Schools set on foot in that town, where there are upwards of 480 scholars.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 7 Dec. 1784)

ON FRIDAY, December 3, 1784, the
MAIDSTONE SOCIETY of RINGERS, at MAID-
STONE, in the County of KENT, rang a true and compleat
Peal of Five Thousand Four Hundred BOB-MINOR [*sic*], being
the first Peal ever rang on the new Bells, by any Company of
Men, of one Parish.—The Time three Hours and Fifty Min-
utes.—By the following Persons:
Treble, Mr. James Brislee, 1.—Mr. Robert Tassell, 2.—
Mr. Thomas Cutbush, 3.— Mr. Joseph Moore, 4.—Mr. Edw.
Jury, 5.—Mr. Thomas King, 6.—Mr. Daniel Whetstone, 7.—
Mr. John Harper, 8.—Mr. George Hyland, 9.—Mr. Daniel
Kingsnorth, 10.—Mr. Thomas King called the Peal.

☞ This new Peal of Bells were cast by Chapman and
Mears, Bell-founders, in Whitechapel, and hung by Mr.
Sweetlove, of Leeds; And for Melody, being C sharp, are
allowed to be one of the noblest and compleat Peal of Bells in
the Kingdom. Tenor, 30 Cwt.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 4 Dec. - Wed. 8 Dec. 1784 - advert)

Last week died in the 35th year of his age, regretted by all that knew him, Mr. William Warne, one of the Steeple company of ringers belonging to St. Peter's of Mancroft, and excelled by few in that ingenious art.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 18 Dec. 1784; shorter report in *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 11 Dec. 1784 – both had the name incorrect, which should be Warner.)

On Christmas-Day a peal of grandsire tripples, consisting of 5040 changes, was rung in three hours and thirty minutes, by the society of ringers at Sowerby, after six months practise.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 28 Dec. 1784)

On Monday the 27th ult. was rung at Trinity Church in Sheffield, by the Society of Ringers of that Town, Five Thousand One Hundred and Twenty Changes of Union Treble Bobs, eight in, which was compleated in three Hours and thirty Minutes, the Tenor Bell being 33 hundred Weight.—The above Peal was never performed before in that Part of England.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 30 Dec. 1784 -Thurs. 6 Jan. 1785; also *Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 4 Jan. 1785, but without the last sentence.)

Saturday last being Christmas-day, a complete half peal of *Oxford Treble Bob*, being no less than 360 changes, was rung by the Minor society of *campanalogians*, at *St. Benedict's* church, in this town; and *all* within the space of *a quarter of an hour*: - But what renders this performance *truly remarkable*, is that it was finished in the *second* trial only: a circumstance never before recorded in any newspaper, and probably never will again; unless it be by the following geniuses, who so merrily usher'd in the morning of that joyful day: viz. *Treble*, Mr. Isaac Smith; 2d, Mr. Steers; 3d, Mr. Coe; 4th, Mr. Sanders; 5th, Mr. Hazard; and the *tenor*, (which is near fifteen hundred weight) Mr. Spencely; who called the bobs with judgment and accuracy, sufficient to procure him considerable applause; especially as the bells had been heard (in different parts of this county) dodging backwards and forwards throughout the peal; but were nevertheless all brought home again in their proper courses, without having any other effect than shaking the steeple.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 1 Jan. 1785)

On Monday last, was rung at Trinity Church in Sheffield, by the Society of ringers of that town 5120 of Union treble bob, eight in, which was completed in 3 hours and 30 minutes, the tenor bell being 33 hund. weight. The above peal was never performed before in that part of the Kingdom. (*Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 1 Jan. 1785; also *Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 1 Jan. 1785, starting 'On Monday the 27th December instant ...' and *Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 6 Jan. 1785 starting 'On Monday the 27th ult.')

1785

On Thursday evening last the ancient society of College Youths rung at the parish church of St. Martin's in the Fields a complete peal of Oxford treble bob Maximus, which consisted of 5136 changes, being the most in seven courses with the sixth at home, wrong and right eighteen times, was the first in that method, and greatest performance ever done on those bells, completed in four hours and twelve minutes.

(*Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Sat. 8 Jan. 1785; also *Times*, Mon. 10 Jan. 1785)

GEORGE HEDDERLEY,

BELL-FOUNDER, and BELL-HANGER,

(Brother and Successor to Mr. Thomas Hedderley, lately deceased)

At the Old Bell foundery, in Parliament-street,
NOTTINGHAM;

Where the Bell-founding Business has been carried on for upwards of three Centuries past.

BEGS Leave to inform the Public, that he cast, tunes, and hangs all Sorts of Church Bells, and casts and hangs all Sorts of House Bells and Turret Bells; also casts and compleats Hand Bells of all Kinds, and all Sorts of Mill and Bell Brasses; also all Sorts of Bell Wheels, made or repaired, and all other Branches in the Bell-founding and Bell-hanging Business expeditiously executed, and on as reasonable Terms as in any Part of the Kingdom.

By the Public's most obedient humble Servant,

GEORGE HEDDERLEY.

(Advert in *Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 8 Jan. 1785; quoted in the *Ringing World*, 26 April 2013, p.400.)

On Saturday the first instant, an admired peal of 6000 bob-major, was rung at Stourbridge, by the society of ringers of that place, the performance lasted three hours and 50 minutes, and the competent judges of that art, who had an opportunity of hearing it, declare it was executed in a most masterly manner.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 10 Jan. 1785; shorter report in *Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 6 Jan. 1785)

A publication that never happened

CHANGE RINGING

PROPOSALS for printing by subscription.

(On a good Paper and Type in a neat Duodecimo Volume)

Price Two Shillings and Six-pence.

THE ART of RINGING; much Improved,

By plain, easy, and concise Directions; sufficient to strike the Idea of young Practitioners; whereby they may, with Care and Practice, attain to the Knowledge of Ringing all Manner of the most approved Changes now in Use.

With proper Instructions for young Bob Callers, in the most difficult and obscure Peals. The Whole interspersed with an elegant Collection of real, good, and true Peals, upon five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, and twelve BELLS; many of which were never before made public.

By an experienced RINGER, in BIRMINGHAM.

Subscriptions are taken in by Messrs. Pearson and Rollason, Birmingham; Mr. N. Rollason, Kidderminster; Miss Parker, Coventry; Mr. Eddowes, Shrewsbury; Mr. Gregory, Leicester; Mr. Drury, Derby; and by the Booksellers in most of the principal Towns in the Country, and the Newsmen.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 10 Jan. 1785)

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(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 24 Jan. 1785)

On Thursday evening last, the ancient society of College youths did ring at the parish church of St. Martin's in the Fields, a compleat peal of Oxford treble bob maximus, which consisted of 5136 changes, being the most in seven courses, with the sixth at home, wrong and right, eighteen times. It was the first in that method, and the greatest performance ever done on those bells. It was completed in four hours and twelve minutes.

(*Daily Universal Register*, Mon. 10 Jan. 1785; also *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 17 Jan. 1785, still beginning 'On Thursday Evening last,...')

On New-Year's Day was rung by the Society of Ringers at St. Ann's Church, Rotherham, a complete Peal of 5040 Changes of Bob Major, upon eight Bells, in three Hours and fifteen Minutes, being the first Peal of eight ever rung at that Church before. The Tenor Bell is 29 Cwt.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 11 Jan. 1785; similar report, but without the weight of the tenor, *Leeds Intelligencer*, same date.)

On New-year's day was rung by the society of Rotherham ringers, at St. Ann's church, in Sheffield, a complete peal of 5040 changes, upon eight bells, of bob major, rung in three hours and fifteen minutes, being the first ever rung at the above church upon eight bells.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 11 Jan. 1785)

On Sunday last the Cumberland Youths rang a complete peal of Oxford Treble Bobs, at St. Nicholas, Deptford, consisting of 5088 changes, in three hours and twenty-five minutes.

(*Gazetteer and New Daily Advertiser*, Thurs. 20 Jan. 1785)

On Thursday Evening last was rung at New College, by eight of the Junior Society of Oxford Youths, Holt's Peal of Five Thousand and Forty Grandsire Tripples, which was completed in three Hours and five Minutes.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 5 Feb. 1785)

On Tuesday last was rung at Shiffnal, a compleat peal of 600 [*sic*] Bob Majors, by the society of that place, which was performed to the satisfaction of the best judges present, in 3 hours, 55 minutes, and was the first of that length ever attempted there.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 12 Feb. 1785; also *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 14 Feb. 1785, where the number of changes is given correctly as 6000; *Whitehall Evening Post*, Sat. 12 Feb. – Tues. 15 Feb. 1785; and *Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 25 Feb. 1785, under by-line '*Shrewsbury, Feb. 19.*', still beginning 'On Tuesday last...')

On Tuesday last (being Shrove Tuesday) a complete Peal of 5040 Grandsire Trebles was rung at St. Martin's, Leicester, in three Hours and fifteen Minutes, by part of the Society of Leicester Change-Ringers, four of whom are the Juniors of that Society. The Peal was allowed by Judges to be remarkably well performed.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 14 Feb. 1785; similar report in *Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 19 Feb. 1785)

R I N G I N G.

TO be given gratis, at Richard West's, at the Fox and Castle, at Old Windsor,—Five Handsome HATS, to be RUNG for, by any five men, and one for the Umpire, on Monday the 7th of March. No less than four companies to ring; and each company to provide their own umpire. - Dinner to be on the table at one o'clock, and begin ringing at three.

☞ No Old Windsor man to ring, or stand umpire.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 14 Feb. 1785 - advert)

On Tuesday last was rung at Bromsgrove, by the society of that place, a compleat peal of 5040 Bob-Majors, in three hours and fifteen minutes.

(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 17 Feb. 1785)

On Monday last was rung at Ashton-under-Line; by the celebrated Ashton Lads, 5040 Changes of Bob Major, in three Hours 14 Minutes, in so Masterly a manner, that all who heard them were astonished at the Performance; the Trebler being only 14 Years of Age, and the rest of the Set very Young.

(*Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 19 Feb. 1785; *Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 22 Feb. 1785)

Chichester, Saturday, Feb. 19.

Some thieves having observed a small church bell of about two hundred weight, standing before the premises of Mr. Strugnall, at Fareham, and which being from its weight, thought sufficiently secure, constantly remained there, contrived a few nights since to remove the same undiscovered. The above mentioned bell formerly belonged to the church of All Saints, in this city.

(*Salisbury & Winchester Journal, and Hampshire Chronicle*, Mon. 21 Feb. 1785)

On Thursday night last, the Society of Young Cumberland Youths, rang a complete Peal of Gransire [*sic*] Trebles, at St. Dunstan's, Stepney, containing 5040 changes, in three hours and 45 minutes, with an hundred bobs and two single changes.

(*General Advertiser*, Sat. 26 Feb. 1785)

On TUESDAY, the 22nd, was RANG at MAIDSTONE,
 By the MAIDSTONE SOCIETY,
 In Four Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,
6240 of Kentish Treble Bob,
 Being the compleatest Peal of the Kind ever rang in this
 County,

	{ James Brizlie	—	Treble
	{ Robert Tassell	—	2d
	{ John Harper	—	3d
	{ Joseph Moore	—	4th
By the following Persons	{ Thomas Rawlings	—	5th
	{ Thomas Swinock	—	6th
	{ Thomas King	—	7th
	{ Daniel Whetstone	—	8th
	{ George Hyland	—	9th
	{ Daniel Kingsnorth	—	Tenor

The Method of ringing this curious and delightful Peal was designed by Mr. Thomas Austen, of Ulcomb, and perfected by Mr. Thomas King, of Maidstone; and is adjudged to be the most tuneful and melodious Peal that can be rang on Ten Bells.

Tho' We to London the Palm resign,
 Tho' seven long Years was giv'n to this Design;
 Yet Perseverance in three Months has given,
 And the dark Path is to our Sight made even.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Wed. 23 Feb. - Sat. 26 Feb. 1785 - advert)

R I N G I N G.

ON Thursday in the Easter week will be given by Robert Churchman, Five very good Hats to that company that rings the best round peal of 15 minutes, on Warfield bell: Also Five Pair of good Gloves that company that rings the second-best peal. An under puller allowed to assist the tenor man, and no company allowed to ring essay peals on the day of ringing, except such companies as have not made trial before, who may ring one peal before one o'clock.

Three umpires will be provided, unconnected with any of the parties, to decided who the above prizes shall belong to.

No Warfield man to ring; neither will any person be allowed to ring but what dines at the ordinary provided by Robert Churchman, at the Horse Shoes, at Warfield.

N. B. It is an excellent peal of five bells, in good repair, and free for trial, but not on Sundays till after divine service in the afternoon. No less than four sets allowed to ring, and begin ringing precisely at three o'clock.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 28 Feb. 1785 - advert)

On Thursday last was rung at Oswestry, by the Anacreontic Society of that place, Holt's peal of Grandsire Tripples, containing 5040 changes, and completed in three hours and 15 minutes.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 7 March 1785; also *Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 5 March 1785)

Friday last was rung at Oldham, by the celebrated Youths of that Place, A New True Peal of Tripples, called the *Nightingale*, consisting of 5040 Changes, in two Hours and fifty-two Minutes, composed by the Bob Caller to the above Youths.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 8 March 1785; also *Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 12 March 1785, starting 'Friday se'nnight was rung ...')

TO be SOLD

FOUR BELLS, some old IRON, with a TON of SHEET LEAD, late belonging to the Parish Church of St. John Timberhill, Norwich.

For Particulars apply to Thomas Moore and John Corfield, Churchwardens of the said Parish. (*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 12 March 1785 – advert; per David Cubitt)

On Monday the 7th inst. was rung at Stourbridge, by the chapel youths of that place, a complete peal of 6160 bob majors, in three hours and fifty-five minutes. - What is remarkable, it was composed and called by a young artist in the same society, whose age does not exceed 19 years; the same was rung at the first attempt, and is allowed, by judges in that art, to have been performed in a masterly manner.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 14 March 1785)

On SATURDAY, March 19, was RANG at BIDDENDEN,

By the MAIDSTONE SOCIETY,

A TRUE and COMPLEAT PEAL of

5040 BOB-MAJOR,

In THREE HOURS and TWELVE MINUTES,

By the following Persons:

James Brislie		John Harper
Thomas Cutbush		George Highland
Robert Tassell		Thomas Swinnock
Thomas Rowlings		Daniel Kingsnorth

Being the first FIVE THOUSAND ever RANG on these Bells.

TENOR, 26 cwt.

☞ Mr THOMAS SWINNOCK called the peal.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Sat. 19 March – Wed. 23 March 1785; advert, per D. Love)

On Tuesday last the Society of young Cumberland youths rung, at the church of All Saints, Westham [*sic*], Essex, a complete peal of 5111 gransire [*sic*] cators, in three hours and 46 minutes.

(*General Advertiser*, Thurs. 31 March 1785; also *Saunders's News-Letter*, Sat. 9 April 1785, under by-line 'LONDON, APRIL 2.')

On Tuesday evening last, was rang, by the ancient Society of College Youths, at the parish church of St. Giles in the fields, a compleat peal of Oxford treble bob eight, which consisted of 5,088 changes, being the most in thirteen courses, with the sixth twelve times wrong, and twelve times right, performed in three hours fifteen minutes.

(*General Advertiser*, Thurs. 31 March 1785; also *Morning Chronicle*, same date and *Saunders's News-Letter*, Sat. 9 April 1785, under by-line 'LONDON, APRIL 2.')

BIDDENDEN, March 26, 1785

THIS Day was completely RUNG,

ON THIS Peal of EIGHT BELLS, by the LEEDS YOUTHS, 5376 CHANGES of NEW OXFORD TREBLE BOB (otherwise called by a certain Company KENTISH BOB) in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes.—This Peal is remarkable for Musick, as it contains all the Grand Course-ends in a Peal of 40320 Changes.

☞ In an advertisement in the *Kentish Gazette*, it was inserted by a certain Company, that they received this Method of ringing from a Gentleman of Ulcomb, the Truth of which is not doubted, for he has rung the same with the LEEDS YOUTHS for many years past, for they were the Composers, and called the Peal NEW OXFORD TREBLE BOB.

MONDAY, March 28, was RANG at BIDDENDEN,
By the BIDDENDEN YOUTHS,
5040 BOB-MAJOR

In THREE HOURS and TEN MINUTES,

By the following PERSONS:

Robert Pullen	Treble		John Hopper	-	5
Richard Pullen	2		John Mills	-	6
Thomas Dean	3		John Stone	-	7
Thomas Couchman	4		Stephen Smith	Tenor	

Being the first FIVE THOUSAND they ever Rang.

☞ Mr. SMITH called the PEAL.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Wed. 30 March - Sat. 2 April 1785 – two adverts, one below the other. The first refers to the advert that appeared in the *Kentish Gazette*, Wed. 22 Feb. - Sat. 25 Feb. 1785.)

On Tuesday was rung, by a Society of Ringers in this City, at St. Martin's, Coney-street, a complete Peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 Changes, in two Hours and 55 Minutes. (*York Courant*, Tues. 5 April 1785; also *Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 12 April 1785, beginning 'On Tuesday se'night...')

THIS is to give notice to all gentlemen Ringers, that there will be given by Stephen Herring, at the sign of the Jack of Newbury, in Binfield, to be rung for at Binfield Church, on Tuesday the 17th of May next, FIVE VERY GOOD HATS, and one for the winning umpire, for the five men that ring the best round peal; and six pair of gloves for the set that ring the second best peal; also six ribbons for the third best set. No less than five sets will be allowed to ring; and no man to ring but what dines at the ordinary, which will be at one o'clock, and to begin ringing at three. No Binfield man to ring; and no say peal to be rung on the day of ringing. Each set to bring their umpire with them.

N.B. Several sets of Old Tire to be sold, almost as good as new. Enquire as above.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 11 April 1785 - advert)

R I N G I N G.

ON Friday the 17th of June next, will be given by Mr. Thomas Shackleford, of Yateley, Hants, - FIVE GOOD HATS, and one for the umpire, to that set that rings the best under-hand peal, of 15 minutes, on Yateley five Bells. Each set to bring an umpire, but no umpire will be allowed to stand to more than one peal each man, and to draw a ticket for that peal the same as for ringing; as there will be two men chosen at the Ordinary to stand to every peal, who are unconnected with every company, so that the third man will decide all disputes.

No set to ring but what dines at the ordinary, which will be on the table at one o'clock, and to begin ringing at three. No Yateley man to ring; and no essay peal on the day of ringing. No less than four sets will be allowed to ring.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 25 April 1785 - advert)

On Saturday the 23d inst. was rung at Shifnall, a complete peal of 10080 bob majors, by the society of that place, in six hours, and thirty minutes, which was the greatest peal ever rung there, and allowed, by the best judges in that art present, to be exceedingly well executed. (*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 25 April 1785)

TO BE RUNG FOR,

AT MITCHELDEVER, Hants, upon Five Bells, on Whitsun-Tuesday, SIX HATS, of Half-a-Guinea Value each, to be given by EDWARD WISE.—One hat for the umpire of the set that rings the best round peal, and each set to bring their umpire; any set of ringers will be allowed to try the bells before hand, but no Mitcheldever men will be allowed to ring or be an umpire, nor no sham peals to be rung that day.—The hats will not be rung for, except there be three sets, and none allowed to ring but those who dine at the ordinary, at Edward Wise's, at the Spread Eagle, Mitcheldever, which will be on the table at one o'clock precisely.

(Hampshire Chronicle, Mon. 25 April 1785 - advert)

R I N G I N G.

THIS is to give notice to all Gentlemen Ringers, that there will be given by Thomas Chapman, at the sign of the Horn, at Mortimer, Berks, on Thursday the 2d of June next, the following prizes:

Six very good Hats, for that set that rings the best round peal, and one for the umpire. Likewise Six pair of Gloves for the second best peal. Also Six Ribbons for the third best peal. Each peal to continue fifteen minutes, and no less than five sets will be allowed to ring. None to ring but what dines at the Ordinary, which will be at two o'clock, and to begin ringing at three. No Mortimer men to ring. Each set to bring their umpire.

(Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette, Mons. 9 & 30 May, 6 June 1785 - advert)

On Thursday the Junior Society of Cumberland Youths, rang at St. Matthew, Bethnal Green, a complete 5040 Grandsire Tripples, in 3 hours and 12 minutes, being the first peal ever rung on those bells.

(Daily Universal Register, Tues. 10 May 1785)

R I N G I N G

To be RUNG for, at Wallingford, in the County of Berks, on Saturday the 4th of June next,—a SILVER CUP, of Three Guineas and a Half Value, by any Company of Change Ringers that rings the best Peal of Bob-Major, not less than a Thousand Changes: Each Set to bring their own Umpire.—To dine at the Plume of Feathers at One o'Clock, and begin ringing at Three.

☞ If the successful Company should not think the Cup worth the Sum above-mentioned, they will receive Three Guineas and a Half in Money.

(Jackson's Oxford Journal, Sats. 14 & 28 May 1785 – advert; also Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette, Mons. 9, 23 & 30 May, 6 June 1785, in a slightly different format, for which see below.)

R I N G I N G

TO be Rung for at Wallingford on the 4th day of June, A Silver Cap of three guineas and a half value, by any company of change ringers that ring the best peal of bob major, not less than a thousand changes. Each to bring their own umpire, to dine at the Plume of Feathers at one o'clock, and begin ringing at three. And if the successful company do not think the cup worth the sum above mentioned, they shall receive three guineas and a half in money.

(Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette, Mon. 23 May 1785 – advert)

Last week was opened at Dingley in this county, a Peal of Five bells, four of which were cast by Mr. Arnold of Leicester, (late of St. Neott's) whose ingenuity as a bell founder entitles him to a first place among those of that profession. The tenor is in Alamire weight 10 hundred, cast by the late celebrated Mr. Hugh Watts of Leicester, in the year 1618, and is allowed to be one of the best bells of that weight in all the county: in short the whole peal, for equality of tone and justness of tune, is thought by judges to be equal to any thing of the kind.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 21 May 1785; also *Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 27 May 1785.)

On Monday last was rung at Bewdley, by the chapel society of that place, a compleat peal of bob majors, containing 6160 changes, in four hours; being the first attempt that was made, and the longest peal ever rung on those bells.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 23 May 1785)

Stamford, June 9.

On Sunday the 29th ult. was rung upon a peal of five bells at Coningsby, by James Greenfield, Richard Sharp, James Baker, Joseph Baker, and John Baker, 5280 changes of doubles, in two hours and 52 minutes, being the shortest time remembered for such a number of changes to be run [*sic*] upon five bells.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 10 June 1785)

R I N G I N G.

THIS is to give notice to all Gentlemen Ringers, that there will be given by Thomas Nash, at the Bowling Green House, at Hurst, Berks, on Wednesday, the 20th day of July next,

Six very good Hats, for that set that rings the best round peal, and one for the umpire. Each peal to continue fifteen minutes. None to ring nor stand umpire, but what dines at the ordinary, which will be at one o'clock, and to be on ringing at three. Each set to bring their umpire; and no essay peal on the day of ringing.—No Hurst man to ring or stand umpire.

☞ Coffee, Tea, and Cheesecakes, as usual.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 13 June 1785 - advert)

Saturday se'night being the anniversary of his Majesty's birth-day, a new peal called the Balloon Royal, was rung at Otley, consisting of 5040 changes in three hours, sixteen minutes, and twelve seconds, with the greatest exactness.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 14 June 1785)

W I L T S.

TO be RUNG for, at Trowbridge, on Tuesday the 9th day of August; Two Prizes value Five Guineas; the best peal to be entitled to a large handsome SILVER BOWL, value three guineas and a half; the next best peal to be entitled to SIX HATS, value one guinea and a half. The length of each peal to be half an hour; six minutes rising, twenty minutes up, and four minutes falling; no faults to be pricked till the tenor strikes double.

No Trial Peals to be allowed on Sundays or on the ringing day, except by such as have not tried before; in that case they will be allowed one peal, and that peal to be rung before dinner.

The Umpires and Pricker of faults to be sworn if required, and each sett to have a Sidesman.

N. B. Dinner will be provided at one o'clock precisely by the

.....

(*Bath Chronicle*, Thurs. 30 June 1785; the rest of the advert is cut off.)

[The Prince of Wales travels from Brighthelmston to Tunbridge Wells on Wednesday last.]

The ringers of Uckfield, having previous notice that the Prince was coming through that place, ushered his Royal Highness in by the ringing of bells, when he was pleased to order them two guineas to drink his health.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 4 July 1785)

RINGING

NOTICE is hereby given to all Gentlemen Ringers and others, That there will be opened at Saint Gregory's Steeple, in Sudbury, Suffolk, on Tuesday next, July 19, A PEAL of EIGHT BELLS, by the Melford company, when all gentlemen will meet with a hearty welcome. Dinner to be ready at the PLOUGH INN at Two o'clock. N.B. The bells to be opened at Nine o'clock in the forenoon.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 16 July 1785 - advert)

The opening of the bells at Bury St. Edmund's

Our new peal of Ten Bells, cast by Mr. Osborne of Downham, are now completely hung, and will be opened at St. James's steeple, on Friday the 12th of August, (being the Prince of Wales's birth-day) by a company of ringers from Cambridge, called the Cambridge Youths, who will meet at the Woolpack-Inn, where the company of all gentlemen ringers will be esteemed a favour. Dinner at Two o'clock.

These bells are allowed to be of a very fine tone: the weight of the tenor is 29 cwt. and the key in D.

(*Bury Post, Or, Suffolk and Norfolk Advertiser*, Wed. 3 Aug. 1785; also *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 6 Aug. 1785 and *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 6 Aug. 1785; quoted in the *Ringing World*, 11 Jan. 1985, p. 27; similar report in *Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 5 Aug. 1785, under the by-line 'Bury, Aug. 3.' but omitting the reference to the Woolpack Inn)

Last Friday the Prince of Wales birth-day was celebrated at Bury, by the opening of a new peal of bells, cast by Mr. Osborne, of Downham, in this county.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 20 August 1785, quoted in the *Ringing World*, 11 Jan 1985, p.27. The Prince of Wales' birthday was on Friday, 12 August 1785)

Friday last, being the birth-day of the Prince of Wales, the same was celebrated here by the opening of our new peal of ten bells, cast by Mr. Osborne of Downham, whose abilities as a founder might have suffered from the inexpertness of a set of ringers from Cambridge, (who laid pretensions to being complete masters of the art, when in fact they were mere novices) had not a company of ringers from the village of Stonham come to relieve his apprehensions on the Saturday, who, instead of that confused clashing of sounds the town had heard the day before, gratified us with that full-toned melody which is the characteristic of this original and truly British harmony; thereby shewing, that the ringers of a village in Suffolk, are not to be outdone even by those of a University!

(*Bury and Norwich Post*, Wed. 17 August 1785)

Friday last being the Prince of Wales's birth-day, a fine new peal of ten bells (the tenor in D) cast by Mr. OSBORNE, of DOWNHAM in *Norfolk*, was opened at BURY ST. EDMUND's in *Suffolk*, and is allowed by all that have heard it, to redound much to the fame of Mr. OSBORNE's Foundery, insomuch that a gentleman has liberally offered to make it a peal of TWELVE, by the addition of two trebles from the same noted foundery.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 20 Aug. 1785)

To the PRINTER of the BURY POST.

TO the account of the opening the new peal of ten bells, inserted in your last paper, it is now highly necessary to add, that the several disadvantages which the Society of *Cambridge-Youths* laboured under, from the rough going of the bells, and the confused noise of the peal in the belfry, through want of a proper cieling [*sic*], prevented the company from acquitting themselves with that general satisfaction, which on similar occasions, has hitherto shown conspicuously on that ancient and respectable society. Nevertheless they rung seven courses of Catons, and a course of Bob-major Royal; the tenor to which, was rung by *one* person only; although it was generally affirmed by all other ringers who had repeated trials, that there was not a man in *Bury* that could ring her as she then went. The fact

is, as was sufficiently proved to the town, that there was not another company that could even ring *three score changes* upon them during the whole day of opening. The next day, however, the bells going much easier, a combination of ringers out of Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, (all of whom, as some waggish Irishman has expressed it, came from *Stonham* in *Suffolk*) seized the opportunity, and rang three courses of Bob-major Royal; which without the least candid allowance for the better going of the bells, seemed to give satisfaction to those who were altogether unacquainted with the practical part of ringing.

We have now only to wish that the *Cambridge-Youths*, (on the day of opening in particular) had been less liberal in the distribution of their labours in the afternoon, when they generously endeavoured to oblige a variety of strangers, who, however, good eight-bell ringers, in other respects were unable to encounter such a heavy and flowing peal of *ten*; and this conjunction of different companies was the real cause of that "*clashing of sounds*," so partially and malevolently attributed solely to the *Cambridge Society*.

The postage of this letter was not paid but the Printer has inserted it, to avoid the least imputation of partiality.

(Bury and Norwich Post, Wed. 24 August 1785; cf Cambridge Chronicle and Journal, Sat. 27 Aug. 1785)

Our Cambridge correspondent, since the publication of our last, has cheerfully defrayed the expence incurred. The note was not meant as a particular reflection, but as a hint to correspondents in general. (Bury Post, Wed. 31 Aug. 1785)

A very illiberal paragraph having appeared in the *Bury* newspaper last week, respecting the opening of a new peal of ten bells there, it is now highly necessary that TRUTH should advance and rectify those falsities which therein occur.

The public are therefore to understand, that the several disadvantages which the society of Cambridge Youths laboured under, from the rough going of the bells, and the confuted noise of the peal in the belfry, through want of a proper ceiling [*sic*], prevented the company from acquitting themselves with that general satisfaction, which on similar occasions, has hitherto shone conspicuously on that ancient and respectable society. Nevertheless they rung seven courses of Caters, and a course of Bob-major Royal; the tenor to which was rung by *one* person only, although it was generally affirmed by all the other ringers who had repeated trials, there was not a man in *Bury* that could ring her as she then went. The fact is, as was sufficiently proved to the town, that there was not another company that could even ring *three score changes* upon them during the whole day of the opening: The next day, however, the bells going much easier, a combination of ringers out of Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex and Cambridgeshire, (all of whom, as some waggish Irishman has expressed it, came from *Stonham* in *Suffolk*) seized the opportunity, and rang three courses of Bob-major Royal; which without the least candid allowance for the better going of the bells, seemed to give satisfaction to those who were altogether unacquainted with the practical part of ringing.

We have now only to wish that the *Cambridge Youths*, (on the day of opening in particular) had been less liberal in the distribution of their labours in the afternoon, when they generously endeavoured to oblige a variety of strangers, who, however good eight-bell ringers, in other respects were unable to encounter such a heavy and flowing peal of *ten*; and this conjunction of different companies was the real cause of that "*clashing of sounds*," so partially and malevolently attributed solely to the *Cambridge Society*.

(Cambridge Chronicle and Journal, Sat. 27 Aug. 1785; the reference is to the Bury & Norwich Post, Wed. 17 Aug. 1785, qv)

We hear that St. Peter of Mancroft company of 12 ringers will be at Bury next Sunday, and intend ringing the new peal of ten bells there, on Monday next, for the entertainment of the town and environs.

(Norwich Mercury, Sat. 15 Oct. 1785; similar but slightly shorter report in the Norfolk Chronicle of the same date, both quoted in the Ringing World, 11 Jan. 1985, p 27)

Monday last the Norwich ringers rang several peals on our new bells, which gave the greatest satisfaction to the lovers of harmony.

(Bury Post, Wed. 19 Oct. 1785)

Yesterday se'nnight St. Peter's company of ringers came from Bury, where they rang a variety of peals on the new peal of ten bells, which gave the greatest satisfaction to all ranks of people, particularly the lovers of harmony. - The above peal, which is a very musical and flowing one, does much credit to Mr. Osborn, of Downham, by whom they were cast.
(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 29 Oct. 1785; quoted in the *Ringling World*, 11 Jan. 1985, p. 27)

On Saturday the 31st of July, was rung at Hingham, in Norfolk, by the ringers of that place, a compleat 5040 changes of Bob Major, in 3 hours and a quarter.
(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 6 Aug. 1785; cf *Norfolk Chronicle*, which confirms the peal was rung on Sunday, 31 July)

Sunday last was rang at Hingham, 5040 changes of bob major, in three hours and twenty-seven minutes, by the ringers of that place, with the greatest ease.
(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 6 Aug. 1785; quoted in the *Ringling World*, 11 Jan. 1985, p. 27)

R I N G I N G

TO be Rung for at Walter Applebey's, the Six Bells, at Beenham, on Wednesday the 14th of September next, SIX VERY GOOD HATS, and one for the umpire, for the set that rings the best round peal in 15 minutes. No essay peal allowed on the day of ringing; and no person to ring but what dines at the ordinary, which will be on the table at one o'clock, and begin ringing at half past two. Each set to bring their own umpire.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 8 Aug. 1785 - advert)

On Tuesday last was rung, by the Society of Young Ringers, at St. Mary's church in the parish of Farnham, Surrey, in three Hours and five minutes, 5040 or the whole peal of Grandsire Tripples, being the first peal of (Holt) Tripple ever rung in that steeple.
(*Reading Mercury*, Mon. 12 Sept. 1785)

ON Monday next a PEAL of FIVE BELLS will be opened at GREAT GLEN, in the County of Leicester, compleated by Mr. ARNOLD, BELL-FOUNDER, in Leicester.

There will be an Ordinary at Mr. Day's, the Greyhound Inn, - Dinner on the Table at two o'clock.

The Bells to be opened at 10 o'clock in the Morning.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat 17 Sept. 1785 - advert)

Yesterday was married, Peter Verbruggen, Esq. to Mrs. Kooystra, relict of the late Doctor Kooystra.
(*Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Thurs. 22 Sept. 1785; Pieter Verbruggen was a master founder at the Royal Brass Ordnance Foundry at Woolwich.)

Winchester, Saturday, Sept. 24.

On Thursday last was rung by the society of young ringers, at St. Mary's church, in the parish of Farnham, in three hours and five minutes, 5040 or the whole peal of grandsire tripples, being the first peal of Holt's Tripples, ever rung at that place.
(*Salisbury & Winchester Journal, and Hampshire Chronicle*, Mon. 26 Sept. 1785)

We hear from Ashton under-line, that the [?Society of] Change Ringers of that Place, made a Journey of Pleasure the first of this Instant to Sheffield, where they continued two Days; in which Time they rung various Peals of Changes upon the Bells at the Old Church, in such a Manner as procured them general Respect and courteous Behaviour from all around them. Their Performances upon the Hand Bells gave universal Delight and excited the Admiration of all who were Lovers of Ringing. They had the Honour of being invited to, and partaking of a sumptuous Dinner in Cutler's Hall, (it being the Cutler's Feast) and afterwards regaled with Plenty of good Liqueur, and on leaving the Hall had a handsome Present made them of some Silver; during their Stay they were severally presented with different small Articles of Cutlery Ware from the Ringers and their Friends as tokens of Affection and Satisfaction of their Visit, which were kindly received, not for the Value of the Gift, but the benevolent Givers. - The same Youths also on Monday last, rung upon their own Bells 5120 Changes of Union, or Treble Bob, in three Hours and twenty Minutes, with great Exactness of Time, and we believe is the first Treble Peal ever rung upon eight Bells in this County.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 4 Oct. 1785) [An article based on this news report was published in the *Yorkshire Post*, 8 July 1912.]

On Saturday evening, the 9th of this month, was rang at the parish church of Lewisham in Kent, by the society of Bromley ringers, a compleat peal of 5120 changes of Oxford Treble bob, which was competed in three hours and 16 minutes.

(*General Evening Post*, Wed. 20 Oct. – Fri. 22 Oct. 1785)

On Monday last was rung at Langtaft in Lincolnshire, by five youths from Stamford, 2520 changes on five bells, lately hung on a new construction with a new frame, by Mr. Edward Arnold, of this town, which gave great satisfaction to the ringers, and the parishioners of Langtaft in general.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 22 Oct. 1785)

Monday last being the anniversary of the Saint Martin's Youths, their annual feast was held upon the occasion. The company was very numerous, and the day was spent with great festivity; the next morning the society, in compliment to the strangers who attended, proceeded to Aston, where a peal of 5120 Oxford treble bob, eight-in, was rung in three hours and thirty-three minutes, called by one of the strangers, to the great satisfaction of all present.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 31 Oct. 1785)

OCTOBER 28, 1785.

ALFRETON STATUTE FAIR will be held on TUESDAY the 22d Day of NOVEMBER next, being Old Martinmas Day; as usual, for hiring of MALE and FEMALE SERVANTS.

For the Encouragement of an Institution of so public Utility there will be a Sheep roasted whole and given away gratis to the Populace.

And likewise, for the Entertainment of the Company, there will be a Wrestling for a Guinea a Face, on a large Stage erected for that Purpose.

There will likewise be given Five Shillings worth of Ale to that Set of Ringers, who shall ring the best Peal of Grandsire Bobs on that Day, on the Alfreton Bells.

N. B. The Terms of wrestling to be agreed on at the same Time; to enter at Twelve o'Clock, and begin pr[e]cisely at One.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 27 Oct. – Thurs. 3 Nov. 1785)

On the same day [Saturday last] was rung at Sowerby, by the society of ringers there, 5040 changes of Bob-Maior [*sic*] in three hours and twenty-five minutes, and a boy of 15 years of age rang the fifth bell.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 8 Nov. 1785)

On Sunday se'nnight in the evening, was rung at Wakefield, by the ancient society of ringers there, a New Peal of Tripples, call'd the *Virgin's Delight*, consisting of 5040 changes, in twelve courses compleat; it was performed in three hours and twenty-five minutes, with the greatest exactness and nicety ever known.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 8 Nov. 1785)

On Tuesday last was rung at the Parish Church in this town, by the Society of ringers of this place, the whole peal of Holt's Tripples, in ten courses, containing 5040 changes, in three hours and seven minutes, being the first time this peal was ever performed in Yorkshire. (*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 15 Nov. 1785; similar report in *York Courant* of the same date, stating also 'without Extremes' and with 'in this county' vice 'in Yorkshire.')

Disaster at East Grinstead

Extract of a letter from East-Grinstead, Nov. 20.

"Saturday morning, about eight o'clock, a large quantity of stone fell from the north-west buttress of the tower of this church, which drew many spectators to the spot; but, far were they from apprehending any sudden fall of that large fabric, that Mr. Palmer, the master of the Grammar-School, which is immediately under the tower, taught as usual that morning, and did not quit the school till twelve o'clock, and would have been there again at one had it not been Saturday. About five minutes before two, the whole tower divided and came entirely down; and we are sorry to add, that that large and much admired gothic structure the church is totally destroyed. There were the tower six very large bells, the tenor of which weighed twenty-seven hundred weight. Five now appear upon the ruins, and seem to have received no hurt. Happily no lives were lost."

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 25 Nov. 1785)

CHICHESTER, *November 26.* Saturday morning, about eight o'clock, a large quantity of stone fell from the north-west buttress of the tower of the church, at East-Grinstead, in this county, which drew many spectators to the spot; but, far were they from apprehending any sudden fall of that large fabric, that Mr. Almer, the master of the grammar school, which is immediately under the tower, taught as usual that morning, and did not quit the school till 12 o'clock, and would have been there again at one, had it not been Saturday. About five minutes before two, the whole tower divided and came entirely down; and we are sorry to add, that that large and much-admired gothic structure (the church) is totally destroyed. —There were in the tower six very large bells, the tenor of which weighed twenty-seven hundred weight. Five now appear upon the ruins, and seem to have received no hurt. Happily no lives were lost.

The following are the particulars of this unfortunate event:—That stately building, (the tower of the parish church of East Grinstead) was rebuilt in 1684, (the old one having been burnt down by lightning in 1683) but had for some years past been in a state of decay, owing to the want of judgment in the architect, bad workmanship, and worse materials. But withing this twelvemonth is hastened very rapidly to its dissolution, by shewing a large crack at the foundation of the north-east angle, which passed through the stone stair-case contained in that angle, and which led to the top of the tower by winding steps. A large part of the outside of the foundation of that angle had at several times fallen down, which discovered the badness of the materials, being nothing but a case of stone filled up with rubbish, and that stone very indifferent. The bells, which were six, and very heavy, and hung in the third loft, had not been rung for some time past, as it was observed they shook the tower very much.

On Saturday the 12th day of November, a very considerable quantity of stone fell from the north-west angle, some distance up the tower; this brought near an hundred persons into the chuuch-yard [*sic*] ... [Continues with a very lengthy description of the fall of the tower.] (*Hampshire Chronicle*, Mon. 28 Nov. 1785)

Monday last was rung at Woodbridge, the complete peal of 5040 changes, by the Woodbridge company, in 3 hours and 3 minutes. (*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 26 Nov. 1785)

On Monday last was rung at St. Trinity, by the Change Ringers of this city, 6000 Bob Majors without parting the tenors, with the sixth home 12 times wrong and 12 times right, and was completed in four hours and fourteen minutes. - The difficulty which attended the composing of the above peal to adapt the most music possible, is remarked by judges of the art to be the best peal ever rung of that exact number in the kingdom. (*Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 28 Nov. 1785)

On MONDAY next will be opened, at MARGATE,
in KENT,

A NEW PEAL of SIX BELLS,
cast by Mr. MEARS, of LONDON (the late LESTER,
PACK and CHAPMAN) by the SOCIETY of CANTERBURY
RINGERS; when every Friend fond of that Art, the Favour
of their Company will be particularly esteemed.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Tues. 6 Dec. - Fri. 9 Dec. 1785 - advert)

On Christmas Eve the Society of Ringers at our Cathedral rang 1008 Changes of Grandsire Triples; but the Singularity in the Performance was, that the whole Peal was covered singly by a Youth only 19 Years of Age, though the Tenor is 53 Cwt.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 27 Dec. 1785; similar report, but stating 'York Cathedral', in *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 31 Dec. 1785 and *Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 3 Jan. 1786.)

On Tuesday evening last was rang by the ancient society of College Youths, at St. Dionis Back Church, a complete peal of Oxford treble bob royal, ten [*sic*] which consisted of 5040 changes, being the first in that method ever rang there, and were performed in three hours and twenty-nine minutes.

(*Morning Chronicle*, Thurs. 29 Dec. 1785)

On Sunday last was rung at Shiffnal, a complete peal of 5120 Oxford Treble Bob, in 3 hours and 16 minutes by the Albion Society of that place, being their first attempt.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 31 Dec. 1785; similar report in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 2 Jan. 1786, but beginning 'On Sunday the 25th ult...')

On Sunday (Christmas-Day) was rung at Knaresborough, by the Society of Ringers there, a compleat peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in ten courses, without an extreme; it was performed in three hours and fourteen minutes, alternately, with the greatest exactness and distinction.

(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 3 Jan. 1786 - per. D. Cubitt)

1786

On Monday evening last, was rang by the Ancient Society of College youths, at St. John's, Horsleydown, a complete peal of Oxford treble, Bob Royal ten in, [*sic*] which consisted of 6000 changes, being the most ever rang there, and was performed in four hours twelve minutes. (*Morning Chronicle*, Thurs. 19 Jan. 1786; this peal is not recorded in the College Youths' peal book.)

On Wednesday Se'nnight, the Society of Ringers at Hitchin, Herts, rang Mr. Edwins's complete new Peal of 5040 Changes (never rung before) in three hours and 32 Minutes.—This is the second Peal of 5040 performed by the above Society. (*Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 28 Jan. 1786; immediately below this report is the report referred to below.)

On Monday Evening, Mr. Holts Peal of Five Thousand and Forty Grandsire Triples, was completely rung at St. Peter's Church in Nottingham, by the Society of Hopeful Youths in that Town, being the first performed by them and justly allowed to be a capital Achievement, as the Society has not been established six Months, and the Majority of them under 20 years of Age. - The time 3 Hours and 27 Minutes. - The Performers R. Wells, F. Draper, Sen. F. Draper, Jun. H. Wright, C. Metherringham Jun. T. Turner, T. Hutton, and J. Cox. - The Peal was called by F. Draper Sen. (*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 26 Jan. 1786; *Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 28 Jan. 1786, but with the time given incorrectly as 5 Hours and 27 Minutes: similar report in *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 28 Jan. 1786; shortened report, without the ringers' names, in *Northampton Mercury* and *Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, both Sat. 28 Jan. 1786, and *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 30 Jan. 1786.)

TO CHURCHWARDENS AND OVERSEERS TO be SOLD

Three Bells, of most excellent Tone, weighing together Twenty-two Hundred and an Half.—For further Particulars, inquire of the Churchwardens of St. Martin at Palace, Norwich. (*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 28 Jan. 1786 – advert; per David Cubitt)

On Friday night last was rung by the UNION SOCIETY, at the Abbey Church in this town, a peal of BOB MAJOR, containing five thousand and fifty-fix changes, with the 6th in the Tittum course, and at home each twelve times. This peal was composed and called by one of the junior members of the society, and (with exceeding fine sticking [*sic*]) was compleated in three hours 38 minutes. (*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 28 Jan. 1786; shorter report, without details of the composition, in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 30 Jan. 1786)

ON Friday the 27th of January 1786, a compleat peal of Six Bells was opened in a new tower at Redgrave in Suffolk, when a respectable company of ringers and other gentlemen assembled; and on the following day, 5040 compleat changes were rung in the space of 2 hours and 48 minutes, by the undermentioned persons:

WM. WINCEN, treble, Walsham-le-Willows, hung the said peal of bells.

JNO. ALEXANDER 2d JNO. GOLSON, 4th

ROB. GOODCHILD, 3d WM. SOUTHGATE 5th

HEN. HAWARD, tenor, who called the peal.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 11 Feb. 1786 - advert; according to the *Norfolk Chronicle* of 28 Sept. 1782 'the greatest part' of Redgrave steeple was blown down the previous week.)

Thunder and lightning in the West

[Report of thunder and lightning 'last week' – actually on morning of 7 February]

By the lightning, we have heard, that a cow was killed in the parish of Minsterworth. The steeple of the church at Llandilo, in Monmouthshire, was set on fire. [Place uncertain – there is no Llandeilo in Monmouthshire] The tower at Childs Wickham near Evesham, and a pinnacle upon Camden tower are said to have been blown down.

The tower of St. Mary Redcliffe [*sic*], in Bristol, receiving considerable injury from the lightning [*sic*]; and at Nimpers [Nempnett], in Somersetshire, the wheels in the belfry were shivered to pieces.

(*Pugh's Hereford Journal*, Thurs. 16 Feb. 1786)

Extract from a Letter from Bristol, Feb. 11th:

About four o'clock on Tuesday morning, the inhabitants of this city were alarmed by one of the most awful and tremendous thunder storms ever remembered, and the terrors it occasioned were heightened in no trifling degree by its proximity, the distance being so small that scarcely two seconds elapsed between the flashes of lightning and the succeeding thunder claps. The tower of the venerable church of St. Mary Redcliffe, received considerable injury; a stone being broken over the centre of the window or opening on the north side of the tower where the bells are hung; from whence it seems to have run down the outside of that window or opening, about one-third of its length, and from thence to about ten or twelve feet below; the stones of the building, though of considerable magnitude, are either much displaced or materially injured. An iron wire which communicated with the clock hammer was melted about twelve feet from its extremity. The storm continued about an hour, attended with violent gusts of wind.

Same morning the tower of Nempnett church was very much damaged by thunder and lightning, which entered at the bell loft, and broke all the wheels of the bells, except one, to pieces, threw down a great quantity of stones, some of which were thrown to the further side of the churchyard and damaged the staircase in such a manner that made it dangerous to attempt to get up it. - We also hear that South Brent church was greatly injured by the above storm.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 21 Feb. 1786)

DIED.

On Monday morning, at his apartments in the foundry at Woolwich, P. Verbruggen, Esq. Cannon-founder to his Majesty.

(*Morning Herald*, Wed. 22 Feb. 1786; shorter reports in *General Advertiser*, Wed. 22 Feb. 1786 and *Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Thurs. 23 Feb. 1786.)

On the 24th of Feb. was rung at Oldham, by the celebrated Youths, A New Peal of Treble Bob Triples, call'd The Lancashire Surprise, consisting of 5040 Changes, in three Hours and four Minutes. (*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 7 March 1786)

On Monday last was rung by the Derby Youths at All Saints Church (after three Months Practice) Mr. Holt's Peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples performed by Richard Walthall 1st, Richard Sharrah 2d, William Edwards 3d, Edward Woodward 4th, Stephen Cocker 5th, Benjamin Walthall 6th, H. Vicars Fletcher 7th, William Forrister 8th; the Time of performing the above 3 Hours and 24 Minutes, the Peal was called by Richard Sharrah, being the first true Peal ever performed on those Bells.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 16 March 1786; also *Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 18 March 1786, which adds 'by the second' after '5040 Grandsire Triples')

GEORGE HEDDERLEY,

Bell-Founder, and Bell-Hanger,

At the *Old Bell-Foundry*, in Parliament-Street, *Nottingham*.
Where the Bell-Founding Business has been carried on for
upwards of three Centuries past;

BEGS Leave to inform the Public, that he
CASTS, TUNES, and HANGS all Sorts of CHURCH
BELLS, and CASTS and HANGS all Sorts of HOUSE BELLS,
and TURRET BELLS; also casts and compleats HAND
BELLS of all Kinds, and all Sorts of MILL and BELL
BRASSES, likewise makes NEW and repairs OLD BELL
CLAPPERS; also all Sorts of BELL WHEELS, made or
repaired, and all other branches in the Bell-Founding and
Bell-Hanging Businesses expeditiously executed, and on as
reasonable Terms as in any Part of the Kingdom,

By the Public's obedient humble Servant,

GEORGE HEDDERLBY.

(Advert in *Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 6 - Thurs. 13 April 1786; similar adverts in same paper, Thurs. 29 March - Thurs 5 April 1787 and Thurs. 13 March - Thurs. 20 March 1788, also *Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 21 March 1788.)

On Tuesday last was rang [*sic*] at St. Matthew, Bethnal Green, by the Society of Young Cumberlands, a true and complete peal of 5440 changes of Norwich Court Bob Eight In, which is the first peal ever rung in that method, and was compleated in three hours and thirty-two minutes.

(*Daily Universal Register*, Sat. 15 April 1786)

R I N G I N G.

THIS is to give notice, that Stephen Herring, of the Jack of Newbury at Binfield, will give Six very good HATS, to be RUNG for, on Whit Tuesday, viz. Five for the men that ring the best round peal of 15 minutes, and one for the winning umpire. There will be an Ordinary at one o'clock, and to begin ringing at three. No ringing on that day before the hats are rung for. No Binfield man to ring, or be an umpire for any set; but every set to bring an umpire with them.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 1 May 1786 – advert; also same paper, Mon. 29 May 1786, the latter quoted in the *Ringling World*, 31 July 1942, p.346.)

R I N G I N G.

NOTICE is hereby given, to all Gentlemen Ringers and others, that on Tuesday the 30th instant, there will be given gratis by Mr. Thomas Dormer, at the Bush in Wokingham, Six Hats of Half a Guinea value each, to that set that rings the best round peal on Wokingham Church Bells. Each peal to continue 15 minutes; the umpire of the winning set to be intituled to the seventh hat; each set to provide their own umpire, and none to ring but what dines at the ordinary, which will be on the table at one o'clock, and begin ringing at three. No essay peal will be allowed on the day of ringing, nor will any Wokingham man be permitted to ring.

(*Reading Mercury, and Oxford Gazette*, Mon 8 May 1786)

Nurwich [sic], May 4. On Monday last, a complete peal of treble bob maximus, grandsire caters, ten in, consisting of 15440 changes on 12 bells, was rung in eight hours, by the ringers of St. Peter's, Mancroft; during which time, there was not a bell out of its course. This grand peal, though often attempted, was never before rung perfect.

(*General Advertiser*, Tues. 9 May 1786; seemingly a hoax.)

On Thursday last, at a feast held by the society of ringers of Sheffield, at Mr. Jonathan Wilde's, the sign of the Harrow in Sims Croft, was rung upon 8 hand bells, by four young artists, the Course of Cambridge Surprize (Eight in) containing 224 changes; to the admiration of all that were present; Likewise, 3 of them rung the peal of Oxford Treble Bob, upon six of the same bells, containing 720 changes: which was completed in twenty three minutes.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 13 May 1786; similar report in *Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 16 May 1786, starting 'Thursday the 5th Inst. ...', the pub name being given as the 'Arrows'.)

STOKE, MAY 17, 1786.

OUR new peal of SIX BELLS, cast by Mr. Osborne, of Downham, are nearly finished, and will be opened on FRIDAY, MAY 26, when the company of all gentlemen ringers will be esteemed a favour to dinner, &c. at the GEORGE INN. Dinner at *Two o'Clock*.

N.B. A CRICKET MATCH will be played on that day, between the gentlemen of Clare, and Stoke.

(Advert in *Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 19 May 1786; similar advert in *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 20 May 1786 – the latter per David Cubitt)

To R I N G E R S

THERE will be seven HATS rung for, upon Six Bells, at RAUNDS, near Thrapston, in the County of Northampton, on Friday the 2d Day of June next. No less than three Sets of Ringers, and three different Peals.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 20 May 1786 - advert)

WHEREAS the GREAT BELL, in the TOWER of the Parish of Colebrooke, near Crediton, Devon, is fallen down and crazed, so that the same must be new cast, therefore any Founder willing to undertake the Job, is desired forthwith to apply to the Church-Wardens of Colebrooke aforesaid, who will treat with him for the same.

Colebrooke, May 17, 1786.

(*Trewman's Exeter Flying Post*, Thurs. 25 May 1786 – advert; the contract was awarded to Thomas Bilbie of Cullompton, who recast the bell the following year. It was again recast in 1887.)

A new ring at Hatfield, Herts.

An entirely new set of eight harmonious bells have been lately fixed in the steeple at Hatfield, in Hertfordshire: cast by Bryant, Bell-founder of Hertfield [*sic*]; the opening peal on which is reserved for his Majesty's birth day, and to be rung out by a select band of the first performers in that species of melody—it is said, that the Right Hon. the Earl of Salisbury very liberally contributed towards the expence [*sic*] of the above.

(*Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Tues. 30 May 1786; first known from a cutting in the Upcott Collection of cuttings in Hertford County Record Office. The King's birthday was June 4th.)

His Majesty's birth-day was celebrated at Hatfield with as many demonstrations of loyalty as in any part of the kingdom, through the generosity and spirit of the Earl and Countess of Salisbury. A new ring of eight bells was opened at Hatfield church on occasion of the day, by a set of gentlemen belonging to the Society of College Youths; the town was crowded with visitors from Hatfield, St. Alban's, and the neighbouring country; in the evening the ringers were handsomely entertained at Hatfield house; the band of the Hertford militia played in the outer court; who, with the populace, were plentifully regaled with good strong ale; and the festivity of the day concluded by the ringers of the church going to the top of the tower, where they joined in singing "God save the King," and drinking a general toast to the health of Lord Salisbury and his amiable consort.

(*Morning Herald*, Thurs. 8 June 1786)

JAMES HARRISON,
Of BARROW, near BARTON, LINCOLNSHIRE,
Church-Bell-Founder and Bell-Hanger,
The Grandson of JAMES HARRISON, who hung the Bells
in York Minster,

MAKES and hangs Church-Bells by the Models and Rules left and laid down by his Father and Grandfather, whose Improvements in those Branches are very well known in many Parts of the Country where they are employed. And those who may please to favour the above James Harrison with their Orders, directed to him at Barrow, near Barton, Lincolnshire, or to the Care of Spence and King, Ironmongers in the Market-Place, Hull, will be gratefully received, and his best Endeavours used to give Satisfaction to his Employers.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 6 June 1786 - advert)

A death by accident

Last Saturday a dreadful misfortune happened to Stephen Smith, a bell founder in Nottingham: - A party was preparing in the belfry of St. Peter's church in that town, to ring a peal. Smith, unobserved, went up the steeple to take notice of the hanging of one of the bells; while he was there the young men being assembled, began the peal, when the unfortunate artist was caught by the tenor bell, his flesh torn from his legs and thighs and other parts of his body most terribly bruised. He was with difficulty conveyed to the General Hospital with small hopes of recovery.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 10 June 1786; also *Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 10 June 1786 and *Bath Chronicle*, Thurs. 15 June 1786; *Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 16 June 1786, starting 'Saturday se'nnight...' and *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 17 June 1786, starting 'Last week...')

Yesterday died, after living in torment several days, in the General Hospital at Nottingham, the young man mentioned in our last paper, who was so unfortunately wounded by the tenor bell of St. Peter's church on Saturday 3d instant.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 17 June 1786)

We hear from Ashton-under-line, that the Society of Change Ringers from Sheffield arrived there on Sunday last. On Monday Morning early they rung a Peal of Sheffield Tripples, and in the Afternoon a Peal of Union Treble-Bob. On Tuesday they diverted themselves with ringing a Peal of Cambridge Surprize, in all which Peals they manifested a Skill and Expertness in the Art of Ringing, that gave general Satisfaction to a considerable Number of the Lovers of that healthy Exercise, who were assembled on Monday from the Towns adjacent to hear their Performances. Their Stay in Ashton was 'till Wednesday Morning, in which Time some respectable Inhabitants were pleased, at intervals, to favour them with their Company. And we are happy to hear, that during their Stay, a ... Conduct and Innocency of Language and social ... Reputation to all Parties.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 13 June 1786; the parts marked ... were unreadable in the microfilm copy of the paper in Manchester Central Library and also in the digitised copy.)

Sunday the 4th inst. passed in such *silence* at Lancaster, as has not been known for many years. It was Sunday, it was Whit-Sunday, it was the King's Birthday; - not a clapper wagged in the steeple. - This *mute* observance was not the effect of an inattention to religious concerns; nor is it to be considered as a mark of disaffection. - Provincial politics are sometimes superior to loyalty, and even to religion itself. It seems, a couple of guineas had been collected for the ringers to celebrate the event of the late election of a member to Carlisle; the peal was begun, but a sudden stop was put to the harmony of the steeple; and the gentlemen of the *campanalogia* not being allowed to do the business on *all* occasions, have resolved to do it on none.

(*Pugh's Hereford Journal*, Thurs. 22 June 1786)

Monday last, the 26th ult, was rung at Bewdley, by the united societies of Bewdley and Bromsgrove, a compleat peal of 5040 grandsire tripples, in three hours and twelve minutes.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 3 July 1786)

London... Thursday July 6...

Parish Anecdote.—At a vestry meeting of St. Martin's, some time ago, it was proposed to affix a new set of ropes to the bells; some were of opinion, that the old ones would do if spliced—this brought about a strong difference of opinion, the result of which was, that many meetings were held upon the occasion. It was at length determined to splice the old ropes. The expense of the several meetings on this business, amounted to ninety pounds, and the expense of splicing the ropes amounted to twelve. (*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 8 July 1786 – per David Cubitt)

Wednesday Evening the 5th Instant, the Junior Set of Ringers at Mottram Lon[g]dendale, rung there, in a very distinct and masterly Manner, the whole Peals of Oxford Triples [*sic*] and Grandsire Bob (being 1440 Changes) in 47 Minutes and a Half. (*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 11 July 1786)

On Sunday morning last was rung at Shiffnal, by the Albion Society of that place, a complete peal of Bob Major, containing 6608 changes, in 4 hours and 12 minutes, being 59 courses, which is the utmost extent of Bob Major without parting the Tenors. The above peal was composed and called by a junior member of the Society, and the first time that curious composition was ever performed with the 6th in the Tittum Course, and at home each twelve times. (*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 29 July 1786; similar report in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 31 July 1786.)

A disputed claim at Wolverhampton

On Monday, the 7th day of August, was rung at Wolverhampton collegiate-church, Holt's celebrated peal of 5040 grandsire triples, by the Union society of Walsall, in three hours and five minutes, it being the first peal that ever was performed upon that old and ancient peal of bells, and was allowed by competent judges there present, to be performed in a masterly stile [*sic*]. (*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 14 Aug. 1786)

On Saturday last was rung, at St. Peter's Church, in Wolverhampton, by the Albion Society of Shiffnal, a true and compleat Peal of Bob Major, containing 5088 Changes, in 3 hours and 18 minutes, with the 6th in the Tittum Course twelve times, and at Home the last eleven Courses; being indisputably the only Peal ever compleated on those Bells. The above Peal was rung single handed, and composed and called by a Member of the Society. (*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 26 Aug. 1786)

On Saturday the 18th inst. [*sic* – should be 19th] was rung, at St. Peter's church Wolverhampton, by the society of Shiffnall, a true and compleat peal of bob major, containing 5088 changes, in three hours and 18 minutes, with the 6th in the tittum course twelve times, and at home the last eleven courses, being indisoutably [*sic*] the only peal ever compleated on those bells. The above peal was rung single handed and composed and called by a member of the society. (*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 28 Aug. 1786; similar report in the *Wolverhampton Chronicle* of same date.)

On Sunday se'nnight was rung at Otley, by four of the Leeds, and four of the Bradford ringers, the whole peal of Holt's Tripples, consisting of 5040 changes, which was performed in three hours and five minutes. (*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 15 Aug. 1786)

On the 13th Inst. was rung at Wrexham, by a Set of young Ringers, Residents of the Town, a grand Peal of Changes, such as has not been rung there since the Year 1739 [*sic*].—It was performed with Ease in three Hours and seventeen minutes. (*Adam's Weekly Courant*, Tues 22 Aug. 1786)

This is to give NOTICE,
THAT there will be PRIZE-RINGING at *Eccles*, on
Monday the 25th of September, Prizes as follow:

	£.	s.	d.
To the best Seven Hundred and Twenty	3	11	6
To the second best	-	-	0 10 6
To the best Round Ringing	-	-	1 1 0
To the second best	-	-	0 10 6

All Ringers will have the Privilege to practise until twelve o'Clock of the Night before Ringing, and every Set of Ringers to take the first Chance of practising as they (by Rotation) shall come into the Village.

Change Ringing to be rung the first, and those that wins the Prizes, to be exempt from Round Ringing. To be three Sets to every Prize, or no Ringing, and to be agreeable to such Articles as shall be then produced, and every Set to bring their own Censurers.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 5 Sept. 1786 - advert)

A difference of opinion about ringers!

EPIGRAM.

On hearing a Set of COUNTRY RINGERS.

YE rascals of ringers! ye merciless foes
 And disturbers all who are fond of repose!
 How I wish, for the quiet and peace of the land,
 That ye wore round your necks what ye hold in your
 hands.

(*Bury and Norwich Post*, Wed. 6 Sept. 1786)

A REPLY to the EPIGRAM on BELL-RINGING,

Which appeared in our last.

YE scribbling wits, who pretend to assert,
 That the peace of the land is did disturbed by our art.
 Had you but one grain of our qualification,
 You'd be eager to join in our recreation:
 But Ringing requires such judgment and rule,
 As we ne'er can instil in the mind of a f—l.
 If our art was licentious, and it's [*sic*] practice was sin,
 Then many would court it, it's [*sic*] pleasures to win:
 But being quite harmless, and innocent too,
 Has got many foes, but has advocates few:
 The reason is, briefly, if men were but wise,
 Then many would practice what now they despise.

A COMPANY of COUNTRY RINGERS,
 Not 100 miles distant from Brockdish, Norfolk.

An ANSWER to the EPIGRAM in our last,

On hearing a Set of Country Ringers.

YE rascals! that rail against music and art,
 Ought never to hear what good music impart;
 But, like to the bells, be toss'd to and fro',
 And scorn'd and laugh'd at wherever ye go.

Ye sluggards! to talk of repose in the day!
 For shame! would you sleep all your senses away?
 And never to hear that melodious sound
 That comes from the bells, that run merrily round.

You say that you wish to be always in peace;
A dungeon will suit you—a very good place—
And the ropes that you purpos'd for Ringers to wear,
Will serve for to hang you up in the air.

(*Bury and Norwich Post*, Wed. 13 Sept. 1786)

Reading, Sept. 2.

...On Tuesday last, a gentleman from Oxford undertook for a considerable wager to raise the eight bells in St. Mary's tower at Wallingford, with one hand, in twenty minutes, which he performed in sixteen minutes and fourteen seconds, with great ease, setting or throwing every bell.

(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 7 Sept. 1786; also *Felix Farley's Bristol Journal*, Sat. 9 Sept. 1786)

The contest between Ashton-under-Lyne and Oldham

CHANGE RINGING.

Whereas the Society of Change Ringers of *Oldham*, in the County of *Lancaster*, have, at sundry Times, by themselves and others been shamefully guilty of an unbecoming Behaviour towards Us the Society of Change Ringers of *Ashton-under-line*, in the same County, by repeatedly, arrogantly and unprovokedly saying, and inducing others to say, that we were not able to ring them any where, and challenging Us to prove to the contrary the same, by Ringing a Peal of Changes, to be agreed upon at a Time and Place, also to be agreed upon by both Parties. In consequence whereof, a Deputation from Us hath repeatedly waited upon them at *Oldham* aforesaid, to settle the Preliminaries, enter into Articles, and deposit the Sum of Money to be contended for, previous to the Day of Ringing; but instead of behaving at those Times with Moderation, and entering into a proper Obligation to prove the superior Ability of the Disputants, nothing was heard on their Part but contemptuous Banter, Scurrility and Defamation. In order therefore to put a final Determination to such indecent, unmanly Conduct, We have thought proper thus publicly to

CHALLENGE,

And we do hereby challenge to ring upon eight Bells any Set of Ringers belonging to *Oldham* aforesaid, at *Sheffield* or *Wakefield*, in the County of *York*, or at *Macclesfield*, or *Great Budworth*, in the County of *Chester*, 5120 Changes of Bob-Major, Double Bob-Major, Union Treble Bob, or Cambridge Surprize, at their Election, for any Sum of Money, not less than Eight, or more than Twenty Guineas at a Time, mutually to be agreed upon. Articles will be entered into, and a Sum of Money deposited on our Part for the Confirmation of this Challenge, upon any Person or Persons of such Set of Ringers, as chuse to accept the same, waiting upon Us for that purpose at the *Royal Oak*, in *Ashton-under-line* aforesaid.

Dated July 7th 1786.

Signed by me, NEDDY MOSS, and agreeable
to the Remainder [*sic*] of the Ringers.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 11 July 1786 - advert)

We are informed, that the Societies of Change Ringers of the Villages of Ashton-under-Line and Oldham have mutually agreed to determine the Contest for superiority in the Art of Ringing, to which each Party lays claim, by a fair Tryal on Friday the 22d Day of September Inst, at Leeds in the County of York, for a Wager of Twenty Guineas each. Five Thousand and Forty Changes of grandsire Tripples is the Peal to be Rung.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 12 Sept. 1786; similar report in *Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 7 - Thurs. 14 Sept. 1786.)

We hear that on Friday last the long Contest in the Art of Ringing, betwixt the celebrated Youths of Oldham, and the Ringers of Ashton under lyne, for 40 Guineas, was finally determined in favour of the former, at Leeds, in Yorkshire, in a Peal of Grandsire Tripples, consisting of 5040 Changes, which was rung complete in 2 Hours 44 Minutes and a Half.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 26 Sept. 1786)

On Friday last the Society of change ringers of Oldham, and Ashton-under-line, in Lancashire, determined, on the bells of our parish church, for a wager of forty guineas, a contest for superiority in the art of ringing, to which each party laid claim. Holt's peal of 5040 changes of Grandsire Tripples, was rung by Oldham in the morning, which was performed in two hours and forty-fix minutes; and Ashton rang the same peal at noon in two hours and thirty minutes, but on account of errors, victory was pronounced by the umpire (one of the Leeds ringers) in favour of the former.
(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 26 Sept. 1786)

On Friday Se'nnight the Society of Change Ringers of Oldham and Ashton-under-Line, in Lancashire, determined on the Bells of Leeds Parish Church, for a Wager of Forty Guineas, a Contest for Superiority in the Art of Ringing, to which each Party laid Claim. Holt's Peal of 5040 Changes of Grandsire Triples was rung by Oldham in the Morning, which was performed in 2 Hours 46 Minutes, and Ashton rang the same Peal at Noon in 2 Hours 30 Minutes; but, on Account of Errors, Victory was pronounced by the Umpire (one of the Leeds Ringers) in favour of the former.
(*York Courant*, Tues. 3 Oct. 1786)

A great Number of Strangers came to Leeds on Friday last, to hear the Ringers of Oldham and Ashton in Lancashire, decide a Wager of forty Guineas, upon the Bells at Leeds Parish Church. They rang in a most masterly Manner Holt's Peal of Grandsire Tripples consisting of 5040 Changes; Oldham in two Hours and forty Minutes, and Ashton in two Hours and thirty Minutes; but notwithstanding this, at the Conclusion, the Umpires on Account of Errors, declared the Oldham Ringers to be Conquerors.
(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 28 Sept. - Thurs. 5 Oct. 1786)

WANTED, Two Journeyman Whitesmiths; if one or both have been used to Church or Turret Clock-making, will be more agreeable. They must be good Workmen, sober and honest. Such applying to Edward Arnold, Bell-founder, Church Clock and Chime Maker, in Leicester, may meet with Employment.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 18 Sept. 1786)

ON Monday the 2d of October, A New PEAL of SIX BELLS, (the tenor in the key of 9 [*sic*]) cast by Mr. OSBORN at Downham in Norfolk, will be opened at Newton near Wisbech in the Isle of Ely, Cambridgeshire.

☞ Dinner at the King's Arms at One o'clock.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 23 Sept. 1786 – advert. Similar adverts in the *Norfolk Chronicle* of the same date, and *Bury and Norwich Post*, Wed. 27 Sept. 1786, where the bells are said to be in the key of G – per David Cubitt)

On Saturday last was opened at Breadsall near this Town, an excellent Peal of five Bells, Part of them cast, and the whole completed by Mr. George Hedderley Bell-Founder of Nottingham. For Melody of Tone and exact Tuneableness, they were pronounced by critical Judges inferior to none in the County. Numberless Peals of Grandsires were performed in the modern Taste by the Derby Youths. Tenor about Eleven Hundred.
(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 28 Sept. 1786)

On Monday last was rung at Stourbridge, by the Society of that place, a complete and musical peal of six thousand changes in bob major; in the last twenty-four courses of which, the sixth was at home twelve times wrong, and twelve times right. This performance lasted three hours and fifty minutes; and was composed and called by a junior member of that Society.
(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 2 Oct. 1786)

A few Days ago was rung at Great-Brington, in this County, for seven Hats, between the Youths of St. Sepulchre's, in this Town, and two Sets of the Harlestone Society, the best of three 18 Scores, which was won with Ease by the former.
(*Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 7 Oct. 1786)

On Sunday the first of October, was rung at Aston, near this place, a musical peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major, consisting of 6016 changes, with the 6th twelve times in tittoms, and twelve times at home; this performance was compleated in three hours and fifty eight minutes, by the junior society of St. Phillip's, it was the first peal of Treble Bob ever rung by the society, and in number of changes exceeded any former undertaking on those bells.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 9 Oct. 1786)

The College Youths visit to Birmingham

It is expected that next Monday's festivity amongst the sons of change-ringing, will, if possible, far exceed any of the former anniversaries at this place; for exclusive of the gentlemen both of this town, and from other parts, who honour St. Martin's Society with their company, it will this year be augmented by a complete band of that ancient and respectable Society of College Youths, from London, who intend being partakers of the unanimity and concord which is always known to be present at this annual meeting. - - - The admirers of ringing will have an opportunity of hearing the last mentioned gentlemen display their abilities on the bells at St. Martin's, which, from their well known judgment and experience, will certainly be in a most masterly manner.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 16 Oct. 1786)

Monday last being the anniversary of Saint Martin's Youths, they were honoured with a very large and respectable company, part of which consisted of the College Youths from London, who began, at St. Martin's, the performance of their favorite [*sic*] and manly exercise about ten o'clock in the morning; but after ringing in the most masterly manner for one hour and twenty minutes, the clapper of the great bell unluckily broke, and it was near three hours before it could be repaired; when the Society, with their usual spirit, recommenced their exercise, and went off for a peal of Treble Bob, twelve in; but so great a part of the day had been spent in repairing the clapper, that after ringing upwards of four hours, the darkness of the evening obliged them to conclude, when about seven minutes more of daylight would have enabled them to have completed a peal, to exceed every thing ever heard on those bells.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 30 Oct. 1786)

October 13, 1786.

ON WEDNESDAY last was rung at Aldington (by the Aldington Youths) a compleat Peal of Seven Hundred and Twenty Changes, OXFORD TREBLE BOB, in Twenty-five Minutes, being the first Peal of the Kind ever performed on those musical Bells.

ROBERT STEED,	-	Treble
THOMAS MARTIN,	-	2
THOMAS CRITTENDEN,	-	3
JOHN HOWLAND,	- -	4
WILLIAM MARSHALL,	-	5
JOSEPH STOAKES,	-	Tenor

It is remarkable, neither [*sic*] of the above Persons ever lived away from the Parish, whereby they might have gained experience.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Fri. 13 Oct. - Tues. 17 Oct. 1786 - advert)

YORK, September 20th, 1786.

ON THURSDAY the 7th Inst. was opened at WRAGBY, near Pontefract, by the Darton Society of Ringers,

A PEAL OF SIX NEW BELLS,

cast by Mr. MEARS and Co. White Chapel London, and hung by Mr. EDWARD SIMMOND, Bell-Hanger to the said Company; when seven different Peals, of 720 each, containing 5040 Changes, were rung, with the greatest Exactness, in Three Hours and Five Minutes.—The Peals rung were the *Oxford Trible*, *College Pleasure*, *College Tripple*, *Primrose*, *Tulip*, *Violet*, and *Cheapside*; the Bells were truly harmonious, and gave great Satisfaction to the Hearers.

☞ Those that want a single Bell, or Peals of Bells, may apply to the above Mr. Mears and Co. or Mr. F. Hudson, Pavement, York, and they may rely on having their Orders executed with the utmost Dispatch.

‡§‡ An Advertisement having appeared in the York and other Papers, of June last, where Mr. Harrison, of Barrow, gives his Grandfather the Credit of hanging York Minster Bells; we are desired to remind him, that the present Bells at that Cathedral were cast by Mr. Lister, Pack, and Co. of White Chapel, and hung by Samuel Turner, the late Bell Hanger to their Foundry.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 17 Oct. 1786 – advert; similar advert *York Courant*, Tues. 19 Sept. 1786, with ‘SIMMONS’ VICE ‘SIMMOND’, ‘Meares’ vice ‘Mears’ and ‘Francis Hudson’ vice F. Hudson.)

On Saturday se’night a new peal of six bells was opened at Holmfirth chapel, in the parish of Kirkburton, by the ringers of Darton, Saddleworth, Birstall; and Almondbury; after they had concluded, the ringers of Birstall were allowed by all present to be the best performers—having rung the seven peals call’d *Primrose*, *Tulip*, *Violet*, *Morning Exercise*, *London Scholars Delight*, and *Oxford Tripple*, which consist of 5040 changes, in 2 hours and 56 minutes, with the greatest ease, and without setting a bell.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 17 Oct. 1786; only six method names were given.)

On the 7th inst. was opened at Holmfirth, by a Society of Ringers belonging to Darton, a Peal of six new Bells, cast by Meares [*sic*] and Co, Whitechapel, and hung by Edward Simmons, Bell-Hanger, from London, where several Peals of Changes were rung with the greatest Exactness: Numbers of People assembled on the Occasion, and the Bells were allowed by Judges to be a fine Peal. The following Peals of Bells, for the City and county of York, have been cast at the above Foundry: Addingham 6, Skipton 6, Keighley 6, Ripon 8, Whitby 6, York Minster 10, Malton 8, Darton 6, Barnsley 8, Helmsley 8, Bishop-Hill York 6, Sprotborough 6, Bingley 6, Waddington 6, Knaresbrough 8, Howden 8, Snaith 6, Wakefield 8, Bubwith 5, Kildwick 6, Sowerby 8, Otley 8, Wragby 6, Holmfirth 6, in all 24 Peals; with a great Number of single Bells, and 186 Peals more for different Parts of England. Those who want single Bells, or Peals of Bells casting, by applying to the above Mr. Meares [*sic*] and Co. or to Mr. F. Hudson in the Pavement, York, may depend on having them done in a masterly Manner, with the utmost Dispatch and Care.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 24 Oct. 1786; also *Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 14 Nov. 1786, below.)

YORK, November 1, 1786.

ON the 7th of October last was opened, at
HOLMFIRTH, in the Parish of Kirkburton, by the
Societies of Ringers of Darton, Saddleworth, Birstal, and
Almondbury,

A NEW PEAL of SIX BELLS,

Cast by Mr. MEARS and Co. White Chapel, London, and
hung by EDWARD SIMMOND, Bell Hanger to the said
Company; when several Peals of Changes were rung with
the greatest Exactness.— Numbers of People assembled on the
Occasion, and the Bells were allowed by Judges to be a
fine Peal.

☞ The following Peals of Bells have been cast at the above
Foundery, viz. Addingham 6, Skipton 6, Kighley 6, Ripon
8, Whitby 6, York Minster 10, Malton 8, Darton 6, Barns-
ley 8, Helmsley 8, Bishop Hill, York 6, Sprotborough 6,
Bingley 6, Waddington 6, Knaresbro' 8, Howden 8, Snaith
6, Wakefield 8, Bubwith 5, Kildwick 6, Sowerby 8, Otley 8,
Wragby 6, Holmfirth 6,—in all 24 Peals—with a great
Number of Single Bells and 186 Peals more for different
Parts of England.

Those who want single Bells or Peals of Bells, may apply
to the above Mr. Mears and Co. or to F. Hudson, Pavement,
York, and they may rely on having their Orders executed
with the utmost Dispatch.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 14 Nov. 1786 - advert)

Whitechapel rings mentioned in the *York Courant* of 24 October 1786:

<i>Place</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Date opened</i>	<i>Hanger</i>
Addingham	6	9.9.1759	Jas. Harrison
Skipton	6	5.7.1760	do.
Keighley	6		
Ripon	8		
Whitby	6	20.11.1762	(?Jas. Harrison)
York Minster	10	19.8.1765	Sam. Turner
Malton	8	5.12.1768	do.
Darton	6	20.7.1769	Thos. Hilton
Barnsley	8	19.12.1769	Sam. Turner
Helmsley	8	?8.1770	do.
B'Hill, York	6	7.2.1771	do.
Sprotborough	6	12.6.1771	do.
Bingley	6	18.2.1774	do.
Waddington	6	24.6.1774	do.
Knaresbrough	8	11.7.1774	do.
Howden	8	24.7.1775	do.
Snaith	6	-/12/1778?	do.
Wakefield	8	7.7.1779	do.
Bubwith	5	25.7.1779	do.
Kildwick	6	6.5.1780	do.
Sowerby	8	29.10.1781	do.
Otley	8	15.4.1782	do.
Wragby	6	7.9.1786	Ed. Simmons
Holmfirth	6	7.10.1786	Ed. Simmons

(List compiled by CAW)

On Sunday evening, October 22, was rung at Wakefield Church, by the Society of Ringers there, a complete new Peal of Triples, consisting of 5040 Changes, in 12 Courses, called *Make Good Use of Your Time*. It was performed in 3 Hours 25 Minutes, with the greatest Distinction and Exactness. Likewise was rung at the same Place, by the same Ringers, on Wednesday last, being the King's Accession, another Peal of Double Bob Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 Changes, in six Courses, called *Not Long to Stay*. It was performed in 3 Hours 24½ Minutes, with proper Distinction, as all Peals ought to be rung.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 31 Oct. 1786; similar report in *Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 31 Oct. 1786)

On Monday last the Society of Change ringers of this town, rung, for their own amusement, at St. Martin's church, a compleat peal of 5088 Triple Bob, 8 in. The time it took in ringing was three hours and 31 minutes. It was the first peal of the kind ever rung in Leicester. PERFORMERS NAMES:

John Blower	Trible.	Joseph Smith	5th.
Thomas Scott	2d.	Thomas Sibson	6th.
Tho. Armstrong	3d.	Daniel Layley	7th.
Wm. Armstrong	4th.	John Martin	8th.

(*Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 11 Nov. 1786; similar report, but without the ringers' names, in *Northampton Mercury*, same date.)

On Wednesday last was rung at our Parish Church, by the Society of Ringers, a Peal called Double Bob Tripples, containing 5040 changes, in six courses compleat, which was performed with great exactness and distinction in two hours and fifty-five minutes.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 14 Nov. 1786)

On Wednesday last was rung at the Parish Church, Leeds, by the Society of Ringers there, a Peal call'd *Bob Triples*, containing 5040 Changes, in six Courses complete, which was performed with great Exactness and Distinction in two Hours and 55 Minutes.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 14 Nov. 1786)

Monday last the bells of St. Mary's church, in this town, were new hung, and the third bell re-cast by Mr. Osborne of Downham, and on Monday the 4th of December, they will be rung for the first time, by the Society of Bury Ringers, when all true lovers of the art of Campanology may expect the highest gratification, since few places can boast of possessing two such fine peals as are now in our parishes, that of St. James's church, (lately cast by the same founder) consisting of 10, and the improved ones of St. Mary's of 8 bells, both of which will rung on that day.

(*Bury and Norwich Post*, Wed. 15 Nov. 1786; no report of the opening has so far been traced.)

On Monday Morning last, an exact and complete Peal of Six Thousand Bob Majors, was rung at St. Peter's Church in Nottingham by a Band of the Sherwood Society in that Town, viz. Wells, Draper, sen. Draper jun. Wright, Metheringham jun. Turner, Peat, and Crofts. The time four Hours. The order of Bobs for the above Peal were compiled by Mr. Peat, who also called the same.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 9 Nov. – Thurs. 16 Nov. 1786; similar reports in *Nottingham Journal* and *Leicester and Nottingham Journal*, both of Sat. 18 Nov. 1786, *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 20 Nov. 1786, *York Courant*, Tues. 21 Nov. 1786, and *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 25 Nov. 1786; shorter report without the ringers' names in *Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 18 Nov. 1786)

We are informed by our Correspondent at Alfreton, that great Preparations are making there to celebrate the Annual Festival, called the Statute Fair, which will be held on Old Martinmas Day as usual, and that amongst other Things a very curious Balloon is constructing by the ingenious Mr. Tattersall. A Sheep will be roasted whole and given away amongst the Populace. There will be various Scenes of Entertainment and Diversion, viz. A Foot Race, jumping in the Sacks, a Ringing Match, &c. &c. And we are also told that a Hogshead of Ale will be given away at the Market-Cross.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 9 Nov. – Thurs. 16 Nov. 1786 – immediately below the peal report quoted above.)

On Tuesday last was rung for a wager at Sturry, a Compleat Peal on Five Bells, by the following young gentlemen, whose steadiness during the whole peal deserved much praise, viz. Robert Tritton, Wm. Marsh, Joseph Goldsmith, James Spradbrow, and John Tharp [*sic*].

(*Canterbury Journal*, Tues. 26 Dec. 1786)

On Tuesday last, in Honour of Charles Duncombe, Esq; Son of C.S. Duncombe, Esq; of Duncombe Park, who then entered into his 23d Year, was rung at Helmsley Blackmoor, a Peal of Grandsire Triples, called Helmsley's Delight, consisting of 5040 Changes, which was performed in 2 Hours 53 Minutes. After the Peal nine Rounds of Firing was performed with the Bells, which was answered by nine small Cannon with the greatest Exactness and the Day concluded with firing of Cannon and ringing of Bells.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 12 Dec. 1786)

DIED.] ... A few days since, at his home in Great Charles-street, Mr. Thomas Ore, clock-maker of this town.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 18 Dec. 1786; Thomas Ore was a ringer, and as a visitor rang a peal with the St. Martin's Youths in 1758, and later moved to work in Birmingham. There is some doubt that this death being of the clockmaker, and this may be a mis-ascription, as Thomas Ore was advertising for two journeyman clockmakers in 1787 – see *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 12 March 1787. There is no record of a second clockmaker of this name, and he did not have a son of this name who might have taken over.)

Sunday last, being Christmas Eve, the Bury Youths rang nine courses (or 1620 changes of bob-majors-royal) in an hour and thirteen minutes, being the longest number ever completed upon the bells.

(*Bury and Norwich Post*, Wed. 27 Dec. 1786)

On Monday morning last was rung at the Abbey-Church, in this town, a peal of bob major, containing 5120 changes, by a young society, being their first attempt, and completed in 3 hours and 25 minutes.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Fri. 29 Dec. 1786 – quoted in the *Ringling World*, 12 Feb. 1982, p.128)

Last Thursday a compleat Peal of 5040 Grandsire Caters was rung in the Parish Church of St. Mary, at Warwick, which was performed with the greatest Dexterity in three Hours and thirty-five Minutes, by a Set of Gentlemen from Birmingham young Society of Ringers.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 30 Dec. 1786)

On Christmas-eve, was rung at Farnham, Surrey, 5040 bob-major, by a society of youths, all inhabitants of that town, which they performed in three hours and twenty minutes, after which they repaired to the Goat's Head inn, and was [*sic*] there accommodated with all necessary refreshment, and we have the pleasure to say, that the regularity, good order and decency which was strictly observed, merits much applause.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 1 Jan. 1787; shorter report in *Hampshire Chronicle, and Portsmouth & Chichester Journal*, Mon. 1 Jan. 1787, under the by-line 'Winchester, Saturday, Dec. 30.', omitting the reference to the Goat's Head inn.)

On Tue, 19th December was rung, on the bells, at Benenden, a complete peel [*sic*] of 720 changes, called Kentish Treble Bob, never before rung on the said bells: by the following Benenden Youths viz:

William Buckland	Treble
Edward Gower	Second
Thomas Munn	Third
Thomas Kelly	Fourth
John Mills	Fifth
Thomas Couchman	Tenor.

(*Maidstone Journal*, Tues. 2 Jan. 1787)

On Christmas-Day was rung at Knaresbrough, a Peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 Changes, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes, called *Freedom without Pride*. This Peal was rung by the junior Society, none of whose Ages (one excepted) exceeded 21 Years, nor have they been instructed in the Art of Ringing above 12 Months; and, what is still more extraordinary, the Person who called the Peal has not been instructed in the Art of Bob-calling above six Months. In short, this Peal was conducted in such a Manner as does the greatest Credit to the young Performers.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 2 Jan. 1787)

On Sunday the 31st part was rung at Wakefield, by Way of ending the old Year, by the Society of Ringers there, a new Peal called *Wakefield Royal Triples*, consisting of 5040 Changes, in eight Courses complete, which was performed in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes, with the greatest Exactness and Distinction, and without setting a Bell. – They began another Peal of Oxford Triples, and rung upwards of 2000 Changes, when the Triple Bell cast the Rope, which caused them to stop; but it was such an Attempt as was never made before. The whole was performed in 4 Hours and 47 Minutes, and gave the greatest Satisfaction to all who heard them.
(*York Courant*, Tues. 9 Jan. 1787)

On Friday last was rung at our church, by the Maidstone Society of ringers a true and complete peal of five thousand four hundred changes of Bob Major, in three hours and fifty one minutes, by the following persons, viz:

James Brislee
Robert Tassell
George Highland
Thomas Rawlins
Thomas Swinnock
Thomas King
Daniel Whetstone
Thomas Weller
Daniel Kingsnorth

Mr. Thomas King called the peal.

The above ringing gave rise to a spirit of Emulation in the Leeds Youths who on Saturday came to this town, and on the same bells, performed a complete peal of six thousand and eighty changes of Bob Major Cater, in four hours and twenty four minutes with equal skill and dexterity. The following is a list of the ringers,

W. Tilbe	Treble
T. Austin	Second
W. Davies	Third
T. Sweetlove	Fourth
W. Bottle	Fifth
J. Barham	Sixth
T. Boucher	Seventh
W. Cook	Eighth
T. Lacy	Ninth
G. Tilbe	Tenor

(*Maidstone Journal*, Tues. 2 Jan. 1787)

On the 31st of December was rung at Spilsby, on 6 bells, 5040 changes, in 2 hours and 40 minutes, by John Haw, first; Joseph Haw, second; Richard Martin, third; G. Houlden, fourth; Thomas Martin, fifth; John Houlden, sixth:

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 24 Feb. 1787)

1787

January 5th, 1787, was rung by a society of ringers, at the parish church at Brinkley in Cambridgeshire, 42 five bell peals, without setting the bells, in three hours and thirty minutes, being five thousand and forty changes.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 13 Jan. 1787)

London, Jan. 12.

A short time since one of the gudgeons belonging to the great bell at the church at Woburn, in Bedfordshire, gave way, in consequence of which the bell fell through the belfry, where, besides those employed in ringing, were several persons; but fortunately neither of them received the least injury.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 15 Jan. 1787)

On Monday evening the 15th instant, was rung at Saint John's Church in Bromsgrove, by the Union Society of that place, a complete peal of Bob Majors, containing 6608 changes, which was performed in four hours and twelve minutes. The above peal was attempted to be rung in the morning, but having a misfortune of the tenor rope breaking, when it had happened they had rung near 5000 changes, and was performed by the same ringers who rung the above peal.

(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 18 Jan. 1787; similar report in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 22 Jan. 1787)

On Saturday the 27th of January last was rung at Tenterden, by the Society of Biddenden Youths on that noble peal of bells, the tenor weighing thirty-three hundred, 5040 changes, Bob Major, in three hours and twenty-three minutes, by the following persons:

Robert Pullen	- -	Treble
Richard Pullen	- -	2
Thomas Cowchman [<i>sic</i>]	-	3
Thomas Munn	- -	4
Robert Honiss	- -	5
John Mills	- -	6
Thomas Dean	- -	7
Stephen Smith and John Dean, tenor.		

Mr. Smith called the peal.

(*Canterbury Journal*, Tues. 6 Feb. 1787)

Winchester, Saturday, Feb. 17.

On Monday last was rung at Farnham, in Surrey, by a society of youths, all inhabitants of that town, a peal of 6160 bob major, which they performed in three hours and forty-six minutes. This peal was the longest ever rung in that part of the country.

(*Hampshire Chronicle, and Portsmouth & Chichester Journal*, Mon. 19 Feb. 1787; also *Reading Mercury*, same date.)

On Monday evening last the Society of College Youths rang, at the parish church of St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, a true and complete peal of 5111 grandsire caters in three hours and fifty-two minutes, which was in a stile of merit that commanded the attention and applause of every hearer; and as a further information to the curious in this athletic art, the above performance was the first ever completed by ten men only on those very melodious and heavy bells, the tenor of which weighs upwards of 53 cwt.

(*Daily Universal Register*, Fri. 23 Feb. 1787; also *Times*, same date, and *Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 24 Feb. 1787.)

On Tuesday evening, the 20th inst. was rung at St. Matthew's church, Walsall, a compleat peal of 5040 bob majors, in three hours and eighteen minutes, by the Union Society of Walsall; it being the first attempt ever made by the aforesaid society.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 26 Feb. 1787)

A long peal at Otley, Yorkshire

On Tuesday last were rung at Otley, by the society of ringers there, two whole peals of Holt's Tripples, consisting of 5040 changes in each peal, in 12 courses: The first peal in three hours and ten minutes, the second in three hours and twelve minutes—the whole in six hours and twenty-two minutes, without change of ringers or setting a bell; being allowed, by very good judges, to be done with the greatest exactness:—And, it is presumed, they are the first society, or set of ringers, that ever completed the above in time and course, in this or any other county.—They were met in the church-yard by the gentlemen in Otley, who had made a contribution, and plentifully regaled them with liquor and a good supper.—It ought to have been remembered, that at their beginning at nine o'clock in the morning, after ringing two hours and five minutes, the third bell rope slipt the pulley, and stopped their progress; after repairing it, &c. they again begun the abovementioned peals.
(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 27 Feb. 1787)

BELL RINGING IN 1787.—From a bill shown to us, and now in the possession of Henry Brown, the verger of Otley Church, we find that Holt's trebles were rung upon eight hells in 6 hours and 22 minutes, viz: the first peal in three hours and ten minutes; the second in three hours and twelve minutes. This feat was performed on February 26th [*sic*], 1787, being the first set that ever completed the above in time and course in England. The names of the ringers were:—Thomas Brown, James Kendall, Jonathan Cawood, William Holmes, William Kendall, John Cawood, William Thompson, Benjamin Chippendale. All the above ringers are now dead.
(*Otley News*, Fri. 5 April 1867)

Died ... Monday last, much regretted, after a long and painful illness, which he bore with a truly christian fortitude, Mr. John Dye, a noted and ingenious Ringer, and one of St. Peter's Mancroft Company.
(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 3 March 1787)

EDWARD ARNOLD,

Of Leicester (late of St. Neot's, Huntingdonshire),
BELL-FOUNDER and BELL-HANGER,

BEGS Leave to inform the Public, that he is now completing a Peal of Bells at West Deeping, in Lincolnshire, and will continue there about Ten Days.

Orders in the above or under-mentioned Branches will be esteemed a Favor, directed to him, or to Mr. ROSE, Churchwarden, of West-Deeping.

N. B. He makes Church and Turret Clocks, and Chimes; also Weighing Machines for Turnpike Roads, and Engines to extinguish Fire, &c. &c. *March 8th*, 1787.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 9 March 1787 - advert)

London, March 8.

A few days ago a young man nineteen years of age, undertook for a trifling wager, to raise all the twelve bells in St. Bride's steeple in twenty minutes (the tenor being near thirty hundred); he performed it with ease in eleven minutes and a half.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 12 March 1787; also *Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 9 March 1787, and *Hereford Journal*, Thurs. 15 March 1787.)

On Thursday 8th inst. was rung at Beckley church in Sussex, six complete peals of 720 changes each in two hours and 48 minutes; the names are as follows viz.

1 London Scholars pleasure. 2 Place Bob. 3 Leeds triple
Bob. 4 Morning pleasure. 5 Oxford tripple bob. 6 Plain
Bob. By the Maidstone

Youths:

Isaac Parsons	Treble	James Standen	4th
James Parsons	2d	Henry Munk	5th
John Standen	3d	W. Joans	Tenor

John Standen, aged 19, called the peal.

(*Maidstone Journal*, Tues. 20 March 1787)

On Friday the 16th instant was rung at Tenterden, by the Tenterden Society, a compleat peal of 5040 changes bob major, in three hours and 21 minutes, being the least time it ever was completed on that peal of bells, the tenor weighing 33 cwt. and was rung by the following persons:

John Miles	Treble	Richard Fuggle	5
Wm. Crisbrook	2	Edward Avery	6
Wm. Couchman	3	Joseph Hodges	7
Wm. Fuggle	4	R. & W. Timson	Tenor

Edward Avery called the peal.

(*Canterbury Journal*, Tues. 27 March 1787)

On Monday evening, as Mallachi [*sic*] Channon, milk carrier, was riding an unruly horse, the beast took fright near the Horns public-house in Shoreditch, and threw him, which fractured his skull [*sic*], so that he died next morning. In his box was found upwards of 300£. in gold, which he has left by will to a company of bell-ringers, of which he was master, who are, it is said, to ring a dead peal [*sic*] on Sunday evening, after his interment, at Shoreditch Church, which will be repeated every year to commemorate the untimely death of their worthy benefactor.

(*General Evening Post*, Sat. 5 April - Mon. 7 April 1787; also *Bath Journal*, Mon. 9 April 1787, and *Cumberland Packet*, Wed. 18 April 1787. Shorter report in *Public Advertiser*, Mon. 7 April 1787, which states 400£. This is a malicious report, however, and incorrect.)

At Bury assizes... which concluded on Saturday last, ten prisoners received sentence of death... Robert Sharman, for stealing a bell out of Dunwich church... Before the Judge left the town, the eight first reprieved... [Sharman was among the first eight]

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 7 April 1787)

On the 25th ult. was completely rung at West Malling, on the musical peal of six bells, 720 changes of Plain bob, by the following persons, viz

J. Harper	Treble	G. Hyland	4
R. Tassell	2	T. Wellan	5
W. Killick	3	D. Kingsnorth	6

The peal was called by Thomas Wellan

(*Maidstone Journal*, Tues. 10 April 1787)

The College Youths visit Windsor

Windsor, April 9.

A set of young ringers from London, came down yesterday to amuse themselves with ringing a peal; and this morning, (after having first amused themselves with a touch at bells belonging to the parish church) they proceeded to the Castle Tower, to ring what was termed 5040 bob majors, but on account of the bad manner in which the whole of the bells are hung, and more particularly the seventh bell, they were obliged to give in, after having rung 4030 changes; it is but justice to the young men to say, what had been executed was done in a quick, neat, and masterly style.

Notwithstanding the ill success of these youths, and the fatigue they underwent from the stiffness of the bells, they had so much spunk and game about them, as to undertake to ring the intended peal over again to-morrow morning, provided the bells should undergo a thorough greasing. Several of them had their fingers much torn and blistered.

(*Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Wed. 11 April 1787)

Windsor, April 12

The College Youths rung their peal of grandsire trebles (and not bob majors as was mentioned by mistake) over again on Tuesday morning last, in a very correct and neat manner; the same peal on the Castle bells was rung in the year 1748, and no peal worthy of mention since. The abovementioned youths went through the 5040 changes in three hours, thirteen minutes and one half. The people of the town shewed every civility to them during their stay. On Thursday afternoon they set off for London.

(*Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Fri. 13 April 1787)

On Easter Monday in the morning was rung at Biddenden, by the Society of Biddenden Youths, a complete peal of 6720 changes, Bob Major, in four hours and twenty-six minutes, never rung before in this county. By the following persons:

John Dean	Treble	Robert Pullen	5
Thomas Dean Jun.	2	Robert Honiss	6
Thomas Dean Sen.	3	Thomas Austen	7
Richard Pullen	4	Stephen Smith	Tenor

Mr. Smith called the peal

What is very extraordinary, the treble and the second were rung by two persons whose ages together do not exceed thirty-one years.

(*Maidstone Journal*, Tues. 17 April 1787; also *Canterbury Journal*, Tues. 17 April 1787)

A few days since the six old Ringers of Leek, in Staffordshire, rung a peal of Crown Bobs, whose Ages together make 427 Years; one of whom was Mr. J. Simcock, Inventor and Maker of the English Harp; another William Johnson, who has been Sexton in Leek upwards of 65 Years. The others were William Hambleton, William Cope, Benjamin Turner, and Thomas Ball. - The Tenor Bell is 18 cwt.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 3 May 1787)

R I N G I N G.

THIS is to give notice to all gentlemen ringers and others, that there will be given gratis by Edward Atkins at the Swan, Stanwell, Middlesex, on Whit-Monday, the 28th of May, 1787, FIVE very good HATS to be rung for, by any company of ringers that chuse to ring, and one for the umpire, (Stanwell men exempted.) No less than three companies to ring. To begin ringing at three o'clock. No say peals after one o'clock. Each man to pay one shilling for his dinner, or not be entitled to ring.

N.B. Dinner to be on the table at half past one o'clock.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 7 May 1787; quoted in Sharpe, *Church Bells of Berkshire*, p. 152)

On Sunday evening last died at Nottingham, aged seventy four years, Mr. John Wright, well known as father of the art of change ringing in that town, and for his superior skill in the theory of hanging and attuning bells.

(*Leicester Journal*, Sat. 26 May 1787)

The first known peal of Stedman Caters

On Sunday evening the Ancient Society of College Youths rang, at St. John's, Southwark, a true peal of 5076 caters, in Stedman's principle, in three hours and 27 minutes.

(*Daily Universal Register*, Thurs. 31 May 1787; this implies the peal was rung on 27 May 1787. However, the details in the College Youths' peal book, taken from a tablet that was erected to commemorate this peal, gives the date as Monday 28 May 1787.)

On Monday evening the ancient Society of College Youths rang, at St. John's, Southwark, a true peal of 5076 Caters, on Stedman's principle, in three hours twenty-seven minutes, being the first ever achieved [*sic*] in that method; the extraordinary exertion of the mental faculties, essentially necessary for so singular a performance, could only be equalled by the success with which it was attended. In short, the athletic efforts of the men, aided by those powers that conspire to produce a pleasing and melodious variety of harmonious concords, can only be conceived by those who were *auricular* witnesses—Here the cynic and the panegyrist stop, and join in their eulogiums due to such distinguished merit.

(*Gazetteer and New Daily Advertiser*, Fri. 1 June 1787; the place was St. John's, Horsleydown. The last sentence of this report was subsequently inscribed at the bottom of the peal board erected to commemorate this peal. This confirms that the report in the *Daily Universal Register* of Thurs. 31 May 1787, given above, which states that it was rung 'On Sunday evening' was incorrect and that the date of the peal was 28 May as given in the College Youths peal book.)

Monday last, being the Anniversary of His Majesty's Birth-Day, the same was observed here as usual: And at Noon the Northampton-shire Regiment of Militia were drawn up in the Square, and fired three excellent Vollies in Honour of the Day.

On the above Occasion, the Union Society of Change Ringers in this Town, rang, at St. Giles's, a complete Peal of Bob-Majors (consisting of 6000 Changes, with the 6th in the Tittom Course, and at Home each way 12 Times) in three Hours and 56 Minutes. - The above Peal was allowed by competent Judges to be the completest Performance of the Kind ever rung in this County. (*Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 9 June 1787)

RINGING.

TO be Rung for at Great Bedwin, on Monday the second of July next, Seven good Hats. No person to be allowed to ring but those who shall dine at the ordinary, at the Cross Keys; no less than three sets will be allowed to ring, and each set to bring their own umpires.— Dinner will be on the table at one o'clock precisely; and to begin ringing at half past two o'clock.—No person of Great Bedwin will be allowed to ring.
N.B. No say peals on that day.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 11 June 1787 - advert)

Two slightly different reports of a peal

Yesterday se'nnight was rung at Wakefield church, by the society of ringers there, a complete peal of tripples, in eight courses, which was performed in three hours and twenty-five minutes, with great applause from all who heard them. The above peal was composed on purpose to honour his Majesty's birthday.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 12 June 1787)

At All Souls Church in Wakefield, in Honour of his Majesty's Birth-Day, was rung by the Society of Ringers there, a complete Peal of Triples (composed for the Purpose) in eight Courses, which was performed in three Hours and 25 Minutes, and greatly applauded by all the Auditors. (*York Courant*, Tues. 12 June 1787)

Lincoln, June 14.

Messrs. Gibson, of Barrowby, near Grantham, are now re-hanging the lady-bells in our cathedral. This set of bells (consisting only of six) have not been in proper order for near fifty years past, tho', by judges, they are allowed for tune and tone to be one of the grandest peals in England. We are given to understand they will be opened the latter end of next week.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 15 June 1787)

A few Days ago a new and very musical Peal of six Bells were opened at Biddenham, in Bedfordshire, by the Ampthill Society of Ringers; the Tenor in G. The Bells were cast at the sole Expence of Mr. John Brooks, of that Place, and hung by Mr. William Emmerton, of Wootton.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 7 July 1787)

BELL and BRASS FOUNDRY
By Mr. ROBERDEAU,
THIS DAY the 23d Instant, at Eleven o'Clock
On the Premises, in Whitechapel Road,
IN ONE LOT.

THE valuable Plant of a very compleat Foundry, where have been recently Cast some of the best Church Bells in England; it consists of reverberating Air Blasts, and Iron Cylinder Furnaces, Crooks, and Patterns for Bells of various Sizes, with Flasks and Utensils compleat, and in good Condition.

At the same Time will be Sold, the Lease of the very commodious Premises, held for None Years, at a low Rent.

Descriptive Particulars may be had on the Premises; of Mr. Griffith, Blackman-Street; and of Mr. Roberdeau, Talbot Court, Gracechurch Street.

(*Public Ledger*, Mon. 23 July 1787, in a column headed 'Sales by Auction.'; also *Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Fri. 20 July 1787, with slightly different layout and 'Foundery' vice 'Foundry'. At this period the premises at Whitechapel were used by a number of founders.)

On Sunday morning the 22d inst. was rung at St. John's church Bromsgrove, by eight jun. members of the union society of that place, a complete peal of bob majors, containing 6000 changes with the twelve wrongs and rights in the last twenty-four courses, this peal was compleated in three hours and fifty minutes and was composed and called by one of the said members not exceeding twenty years of age, and was the first time ever attempted at.

(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 26 July 1787; similar report in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 6 Aug. 1787)

London, July 24.

At Staughton in Huntingdonshire, a few days ago: The church bells being ringing during a thunder storm, the lightning fell upon the fane [weather vane] of the steeple, and descending into the belfrey, killed three of the ringers on the spot; two others were struck speechless, but are likely to recover.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 30 July 1787; similar reports *Bath Chronicle*, Thurs. 26 July 1787, *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 28 July 1787, and *Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 31 July 1787.)

The opening of the new ring of bells at Tibenham, Norfolk

We hear from Tibbenham, in this county, that the new Peal of Bells (cast by Mr. Thomas Osborn, bellfounder, at Downham, the Tenor in the Key of E, weighing 20 cwt.) designed to be hung in the lofty and beautiful tower there, is nearly compleated, and will be rung for the first time on Monday next, the 20th inst. - and that there will be a dinner at the Greyhound inn at one o'clock.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 18 Aug. 1787; similar report in *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 18 Aug. 1787)

On Monday Tibbenham new bells were opened by the Norwich ringers, who rang a compleat 720 of that critical peal termed Stedman's Slow Course, which is the extent. They are a fine peal of six bells, and do honour to Mr. Thomas Osborn, of Downham, who cast them.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 25 Aug. 1787 - per David Cubitt; reported in the *Norwich Mercury* of the same date, but with slightly different wording.)

Cambridge, Aug. 29.

At Tibenham, in Norfolk, last Monday, a new peal of bells were [*sic*] opened by the Norwich ringers, who rang a compleat 720 changes of that critical peal termed Stedman's slow course, which is the extent. They are a fine peal of six bells, the tenor weighing 20 cwt. and do honor [*sic*] to Mr. Thomas Osborn, of Downham, in Norfolk, who cast them.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 31 Aug. 1787; also *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 1 Sept. 1787, with 'on Monday se'nnight' vice 'last Monday'.)

ADVERTISEMENT.

To the PRINTERS of the NORFOLK CHRONICLE

GENTLEMEN,

I was not a little surprised to see in your useful paper of the 25th of August last, that the Norwich ringers claimed to themselves the honour of opening Tibbenham bells, which they compleated with a 720 of Stedman's Slow Course. I have often heard of the Norwich ringers fame, but now have reason to think 'tis owing to sounding their own praise, more than their merits, as every syllable they inserted is absolutely false (except the honour conferred upon the founder, who justly deserves applause). The bells were rung the day before, and by more than one company on the Monday morning before they rang them. A peal cannot be compleat when two or three bells strike together, which was often the case in their peal. The peal they rang I do not know, but thought there was something slow in it, as they were upwards of 32 minutes in ringing what should have been performed in 26 or 27 minutes at longest. There were five ringers from Wilby, in Suffolk, (who borrowed one by the way) rung; the best ringing was rung at Tibbenham that day, viz. Court Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Cambridge Surprise, and a peal name unknown to me, the treble is quick, and six score to the course; of the two latter they would have rang 720 of each had their company been there. They begged some one of the Norwich ringers to assist them, but they made light of it, and excused themselves like the men in the gospel who were bid to the wedding, one went to his farm, another to his merchandize, &c.

An impartial By-Stander.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 1 Dec. 1787 - advert)

ADVERTISEMENT.

To the PRINTERS of the NORFOLK CHRONICLE

GENTLEMEN,

The insertion of the following lines will much oblige your obedient servant,

A NORWICH RINGER.

AN advertisement having appeared in your last Saturday's paper, concerning the opening of Tibbenham bells, I beg leave to observe, that the Norwich ringers opened the peal by ringing a 720 of that critical peal termed Stedman's Slow Course. At the same time Mr. Osborn, the bell-founder, who is a ringer, and other impartial ringers present, allowed that the performance could not be equalled by any other company; nor was it, as the blundering author even confesses, for he tells us a country company rung at Tibbenham on the *Sunday*, the day before the opening of the peal was to be, and no ringers there but themselves, and that they rang part of several peals. That on Monday they *would* have rang 720 of one and 720 of another, and they certainly *would have* rang 720 of a third peal, were [*sic*] the treble is a quick hunt and a six-score to the course, unknown to the author; a famous peal indeed! Such an one our *boys* can ring! but this, like the others, they did not ring for the want of a hand, as the author says, but I suppose for the want of knowledge. Now who opened the peal is left to impartial ringers. At last, Mr. By-Stander brings in the gospel—"one went to his farm, the other to his merchandise", which is another most palpable falsehood, for the whole company went from Tibbenham to Diss, where there are eight bells, and rang there, which gave the greatest satisfaction to the ringers, as well as to the town's people; for the truth of this let them appeal to the people of Diss, and hear whether the Norwich ringers praise themselves. However, Mr. By-Stander had better have thought of a certain old phrase, then he would have saved a deal of trouble and expense, and let the Norwich ringers alone, who have *youths* under 18 years of age superior to him in the art of ringing, or any of his country company, and who actually rang at the opening of Tibbenham bells.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 8 Dec. 1787 - advert)

On Monday last was rang [*sic*] at St. Trinity in this city, by the Change Ringers, 6,768 Bob Majors, in four hours and thirty-five minutes, which far exceeds any former peal rang on those bells. (*Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 27 Aug. 1787)

The new clock and ring of bells at St. Martin's Leicester

ON Thursday next, Sept. 6, a NEW PEAL of TEN BELLS, cast by Mr. ARNOLD, of Leicester, will be opened at St. Martin's Church, by the Society of Change-Ringers of this town. - The company of the Parish -ioners of the said parish, and Friends of the Churchwardens, are requested to dine at the Crown-and-Thistle, in Loseby-lane, on the same day, at two o'clock.

(*Leicester Journal*, Sat. 1 Sept. 1787 - advert)

THE CHURCH WARDENS of the parish of St. MARTIN, LEICESTER, respectfully inform the PARISHIONERS, and SUBSCRIBERS to the CLOCK and CHIMES, that a meeting will be held on Monday evening next, at the BEAR & SWAN INN in LEICESTER, to make choice of, and fix on the most proper TUNES, to be played on the said CHIMES; when the attendance of Gentlemen having any proposals to offer on the above business, will be esteemed a favour. August 30th, 1787.

(*Leicester Journal*, Sat. 1 Sept. 1787 - advert)

On Tuesday last was held a Meeting of the Subscribers to the New Chimes to be erected in St. Martin's church, when the nine following tunes were ordered to be set:

	{ The Easter Hymn
For Sunday.	{ Christmas Hymn
	{ Colchester Tune
Monday.	The Highland Laddie
Tuesday.	Baker's Hornpipe
Wednesday.	March of Scipio, from the Opera
Thursday.	"My days have been so wond'rous free" – Jackson
Friday.	Minuet - Handel
Saturday.	Gramachree

There were many competitors for the Tune of the Black Joke, which is said to go well upon chimes; but several objections arose - not to the tune - but to the name; - some said it militated against his Majesty's late Proclamation and that the Justices of course could object to its performance; others proposed to re-christen it; - but this was also objected to, and upon the Chairman closing the arguments by putting the question it was negatived by a small majority.

Thursday the New Peal of Ten Bells, cast by Mr. Arnold, of this place, was opened at St. Martin's Church, by the Society of Change Ringers, of this town, with a compleat peal of 5130 Grandsire Catons in 3 hours and 37 minutes. After which, upwards of one hundred gentlemen dined on the occasion at the Crown-&-Thistle in Loseby-lane, and spent the remainder of the day in the utmost friendship and conviviality.

The bells are very musical, and, for their weight are esteemed a good peal.

(*Leicester Journal*, Sat. 8 Sept. 1787; cf *Ringing World*, 20 Oct. 1978, p.89; the report of the peal was repeated in *Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 14 September 178, *Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 15 Sept. 1787, and *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 15 Sept. 1787, the latter under the by-line 'LEICESTER, Sept. 11.')

An accident at Harringworth

Stamford, Sept. 7.

... Last Sunday morning as the ringers at Harringworth near Uppingham were ringing a peal of changes, the cannons or stays of the tenor bell gave way, (weight about twenty cwt) and instantly dropped upon two beams just under the framing that happily prevented its falling thro' to the bottom, which must have been attended with fatal consequences, as a number of people were then in the belfry besides the ringers, who immediately fled for refuge.

(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 13 Sept. 1787)

Sunday se'nnight, the ringers at Harringworth near Uppingham, were ringing a peal of changes the canons or stays of the tenor bell (about 20 cwt.) gave way, and it instantly dropped upon two beams just under the framing, which happily prevented it falling through to the bottom, where a number of people, beside the ringers, were assembled, and consequently must have been attended with fatal consequences.

(*Sheffield Register*, Sat. 15 Sept. 1787)

On Friday the 12th of October, a Peal of five Bells, partly cast, and completely hung, by Mr. Arnold, of Leicester, will be opened at Bugbrook, in this County. Five Hats will be rung for, and will be given to those five Ringers who shall ring the best and completest Grandsire, in the Opinion of Gentlemen chosen as Umpires to decide on the Merits of such Ringers. On this Occasion, an Ordinary will be provided by Mr. Phipps, at the Waggon-and-Horses, at Bugbrook.—Dinner on the Table at two o'Clock.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 15 Sept. 1787 – not an advert. It is not certain which bells were cast by Arnold as three of the bells were subsequently recast.)

On Monday last, was completely rung at St. Trinity, in this city, by the Coventry Youths, 10,128 changes of Bob Majors, in six hours and forty-nine minutes; which, in number, surpasses all that ever was rung within ninety miles of this place (circularly). The additional ornament, which gives a lustre to this grand performance, is, the sixth was at home the last twelve courses without parting the tenors.

(*Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 17 Sept. 1787; also *Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 22 Sept. 1787; similar reports in *Sussex Weekly Advertiser* and *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, both Mon. 17 Sept. 1787, but without the reference to 'within ninety miles of this place'; that in the *Sussex Weekly Advertiser* appeared under the by-line 'London, Sept. 13')

Newcastle, Sept. 15. The Hon. Mrs. Raby Vane has made the parish of Staindrop a present of a peal of six bells, cast for the purpose in London: and the Right. Hon. the Earl of Darlington has presented the same church with an excellent organ; the organist of which is also appointed and paid by that noble Peer.

(*Whitehall Evening Post*, Sat. 15 Sept. - Tues. 18 Sept. 1787)

Last Monday the Horsham Society of ringers met at Brighthelmston, for the purpose of fixing up in the tower of the Church there, a frame, containing the names and places of abode of those, who in the year 1779, rung the 11,088 changes of bob major, on the new bells there, in commemoration of that event. - They afterwards rung a true and complete peal of grandsire tripples, in three hours and three minutes.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 1 Oct. 1787)

Birmingham, October 4.

... On Monday last was rung, at St. Philip's church in this town, by the St. Philip's youths, a complete peal of treble bob majors, the most that can be produced in thirteen courses, containing 5248 changes, in three hours and twenty-one minutes. It is the first peal ever rung at that church in the treble bob method, and the first peal of treble bob majors that has been rung in the town.

(*The Daily Universal Register*, Sat. 6 Oct. 1787)

On Wednesday last, a new peal of five bells cast by Mr. Osborn, of Downham, were opened at Parson Drove, by the Downham company of ringers. The bells are the free gift of the Rev. John Dickerson, M.A. minister of that parish, and do great credit to the founder.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 6 Oct. 1787; also *Bury and Norwich Post*, Wed. 10 Oct. 1787.)

The opening of the new ring of bells at Halifax

On Wednesday next will be opened at Halifax, A PEAL of EIGHT NEW BELLS, cast by W. and T. MEARS, (late Lister, Pack, and Chapman) Bell Founders in London, and hung by Ed. Simmons; and it is expected the College Youths from London will be at Halifax at the same time.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues 9 Oct. 1787)

RINGING

On Wednesday last was opened at Halifax, by the Society of Ringers of that Place, a Peal of Eight new Bells, cast by Mess. Mears and Co. (late Lester, Pack, and Chapman) of Whitechapel, London, and hung by Mr. SIMMONS, their own Bell-Hanger.

On this Occasion several complete Peals were rung, with the greatest Propriety, by different Societies, viz. from Ashton-under-Line, Leeds, Bradford, Wakefield, and Sowerby, each of which rang a complete Peal of 5040 Triples - and, in Addition thereto, the Society of College Youths from London rang a true and complete Peal of 5088 Oxford Triple Bob, in a Stile which gave general Satisfaction to the most able Judges.

The Peal of Bells are universally allowed to be superlatively fine.

Those Persons that want single or Peals of Bells, may apply to the said Mess. Mears and Co. or to Mr. Francis Hudson, on the Pavement, York.
(*York Courant*, Tuesday 16 Oct. 1787 - advert.; similar advert in *Newcastle Courant*, Sat. 20 Oct. 1787.)

RINGING.

ON Wednesday last was opened at Halifax, by the
Society of Ringers of that Place,
A PEAL of EIGHT NEW BELLS,

Cast by Messrs. MEARS and Co. (late Lester, Pack and Chapman) of White Chapel, London, and hung by Mr. SIMMONS, their own Bell Hanger.

Several compleat Peals were rung with the greatest Propriety, particularly one by the College Youths from London, and the Societies of Leeds, Ashton, Bradford, Wakefield, and Sowerby.— —A great Number of People attended on the Occasion, and the Bells were allowed by Judges to be a fine Peal.

Those Persons that want Single or Peals of Bells, may apply to the said Messrs. Mears and Co. or to Mr. Francis Hudson, in the Pavement, York.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 16 Oct. 1787 - advert)

The College Youths, who came down from London to attend the Opening of the new Peal of Eight Bells at Halifax, were met on their coming out of the Church, after they had finished their Peal, by a Band of Music, who escorted them to the Old Cock Inn, where there was an elegant Entertainment provided on the Occasion. (*See the Advertisement*). - This was an agreeable Circumstance, especially as it was the most *distant* Visit ever paid by any Society since the ingenious Art of Ringing has been discovered - on which Account, as being in the Neighbourhood of York, it was proposed that the College Youths should pay a Visit to that respectable and ancient City. The Proposal was acceded to, on Condition that the Society would ring a Peal of Catons on the Minster Bells, which hitherto had never been attempted, (being deemed impracticable) in Consequence of which they assembled on Saturday last, and ascended the Tower at 30 Minutes past Eleven in the Forenoon, and at seven Minutes past Three they brought round a true and complete Peal of 5183 Grandsire catons, to the Astonishment of those acquainted with so arduous an Undertaking, who are Residents in the City.
(*York Courant*, Tues. 16 Oct. 1787. The 'Advertisement' referred to is that headed RINGING and describing the opening of Halifax bells (above), which appeared at the head of the column in which this report was printed. Short report, *Leeds Intelligencer*, same date, which also refers to the advert quoted above; also *Newcastle Courant*, Sat. 20 Oct. 1787.)

On the 10th instant a Peal of Eight new bells was opened at Halifax, in Yorkshire, on which occasion several sets of Change Ringers, convened from different parts of the vicine [*sic*] country, and also one Society (the College Youths) from London, attended. The following companies took their exercise according to ballott, viz - The gentlemen of Halifax ushered in the morning with an abstract of Bob Major, which, with a regular rise and fall, was concluded in 40 minutes. The gentlemen from Bradford succeeded and rung a peal of 5040 Crown Bob Triples in three hours and ten minutes. The gentlemen from Wakefield next engaged, and rung a peal of 5040 Triples in three hours and twenty nine minutes. The gentlemen from Leeds gave next a specimen of their skill, and rung a peal of 5040 Plain Bob Triples in three hours and sixteen minutes. The next morning the London College Youths took the strings, and rung, in the space of three hours and twenty seven minutes, a compleat peal of

5088 changes of Oxford Treble Bob (8 in). After these the gentlemen from Ashton under Lyne went up and in three hours and three minutes rang Holt's Peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples. The day was concluded with a peal of Triples, at least 4500 changes, by the gentlemen from Sowerby. These performances were all executed in a very masterly stile, and reflect great credit on the different parties. The bells are allowed to be superlatively fine, were cast by Mr. Mears in Whitechapel, London, and hung by Mr. Simmons from the same place. The weight of the tenor bell is upwards of 25 hundred. (*Leicester Journal*, Sat. 20 Oct. 1787)

At the Opening of a New Peal of Bells, the Tenor of which is upwards of 25 Cwt. at Halifax, on Wednesday and Thursday last, six different Societies of Ringers exerted themselves in such a Manner, as gave great Satisfaction to all Lovers of that healthful Exercise, but more particularly a select Company of Gentlemen belonging to the Society of College Youths from London, who rung an excellent fine Peal of Union or Treble Bob, consisting of 5080 [*sic*] Changes, in 3 Hours and about 32 Minutes; also the celebrated Youths of Ashton Under-line, who, with equal, if not superior, Exactness, not one Bell from first to last being struck out of its proper Place, rung Mr. Holt's compleat Peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 Changes, in 3 Hours and about 2 Minutes; also was rung 800 of Union or Triple Bob, by the celebrated Youths of Ashton. (*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 23 Oct. 1787)

RINGING.

On Wednesday the 10th Instant, was opened at Halifax, in Yorkshire, a new Peal of Eight Bells, cast by Messrs. Mears (late Lester, Pack; and Chapman) of London. On that Day was rung Three complete Peals of 5040 Tribles; and, what is more remarkable, the Day following was rung Three more complete Peals, particularly one by the Society of College Youths, from London, which claims, in Preference to the other Peals, a Merit which redounds to their Praise. They also went to York, and rung a true Peal of 5183 Grandsire Caters, on the Minster Peal of Ten Bells, to the great Astonishment of the Curious there, particularly as there were never om those Bells rung a complete Peal before.

N. B. Those Persons, or Parishes, who want single Bells, or Peals of Bells, may apply to the said Messrs. Mears and Co. or to Mr. William Worton, in New-Street, Birmingham, who returns his sincere Thanks to the Public In general, for the Favours already bestowed upon him, and solicits a Continuance of the same; and. begs Leave to inform them, he continues the Smith's Business, in all its Branches, as usual, and every Endeavour will be used to merit their Countenance and Support.

* † * Church and Turret Clocks and Chimes made and repaired, and Church and House Bells hung in the compleatest Manner.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 29 Oct. 1787 – advert)

A peal at York Minster

On Saturday last the Society of College Youths from London rung on the noble peal of 10 bells at the Cathedral church of York, a true and compleat peal of 5183 Grandsire Cators, in three hours and thirty eight minutes, and in a most masterly manner, to the astonishment of all acquainted with so arduous an undertaking, resident in that respectable and ancient city, it having been deemed impracticable to achieve so grand a performance on those bells, on account of their very extraordinary weight - They were cast at the foundry in Whitechapel, London, in 1765, and are esteemed the finest peal of 10 in the kingdom, without exception - the weight of the tenor is 53 hundred and 25 pounds. (*Leicester Journal*, Sat. 20 Oct. 1787)

The College youths who came down from London, to attend the opening of the new peal of eight bells, at Halifax [*sic*], *see the advertisement*, were met on their coming out of the Church, after they had finished their peal, by a band of music, who escorted them to the Old Cock Inn, where there was an elegant entertainment provided on the occasion. This was an agreeable circumstance, especially as it was the most distant visit ever paid by any society, since the ingenious art of ringing has been discovered; on which account, as being in the neighbourhood of York, it was proposed, that the College youths should pay a visit to that respectable and ancient city; the proposal was acceded to, on condition, that the society would ring a peal of Cators on the Minster Bells, which hitherto has never been accomplished, (being deemed impracticable) in consequence of which, they assembled on Saturday last, and ascended the tower at thirty minutes past eleven o'clock in the forenoon, and at seven minutes after three in the afternoon, they brought round a true and complete peal of 5183 Gransire Cators, to the astonishment of those who are acquainted with so arduous an undertaking, and resident in the city.

(*Newcastle Courant*, Sat. 20 Oct. 1787)

To all GENTLEMEN RINGERS.

THERE will be six Pair of Buck's Leather
Gloves given gratis, on Saturday, October 27, to
be rung for at Hundon. Dinner at Two o'clock, at the
Rose and Crown, your humble servant,

THOMAS CRASK.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 20 Oct. 1787 - advert)

The peal of Cambridge Surprise Major rung at Sheffield

On Thursday, being the anniversary of his Majesty's accession to the throne, the peal called CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE was rung in our Parish Church, by the Sheffield Ringers. The whole number of changes intended to be rung was 6048, but owing to the clapper of the sixth bell breaking, they were obliged to stop when they had rung 4300. This peal is remarkable for the variety and difficulty of the changes, and we are told has not been attempted before by any country set of ringers.

(*Sheffield Register*, Sat. 27 Oct. 1787)

On Monday morning, being the anniversary of the Gunpowder Plot, were rung at Trinity Church, Sheffield, 6048 changes of CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE, (eight in) which were compleated, by the society of ringers in this town, in four hours and eighteen minutes, and which we are informed, were never executed in any part of the kingdom before.

(*Sheffield Register*, Sat. 10 Nov. 1787)

On Monday last was rung at the Trinity Church in Sheffield, Yorkshire, by eight of the Society of Change Ringers in that town, a true and compleat peal of Six Thousand and forty eight changes, in that most intricate method of Cambridge Surprize (eight in) – the time, four hours and eighteen minutes - weight of the tenor 33 hundred.

(*Leicester Journal*, Sat. 10 Nov. 1787)

Yesterday Se'nnight being the Anniversary of the Gunpowder Plot, it was observed here with ringing of Bells, &c.

The same Morning was rung at Trinity Church, Sheffield, 6048 Changes of CAMBRIDGE SURPRIZE, (Eight in) which was completed in 4 Hours and 18 Minutes, by the Society of Ringers of that Town, viz.

1. Richard Owen,	‡	5. Charles Fletcher,
2. George Wilde,	‡	6. John Hill,
3. Samuel Willey,	‡	7. Samuel Dutton,
4. William Lee,	‡	8. Thomas Babb.

The following is a plain Treble Leading and a Bob of the above Peal:

12345678			
21436587	26847153	48527613	75183426
12463857	28641735	45872631	75814362
21648375	82467153	54786213	57183426
26143857	28647513	45876123	51784362
62418375	82465731	54781632	15873426
62143857	84256713	57486123	51837246
26418375	48527631	75841632	15382764
62481735	84256731	57814362	15837246

BOB.

15382764

13587246

We need to say but little in our Paper respecting the Abilities of the Sheffield Ringers, since they are rarely mentioned unless attended with the most flattering Encomiums. The masterly Manner in which the above Peal was rung, (which is replete with the most intricate Changes, and was never attempted with the least Shadow of Success in any Part of the Kingdom except once, nor ever completed till now) will operate more forcibly in their Favour than all the Praise we are capable of bestowing, and secure them the Fame they have so long enjoyed.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 13 Nov. 1787; the previous attempt mentioned was made by the Sheffield ringers on 25 October 1787 - see *Sheffield Register*, 27 Oct. 1787.)

Monday being the anniversary of the gunpowder plot it was observed in this town by ringing of bells, bonfires etc.

The same day was rung at Trinity Church in Sheffield, 6048 changes of CAMBRIDGE SURPRIZE, (eight in) which was completed in four hours and eighteen minutes, by the society of ringers in that town.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 13 Nov. 1787)

RINGING.

THERE will be given gratis, Six Pair of Gloves and one Pair to the Judge; to be rung for at Whickham Market, to ring 360 changes of plain bob, and 360 of treble bob, or a 720 of plain, on Friday the 23d of November instant; not less than two companies to ring, Whickham excluded. ☞ Dinner at One o'clock, where the company of all gentlemen ringers will be esteemed a favour, by your humble servant,

WM. WRIGHT, at the Crown.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 3 Nov. 1787 - advert.)

Thursday se'night was rung at Sudbury, the new peal of 8 bells, 5040 changes complete of bob-major, by their own company the first time, in 3 hours and 10 minutes.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 3 Nov. 1787)

On the 25th ult. a complete peal of 5040 changes of bob major was rung at Sudbury, the first time, by their own company, in three hours and ten minutes.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 9 Nov. 1787)

Monday being the 5th of November, the Grand Peal, called Crown Bob, was rung on six Bells at the Parish Church of Tideswell in this County, in 14 Minutes, without either Clap or Clam, and gave great Satisfaction to many Professors of the Art of Ringing. The Tenor (which weighs 20 Hundred) was rung by John Middleton; Wm. Sterndale, Wm. Oldfield, Thos. Middleton, Joseph Middleton, Rob Woodruff.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 1 Nov. – Thurs. 8 Nov. 1787; also *Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 13 Nov. 1787, starting 'Monday being the anniversary of the gunpowder plot... The same day..', omitting the last sentence, and with 'clash' vice 'Clam')

Monday being the anniversary of the gunpowder plot...

The same day was rung at Halifax, by the society of ringers of that place, a peal of Bob Major's, consisting of 5088 changes, in three hours and thirty-three minutes.
(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 13 Nov. 1787)

On Monday last was rung at St. Peter's church, Aston, near Birmingham, by four of St. Phillip's youths of Birmingham, and four of St. Peter's youths of Aston, Holt's peal of Grandsire Tripples, containing 5040 changes, in three hours and 18 minutes.
(*Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 12 Nov. 1787)

In the morning of the 5th instant, in commemoration of the Gunpowder Plot, a peal of Bob Majors, consisting of 5088 changes, was rung on the bells at Halifax church in three hours and 33 minutes, in a manner which gives great honour to the following persons, who rung the same, viz. 1. James Green (who called the peal); 2. John Fawcett; 3 Samuel Firth; 4. Joseph Flather; 5. Samuel Pearson; 6. John Crowther; 7. John Fournise; 8. William Taylor.
(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 13 Nov. 1787 - per D. Cubitt)

On Sunday, Nov. 11, was rung at St. John's chapel in Deritend, by the young society of change ringers of that place, a true peal of 5040 bob majors, with the six dodging at home nine times wrong, and nine times right, was completed in 3 hours and 14 minutes; the above peal was called by William Bennet, and is the first ever rung by that Society.
(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 19 Nov. 1787)

On Monday last, a person named Goward, led his wife (who is far advanced in her pregnancy) to the Market Place at Nuneaton, and there sold and delivered her up, with a halter about her, to one White, for the sum of three guineas; on their way Goward asked his wife if she was not ashamed of being brought to the market to be sold, she said she was not and was happy to think she was going to have another husband, for she knew well who would be her purchaser - when they came to the place, Goward embraced his wife and wished her well, upon which she returned the compliment, and said the next embrace would be from Spanking Roger. - White declared himself extremely satisfied, and paid down the money assuring the Quondam Husband, it was good and full weight! - The purchase being completed, White gave the ringers a handsome treat to ring a peal and they spent the remainder of the day with the greatest joy imaginable.
(*Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 19 Nov. 1787; also *York Chronicle*, Fri. 30 Nov. 1787 and *York Courant*, Tues. 4 Dec. 1787)

Yesterday was rang at Maidstone church to decide a bet of six Guineas, by the Maidstone Society, a 6480 of Bob Major Cators, by the following persons:

James Brislee Treble			
Robert Tassell	2	Tho. King	6
Joseph Moore	3	William Killick	7
John Harper	4	D. Kingsnorth	8
Tho. Rawlings	5	G. Highland	9

Thomas Wellon Tenor

Mr. Thomas King called the peal.

Considerable bets were laid against this seeming wonderful performance, which was compleated to the satisfaction of a vast concourse of hearers in four hours and twelve minutes;

And like the baseless fabric of a vision, left not a wreck behind.

(*Maidstone Journal*, Tues. 20 Nov. 1787)

On Monday, Nov. 19, was, completely rung, by St. John's Youths, of Manchester, Mr. Holt's Peal of Grandsire Tripples, containing Five Thousand and Forty Changes, in three Hours and one Minute, which was never before compleated by any set of Manchester Ringers.
(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 27 Nov. 1787)

On Monday last was rung, at the Abbey Church in this town, by a young society of change-ringers, a compleat Peal of Oxford Treble Bob, containing 5248 Changes, in 3 hours and 46 minutes, being the most changes that can be produced in thirteen courses, and the greatest length of the kind ever rung here. - This Peal was completed the second attempt, to the great satisfaction of all who heard it.
(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 1 Dec. 1787)

On Monday the 16th ult. was rung at stone [*sic*], in the Isle of Oxney, by the following Appledore youths, a complete peal of 720 changes, plain bob, in 26 minutes, being the first peal ever rung on them.

John Pavis, treble, aged 24 years
Benjamin Parsons, 2d, aged 24 years
Mr. William Strickland, 3d
Mr. Edward Strickland, 4th
Edward Avery, 5th
Joseph Hodges, tenor

Edward Avery called the peal.

(*Canterbury Journal*, Tues. 4 Dec. 1787)

We hear from Rochdale, that To-morrow, the 12th Inst. the compleat Peal of Eight Bells, cast by Mr. Rudhall, of Gloucester, will be opened. The great Perfection to which the Art of Ringing is brought, has induced many Sets of Ringers belonging to the neighbouring Churches to promise Attendance at the Opening—when it is not doubted but their respective Performances will give the greatest Satisfaction to all who are Lovers of Harmony.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 11 Dec. 1787) [A ring of six bells had been cast for the tower by Abel Rudhall in 1752, and John Rudhall completed the ring of eight bells in 1787. He also supplied a new tenor bell in 1812.]

A few Days ago was married at Ottringham, in the East-Riding, Mr. Stephen Brignall to Mrs. Christy, both of that Place. – The Bridegroom paid the Minister, Clerk, and Ringers all in Farthings; the Minister received 252 as his Fee, the Clerk 72, and the Ringers 250; the Remainder, which were not a few, were thrown among the Populace.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 11 Dec. 1787)

On Sunday evening the second of this instant, was rung at St. John's church Bromsgrove by the Union Society of that place, a complete peal of Bob Majors, containing 5184 changes, with the sixth twelve times [w]rong and twelve times right in the last twenty-four courses; this peal was compleated in three hours and twenty eight minutes. Was composed and called by one of the junior members of the aforesaid Society, who never attempted to call a peal before, this being the fourth rung the present year, three of which were the first attempt.

(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 20 Dec. 1787; the *Worcester Journal* for 1787 contains reports of only three peals at Bromsgrove up to this point; also *Daily Universal Register*, Sat. 22 Dec. 1787, with 'rung' instead of 'rong'.)

On Monday last was rung on the musical peal of eight bells at St. Mary's Church in this town by the UNION SOCIETY, a true and complete peal of *Oxford Treble Bob* containing 6176 changes in seventeen courses, which with the greatest regularity of fine striking was compleated in 4 hours 22 minutes, and the first peal in that curious method ever rung on those bells.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 22 Dec. 1787; similar report in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 24 Dec. 1787)

We are informed, that the Bells at the College will, on New Year's Day next, begin a Quarter before the usual Time, and Ring a full Peal of ... and Toll another 15 Minutes after which they commence as usual. This Mode of Ringing to be ... on Sundays and all Sermon Days, for the future.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 25 Dec. 1787; the parts marked ... were missing (torn) from the copy of the paper in Manchester Central Library.)

LANCASTER, Dec. 17.

.....

On Sunday in the Afternoon, as the Ringers were ringing a Peal at St. Mary's Church, the Clapper of the Tenor Bell broke loose in the Box. The Alarm was so great to the *Musical Hemp Gentry* below, that they quitted their Ropes, fearfull of the Steeple falling upon them, which occasioned so much Confusion that some made the best of their way to escape, whilst others staid imploring Mercy till the Bells had settled; after which the Ringers went up, found the Clapper lying under the Bell, and the Bell no worse.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 27 Dec. 1787; similar report, beginning ‘Last Sunday se’nnight...’ in *Sheffield Register*, Sat. 29 Dec. 1787; also *Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 28 Dec. 1787.)

Last Wednesday was rung, at Highworth, Wilts, (by Holt’s Method) the whole Peal of Grandsire Tripples, in three Hours and fourteen Minutes, by Messrs. William Williams, Henry Coleman, junior, John Darby, John Lord, John Williams, Edward Ansell, Samuel Cope, and Thomas Mills, all of that Place:—And what adds to the Merit of the Ringers, it was the first Time they ever attempted to ring this Peal.

(*Jackson’s Oxford Journal*, Sat. 29 Dec. 1787)

On Wednesday last was rung at Biddenden by the Society of Biddenden Youths 5376 changes Kentish Treble Bob, in three hours and thirty-six minutes, supposed to be as complete a peal as ever was rung – it contained the course ends of the whole peal of 40320.

John Dean	Treble	Robert Pullen	5
Thomas Dean	2	Robert Honiss	6
Thomas Dean	3	John Stone	7
Richard Pullen	4	Stephen Smith	Tenor

The above peal was composed by Biddenden Youths.

(*Maidstone Journal*, Tues. 1 Jan. 1788; similar report in *Canterbury Journal*, Tues. 1 Jan. 1788, with ‘Honis’ insted of ‘Honiss’)

On Wednesday last was rung at Harrietsham by the Leeds Youths, a compleat peal of 5376 changes of Leeds Kentish Triple bob Royal, in three hours and fifteen minutes by the following persons, viz:

Robert Bottle	Treble	William Davies	5
Thomas Bigg	2	James Barham	6
Benjamin Bottle	3	Thomas Austen	7
William Cook	4	Thomas Lacy	Tenor

(*Maidstone Journal*, Tues. 1 Jan. 1788)

On Monday the 31st December, was rung at Saint John's, Bromsgrove, by the Union Society of that place, a complete peal of Bob Majors, containing 10,192 changes, in six hours and thirty three minutes, with the tenors at home, 60 courses, which undoubtedly is the best peal of Bob Majors ever rung, and adds much to the praise of Charles Ravenscroft, the composer and caller, who is one of the Junior Members of the aforesaid society.

(*Berrow’s Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 17 Jan. 1788; similar report in *Aris’s Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 4 February 1788, where the date of the peal was given as 31st of December, 1788 [*sic*], and the composer’s name given incorrectly as Ravenscraft)

On Wednesday next the 2d of January, 1788, will be opened a PEAL of FIVE BELLS, at BARROW-UPON-SOAR, the same having been new hung, and tuned, by E. ARNOLD, *BELL-FOUNDER*, in LEICESTER.

Five good HATS will be rung for, and which will become the property of five persons who shall ring the best FIVE BELL PEALS on the day above mentioned, in the opinion of Judges chosen to preside as Umpires.

An Ordinary will be provided at the several public-houses in Barrow.

All Companies of Ringers are to enter their names by ten o'clock in the morning.

(*Leicester Journal*, Sat. 29 Dec. 1787 - advert)

New Bells for Tynemouth (North Shields)

The new steeple of Tynemouth church being finished, and a complete ring of bells hung therein, divine service was performed there yesterday, and an excellent occasional sermon, preached by the Rev. Mr Hogarth, Vicar of Kirknewton. The tenor bell was presented to the parish by James Storey, of Otterburn, Esq; and named the Otterburn, in honor of the donor.

(*Newcastle Courant*, Sat. 19 Jan. 1788)

We are sorry at having admitted an erroneous paragraph in our paper of last week, respecting the new Peal of Six Bells at the parish church of Tynemouth, in the county of Northumberland. The following is a true state of that matter: During the civil wars in the reign of Charles I. Oliver Cromwell's troops under Sir Arthur Haslerig, laid siege to Tynemouth Castle, and took it by storm; from that time the ancient Priory became unfit for public worship, the lead having been taken off the roof, the whole building sustained material injury, and was suffered to go into decay. Soon after this event some of the parishioners set about building a new church near North Shields, which at various times has undergone alterations and enlargements, and lately a new steeple was erected to the same, and six musical bells placed therein. The bells were bought by a number of respectable subscribers, of which his Grace the Duke of Northumberland is at the head, and the fixing and hanging them having been effected on the 17th instant; on Friday the 18th, being the day appointed for the celebration of her Majesty's birth-day, the morning was ushered in with a fine melodious peal, which gave general satisfaction to the surrounding neighbourhood. Prayers were read, and an excellent sermon was preached on the occasion by the Rev. Mr Hogarth, from the sublime words "*Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord,*" After divine service the Clergy, the Gentlemen of the Faculty, Churchwardens &c. dined together at Mr Wm Blacklock's, in Tynemouth, and spent the afternoon with cheerfulness and good humour. The new bells were cast by Messrs Mears and Co. (late Leister [*sic*], Pack, and Chapman) of Whitechapel, London, and hung by Mr Simmons, their own bell-hanger, and are allowed to be an exceeding fine toned peal.

(*Newcastle Courant*, St. 26 Jan. 1788)

On Monday last was rung by the Society of Cambridge-Youths, at the tower of St. Mary the Great, in this university, a true and compleat peal of *Bob Maximus*, in 5 hours and 5 minutes, consisting of 6600 changes; which, for the regularity of striking, and harmony throughout the peal, was allowed by the most competent judges that heard it, to be a very masterly performance; especially as it was remarked, that in point of time, the striking was to such a nicety, that in each thousand changes, the time did not vary the 16th of a minute, and the compass of the *last* thousand was exactly equal to the first, which is the grand scope of ringing.

The order in which they fixed, was as follows:

<i>Treble</i> , I. Smith,	7th. T. Jones
2d. W. Bland	8th. P. Goude
3d. R. Laughton	9th. C. Day
4th. J. Lawson	10th. W. Young
5th. J. Coe	11th. J. Hazard
6th. T. Steers	<i>Tenor</i> . J. Bowtell.

Notary in the steeple, P. Spencely.

The time of ringing this peal shews, that the late Professor Saunderson's calculation is pretty accurate, respecting the time it would take to ring the whole number of changes on twelve bells, which he stated at 45 years, 27 weeks, 6 days and 18 hours, without intermission. (*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 26 Jan. 1788; also *Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 2 Feb. 1788, the latter with the by-line 'Cambridge, Jan. 25.' but lacking the names of the ringers.)

On Shrove Tuesday morning a true and compleat peal of 5040 Bob Royal (ten in) was rung on the deep toned peal of ten bells at St. Mary's Church in that town by a select Band of the Nottingham Society. The time 3 hours 44 minutes - weight of the tenor 34 hundred 2 qrs 8 pounds. This performance was the first long peal ever rung in that method on those bells and was completed in the first and only attempt ever made there for the same.

"Be others pleased with trifling gew-gaw fights
"Unmoaning - but let me behold a band
"Selected, and of ten composed, with arms
"Ascending, and descending, stand, while health
"Sits wreathing roses on their damask cheek
"And jocund pleasure dances in their eyes
"While ev'ry bell strikes true, and not a note
"Of jarring discord hurts attention's ear." W-T-Y

(*Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 9 Feb. 1788; also *Leicester Journal*, Sat. 9 Feb. 1788; *Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 14 Feb. 1788; similar report, but without the verse, in *Sheffield Register*, Sat. 9 Feb. 1788; *Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 8 Feb. 1788; *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal* and *Jackson's Oxford Journal*, both Sat. 9 Feb. 1788; *York Courant* and *Leeds Intelligencer*, both Tues. 12 Feb. 1788; *Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 16 Feb. 1788; and *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 18 Feb. 1788)

On Friday the 1st instant were rung at Wye, by the Biddenden Youths, 5040 changes, Bob Major, in three hours and twenty minutes, and on Saturday the 2d inst. the above Youths rung at Ashford 5040 changes Bob Major, in three hours and ten minutes. These peals were rung by the following persons, all inhabitants of Biddenden:

John Dean	Robert Pullen
Thomas Dean	Robert Honiss
Thomas Dean	John Stone
Richard Pullen	Stephen Smith

(*Maidstone Journal*, Tues. 12 Feb. 1788; similar report in *Canterbury Journal*, 12 Feb. 1788, which has James Honiss instead of John Stone.)

Extract of a letter from Painswick, Feb. 16

"On Monday last was rung here, the whole peal of Tripples, in the space of three hours and 35 minutes; the first half was Holt's method, the last was old Campanalogia. - Six of the eight performers consisted of two families, - a father and two sons, and three brothers. What is most remarkable, is, when they had two bobs and the single to make, the rope of the tenor broke; yet notwithstanding the confusion it made in the ceasing of the bell, &c. they had the presence of mind to keep on the changes till they finished the peal, which they did in the above-mentioned time, to the satisfaction of most of their hearers."

(*Gloucester Journal*, Mon. 18 Feb. 1788)

The opening of Wenhaston bells

To GENTLEMEN RINGERS.

THIS is to give Notice, That on Monday the 17th of March instant, will be opened

A compleat PEAL of SIX BELLS

At Wenhaston near Halesworth in Suffolk; where the company of ringers and others, will be thankfully acknowledged, by their humble servant, SIM. HAWES.

N.B. The bells to be opened at Ten o'clock forenoon, and yielded to other companies at Eleven; after which will be given gratis, a prize of one guinea, to the company who rings the best and compleat peal of 720 changes plain bob, each company to have forty minutes trial before they ring for the prize; each company to appoint their judge.

☞ Dinner at One o'clock.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 8 March 1788 - advert)

Last Monday a peal of six bells, at Wenhaston, in Suffolk, cast by Mr. Mears, of London, and completely hung by Mr. Brock, of Halesworth, was opened by the Norwich ringers, where the celebrated Mr. By-Stander and his Wilby company were fairly conquered by Norwich youths, who brought the laurel away, to the no small disappointment of the above famous company.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 22 March 1788 – per David Cubitt; reported in similar terms in an unidentified newspaper, a transcript of which appears in the Slater MSS. See *Norfolk Chronicle*, 1 & 8 Dec. 1787, for previous reference to 'By-Stander'.)

On Tuesday the 18th instant, was rung at the Abbey Church in this town, by a society of change ringers, a compleat peal of bob majors, containing 5072 changes, in three hours and twenty-eight minutes.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Sat. 22 March 1788)

On Tuesday the 18th inst. was rung at the Abby-Church [*sic*], in Shrewsbury, a complete peal of 5072 bob-major, with the 6th at home the wrong way and the right, each twelve times, this performance was completed in a masterly manner, in three hours and twenty-eight minutes.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 24 March 1788)

On Easter Monday was rung at St. Ann's Church, Rotherham, by the Society of Ringers there, Mr. Holt's complete Peal of Grandsire Triples (5040 Changes) in three Hours and eleven Minutes, and allowed, by the best Judges, to be rung with the greatest Exactness and Truth. Weight of the Tenor 24 Hundred bare [*sic*] Metal.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 1 April 1788; also *Sheffield Register*, Sat. 29 March 1788.)

On Monday se'nnight was rung, by the Rotherham society of ringers, at St. Ann's church, in that place, Mr. Holt's compleat peal of grandsire tripples, 5040 changes, in three hours and eleven minutes, and allowed by the best judges to be executed with great exactness and truth. The weight of the tenor bell is twenty-four hundred.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 1 April 1788)

Sunday last was rung at St. Peter's Church, at Aston, near Birmingham, a compleat peal of bob major, containing 5040 changes, in three hours and 17 minutes, by the youths of that place, being the first peal of that kind ever rung by that society.

(*Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 7 April 1788)

Monday the 7th inst. was rung at Faversham, by the Faversham youths, the compleat peal of five thousand and forty Bob Major, which they performed in two hours and fifty-nine minutes.

(*Canterbury Journal*, Tues. 22 April 1788)

When music's sons their several Powers unite
then all is harmony and sweet delight.

On Saturday morning last was rang on our new and musical bells, a complete peal of union Imperial Treble bob, by the Unison Society

Treble	Mr. Parrott	6th	Mr. J. Smythe
2nd	" S. Seager	7th,	" J. Seager
3rd	" E. Ellis	8th,	" H. Ellis
4th	" A. Harris	9th	" G. Giles
5th	" T. Taylor	Tenor	by Mess. L. Taylor and E. Hodges

and was finished within three hours and forty minutes, greatly to their own satisfaction, and the entertainment of the town: Mr. Joseph Moore, a bye-stander, called the peal, and Mr. John Tyrell, Steeple Keeper.

(*Maidstone Journal*, Tues. 6 May 1788)

The publication of the 1788 Clavis Campanalogia

This Day was published, Price 5s. bound,
CLAVIS CAMPANALOGIA; or, A KEY
to the ART of RINGING: containing copious di-
rections for Ringing and Calling any Number of Changes and
in all the Methods now in Practice; also the Method of
Proving and Detecting all Kinds of false Peals. To which
is subjoined an Appendix, containing a Variety of curious and
Musical Touches, of short Peals, likewise an Historical Ac-
count of the Origin of Bells and Ringing. Together with a
Variety of other Matter, being the result of many Years
Study, diligent Application, and constant Practice.

By W. JONES, J. REEVES, and T. BLAKEMORE.

Printed for the Authors; and sold by T. Blakemore,
Bookseller, No. 4, Darby-court. Piccadilly; and J. Bow-
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(Advert in *General Evening Post*, Thurs 8 May – Sat. 10 May 1788; also *St. James's Chronicle or the British Evening Post*, Sat. 14 June - Tues. 17 June 1788. A shorter advert appeared in the *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal* of Sat. 10 May 1788, for which see below.)

*To all gentlemen and others, desirous of learning the ingenious
art of*
R I N G I N G.

This day is published, price 5s. bound.

CLAVIS CAMPANALOGIA, or a KEY to the
ART of RINGING, being the result of many years study,
diligent application, and constant practice.

By W. JONES, J. REEVES, and T. BLAKEMORE.

ARS NON HABET INIMICUM NISI IGNORANTEM.

London: printed for the authors, and sold by T. Blakemore,
No.4, Derby-court, Piccadilly; and J. Bowtell, bookseller in
Cambridge, who will punctually forward all orders for this book,
by carriers in general, to any part of the kingdom.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 10 May 1788 - advert)

On Thursday last the peal of Six Bells, at the parish church of All-Saints, Edmonton, having been augmented to a peal of eight, by the addition of two new trebles, was opened with a complete peal of Oxford treble-bob, consisting of 5,280 changes, and was performed in three hours and thirty minutes, by the society of Cumberland youths.

(*Times*, Tues. 13 May 1788)

A ringing conundrum

On Wednesday last was rung at Wakefield, by the ringers of that place, a new composed peal of Tripple Bob Tripples, confining of 5040 changes, in eight courses compleat, called *Wakefield Delight*; the same set of ringers, without changing a man or setting a bell, began another peal of Oxford Single Tripples in twelve courses, consisting of 5040 changes compleat, called *Wakefield Surprise*; both these peals containing 10080 changes, were performed, including the raising and settling of the bells, in seven hours and one minute, and were rung with the greatest exactness and distinction, an instance never before done in this kingdom. What adds to the singularity of the case is, the ringers were two fathers, five sons, four cousins, one uncle, one nephew, and no more than eight persons, and with only two names.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 20 May 1788)

On Wednesday last was rung at Wakefield, by the ringers of that place, a new composed peal of triple bob triples, called *Wakefield's delight*, consisting of 5040 changes, in eight courses complete. The same set of ringers, without changing a man or setting a bell, began another peal of Oxford single triples, in twelve courses, consisting of 5040 changes, and called *Wakefield's surprize*. Both these peals, consisting of 10,080 changes, were performed, including the raising and setting of the bells, in seven hours and one minutes, and were rung with great exactness and the nicest distinction - an instance never before done in this kingdom. What adds to the singularity of the performance, there were two fathers, five sons, five brothers, four Cousins, one uncle, one nephew, yet no more than eight persons, and with only two names.

(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 29 May 1788; also *Hereford Journal*, Thurs. 5 June 1788, starting 'WORCESTER, May 29')

A Ringing Anecdote. - On the 14th of May, 1788, there were rung at Wakefield, by the society of ringers at that Church, two different peals of trebles, consisting of 10,080 changes, in seven hours and one minute. This peal was rung with the greatest exactness and distinction; a performance never equalled in this Kingdom, on bells of the same weight, the tenor being upwards of 24 cwt. What adds to the singularity of this performance, the ringers were two fathers, five sons, five brothers, four cousins, one uncle and one nephew, yet no more than eight persons, and with only two surnames.

(*Wakefield & Halifax Journal*, Fri. 21 Jan. 1814 - [sic])

Stamford, May 30.

On Old May day was opened the heavy peal of five bells at Liddington, in the county of Rutland, by the youths of the said parish, being many years out of tune so much as to be supposed to be cracked ones; but have lately been put in perfect tune, and the weight of the clappers regulated, by the direction of Mr. Richard Embrey, of Wing, in the said county; They have been heard by several judges, and deemed to be equal, if not superior, to any in the county. The weight of the tenor 20 hundred; key, F sharp.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 30 May 1788)

On Sunday the 1st instant, was rung at St. John's chapel, in Deritend, by the Young Society of Change Ringers, of that place, a true peal of Bob Majors, containing 6384 changes, with the 6th dodging at home, 12 times wrong, and 12 times right, the above peal was compleatly rung in 4 hours, and 16 minutes.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 9 June 1788)

On Wednesday last (being the anniversary of His Majesty's birthday) was rung at our Parish Church, by the Society of Ringers there, an Abstract of Union Treble Bob, consisting of 5,088 changes, in three hours and twenty minutes, being the first time it was ever rung in this part of the kingdom, except by a select set of ringers from London, who rang the same peal at the opening of Halifax new bells.

On Wednesday the same peal was rung at Bradford on the same occasion, by the ringers of that place in three courses complete; and was performed in three hours and six minutes (though the tenor weighs 20 cwt.) in a most masterly manner, to the satisfaction of all lovers of that music, who had the pleasure of hearing them.

(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 10 June 1788)

Wednesday being the anniversary of his Majesty's birth-day when he entered into the 51st year of his age, the morning was ushered in by ringing of bells.

On Wednesday last being the anniversary of his Majesty's birth-day, was rung at our Parish Church, by the society of ringers, an abstract of Union Treble Bob, consisting of 5088 changes, in three hours and twenty minutes, being the first time that ever it was rung in this part of the kingdom, except by a select set of ringers at the opening of Halifax new bells.

On Wednesday last was rung at Bradford in honour of his Majesty's birth-day, by the ringers of that place, a peal of 5088 changes, on eight bells, called Treble Bob or Union Bob, in three courses compleat; it was performed in three hours and six minutes, tho' the tenor bell weighs 20 cwt. (*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 10 June 1788)

On Sunday the 8th inst, seven thatched houses were burnt down at Cheltenham, occasioned by a chimney taking fire... The same day at Prestbury, near Cheltenham, the great bell in the tower fell down.

(*Gloucester Journal*, Mon. 16 June 1788) [The bell, by Abel Rudhall, survived the fall.]

A new ring of bells for Edinburgh

Yesterday, the Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council, agreed that a Peal of Six Bells should be furnished for the Steeple of St Andrew's Church, New Town. The contract, we understand, is made with Mess. Mears of Whitechapel, London.

(*Caledonian Mercury*, Thurs. 19 June 1788)

... A chime of six bells for St. Andrew's Church, New Town, was also voted by the Council. (*Edinburgh Evening Courant*, Thurs. 19 June 1788; also *Edinburgh Advertiser*, Fri. 20 June 1788.)

Wednesday, June 3, a number of workmen, assisted by a person from London who came down on purpose, were employed in getting up to the steeple of St Andrew's Church, New Town, Edinburgh, eight fine large new bells, cast by Mess. Mears & Co. of Whitechapel, for a chime. (*Scots Magazine*, June 1789; taken from *Caledonian Mercury*, Thurs. 4 June 1789.)

The new peal of bells in St. Andrew's steeple were yesterday tried for the first time. They are well toned, and have a very good effect.

(*Edinburgh Evening Courant*, Sat. 11 July 1789)

The new peal of bells in St Andrew's steeple were on Friday tried for the first time. They were likewise rung yesterday, previous to the forenoon and afternoon service. They are well toned, and have a very good effect. The number, of changes that can be rung on these bells 40,320—which would require 67 hours 12 minutes, at the rate of 10 changes in a minute. This might not be perfect[ly] agreeable to the inhabitants of George's street.

(*Caledonian Mercury*, Mon. 13 July 1789)

The inhabitants of Wells were much delighted on the first inst. to hear the musical bells of the Cathedral rung by a company of ringers from Westbury, in this county, in a stile superior to any thing of the kind they ever remembered to have heard, confirmed by many competent judges.

(*Salisbury and Winchester Journal*, Mon. 14 July 1788)

RINGING.

AT Laxfield in Suffolk, on FRIDAY the 27th day of this inst. June, that company who shall ring the best complete peal of 720 changes, plain bob, shall be entitled to and receive of John Welton, at the sign of the Royal Oak, One Guinea; if not less than three companies; to enter their names at Two o'clock in the afternoon. To avoid disputes, each company to find a judge. When and where the company of all gentlemen will meet a hearty welcome by their most humble servant, JOHN WELTON.

☞ Dinner precisely at Three o'clock

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 21 June 1788 - advert)

RINGING.

ON TUESDAY, August the 12th, will be opened a complete New Peal of SIX BELLS at Clopton, cast by Messrs. Mears (late Lester, Pack and Chapman). The company of all gentlemen ringers and others will be esteemed a favour. ☞ The bells to be opened by Ten o'clock. A good dinner will be provided on the occasion.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 2 Aug. 1788 - advert)

On Sunday the 10th inst. was rung at St. Peter's church, at Aston, near this town, by the society of change ringers of that place, a true peal of bob-major, containing 6000 changes with the 6th dodging at home the last eleven courses; it was completed in four hours and six minutes. (*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 18 Aug. 1788)

To be SOLD
By *EDWARD ARNOLD*,
BELLFOUNDER, ENGINEER, CHURCH CLOCK
& CHIME - MAKER, in *Leicester*;

A NEW ENGINE, of the most useful size to EXTINGUISH FIRE:—Also TWO CHURCH CLOCKS, nearly as good as new ; one to go eight days, the other thirty hours.—The Clocks are in compleat repair, and may be had with or without Dials.

Where also may be had, Weighing Engines for Turnpike roads, Iron work for Gates, &c.—likewise Machines or Cranes for taking up heavy weights, and every article in the WHITESMITH'S business.

Leicester, 19th Aug. 1788

(*Leicester Journal*, Sat. 23 Aug. 1788 - advert)

On Saturday evening last was rung at the parish church of St. Leonard, Shoreditch, a compleat peal on Stedman's principle, being the second production in that critical method; the assumption of merit due to the performers can only be equalled by their abilities and success. The peal consisted of 5184 changes, and was performed in three house and 47 minutes by the society of Cumberland Youths. (*London Chronicle*, Sat. 23 Aug. - Tues. 26 Aug. 1788)

WORCESTER, AUG. 28. Tuesday was rung, at St. Swithin's, by the ringers of this city, a complete peal of 720 changes, being the only attempt ever made on those bells. (*Hereford Journal*, Thurs. 4 Sept. 1788)

On Monday last the Society of *College Youths* of London visited this City, and rang at Magdalen College 5120 *Oxford Treble bob Royal*, in three Hours and twenty-one Minutes, being the first Peal of that Kind ever rung there, although it bears the name of Oxford Treble Bob. (*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 6 Sept. 1788; similar report in *Jopson's Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 8 Sept. 1788)

Monday se'nnight a variety of peals were rung on the bells at North Elmham, by the ringers belonging to St. Peter's church, in this city [Norwich], which gave general satisfaction to a numerous company assembled on the occasion. (*Bury and Norwich Post*, Wed. 17 Sept. 1788)

On Tuesday evening last was rung at Trinity Church, a true and complete peal called SHEFFIELD TRIPPLES, containing five thousand and forty changes, in twelve courses - with the 6th and 7th AT HOME twenty-four times - which was completed in three hours and twenty minutes by a select band of young performers. The treble bell was rung by a gentleman of the Sherwood Society, from Nottingham. The above peal was composed by Mr. JONATHAN WILDE of this town, and is allowed, by the best judges, to be excellent music scarcely to be equalled; and we are happy to say the young performers did it the most ample justice. (*Sheffield Register*, Sat. 20 Sept. 1788)

On Tuesday evening last was rung at the Trinity church, in Sheffield, a true and compleat peal, called Sheffield Triples, containing five thousand and forty changes in twelve courses, with the 6th and 7th at home twenty four times and the 5th eight times, composed by Mr. Jon. Wilde of Sheffield; - which was completed in 3 hours, 30 minutes, by a select band of eight young performers. - The treble bell was rung by a gentleman of the Sherwood Society from Nottingham. - The above peal is allowed (by the best judges) to be excellent music, and hardly to be equalled; and we are happy to hear that the performers did it justice.

(*Leicester Journal*, Sat. 20 Sept. 1788)

Part of the old Peal of Five Bells, at Ellaston, in Staffordshire, having been re-cast, with a new additional Treble, to augment them to a Peal of six; and the whole Peal tuned and compleated, by Mr. George Hedderley of Nottingham; the same was opened on Thursday last. They are esteemed a very musical Peal, and give general Satisfaction. The Weight of the Tenor 14cwt. and her Pitch full C.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 25 Sept. - Thurs. 2 Oct. 1788)

A new ring for Gateshead

This week a peal of eight new bells were landed in this town from London, for Gateshead church.

(*Newcastle Courant*, Sat. 27 Sept. 1788)

On Wednesday the 15th inst. a set of eight new bells, (cast by William and Thomas Mears, successors to Lester, Pack, and Chapman, of London) was opened in St Mary's church, Gateshead, and several peals were rung, which gave great satisfaction to every hearer, and the bells thought by the best judges to be very musical, and do great credit to the founders; and from the method they are hung by Edward Simmons, their Bell-hanger, are rung with the greatest ease.

(*Newcastle Courant*, Saturday 18 Oct. 1788 – per Chris Pickford)

Saturday night, a complete half peal of grandsire tripples, consisting of 2520 changes, was rung in one hour and 48 minutes in St Mary's church, Gateshead, by the union society of ringers belonging to this town. The bells were kept in excellent compass, and adds much to the credit of Mr Edward Simmons, who composed and called the bobs.

(*Newcastle Courant*, Sat. 25 Oct. 1788)

On Monday last was rung at St. Peter's church, at Aston, near this town, by eight of the society of change ringers of that place, a complete peal of 10080 Bob Majors, with the 6th at home 18 times wrong and 18 times right. - Time 6 hours and 31 minutes.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 6 Oct. 1788)

Monday last the Society of College Youths rang on the peal of twelve bells at the Church of St. Martin in the Fields, a true and complete peal of 6,204 Stedman Principle in 4 hours and 47 minutes, being the greatest number of changes of that Peal ever rung in England. This very curious and intricate composition was invented in the last century, but was by the connoisseurs of the present day deemed impracticable to be achieved until these darling sons of distinguishment have by this in addition to many other performances shewn to the contemporaries that industry and resolution united will ever get through the most arduous task.

(*London General Advertiser*, Wed. 8 Oct. 1788; similar report in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 13 Oct. 1788)

Last Monday se'night was rung at St. Peter's church, Colchester, by the Chelmsford society of ringers, a complete peal of 5120 treble bob, in three hours and twenty-five minutes, being the longest peal that ever was rung on those bells; it gave universal satisfaction to every judge, and was allowed to be a masterly performance. The peal was called by Mr. Edward Halls, who rung the tenor.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 17 Oct. 1788)

On Wednesday Oct. 8th, a new peal of six bells was opened at Soham in Cambridgeshire, by a society of gentlemen of Ely and Soham, with the three peals, of Oxford-treble, court, and plain-bob; much to the satisfaction of those who heard them: they are a fine peal of bells, the tenor weighing 20 cwt. in the key of E, and do much credit to Mr. Osborn of Downham in Norfolk, who cast them. A subscription is opened for two additional bells to make them a peal of eight.
(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 25 Oct. 1788; similar reports in *Ipswich Journal* and *Norfolk Chronicle*, both of Sat. 25 Oct. 1788)

A few days since was rung at Nowton, near this town, on a set of hand-bells, a complete peal of 5040 changes bob-majors, in 3 hours and 14 minutes, the tenor of which was rung by a girl only 13 years of age.
(*Bury and Norwich Post*, Wed. 5 Nov. 1788)

A long peal of Plain Bob Major at Halesowen.

On Saturday last, a complete peal of bob-majors was rung at Hales-Owen, by the society of Chapel Youths of Stourbridge, containing 10,554 [*sic*] changes, in six hours and forty minutes, which was allowed by judges in that science to be the first piece of ringing ever remembered.
(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 1 Dec. 1788)

On Saturday the 29th of Nov. last, was rung at the parish church of Hales Owen in the county of Salop, by a society of Stourbridge ringers, a melodious, true and compleat peal of Bob Majors; containing 10,544 changes, the above peal which is the greatest performance of its kind was rung single handed, in six hours and forty minutes, and to the praise of the Stourbridge youths may it justly be said that exclusive of the variety of capital peals they have rung at home, they have never failed in any attempt at distant churches, though strangers to the bells, which evidently proves their superior skill in that ingenious art.
(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 11 Dec. 1788)

On Monday evening last was rung at St. Martin's church, Birmingham, (by St. Martin's scholar [*sic*]) in this town, a true and compleat peal of 5056 changes, in the method of Grandsire, eight in, with the 6th dodging 24 times wrong, and 24 times right, by bobbs only. - The above is the first peal ever performed by that society, and is the first of the kind ever wrung [*sic*] in this town. Time 3 hours 1 minute.
(*Times*, Fri. 19 Dec. 1788)

St. Alban's, Dec. 29. The society of College Youths rang on Sunday afternoon, on the ten bells at St. Peter's Church, a true peal, consisting of 5200 changes of Oxford treble bob, which was performed in three hours and thirty-seven minutes, in a stile far beyond our conception, as being the finest ringing we ever witnessed; and as a further proof of their superior ability in this curious exercise, we are informed that eight of the same persons, the preceding day, rung on the excellent bells at the church at Rickmansworth (a place about 12 miles distant from hence) a true peal of 5152 changes, in the same grand musical composition, which they completed in three hours and 23 minutes. What makes the performances more worthy of remark is, they were the first attempt ever made at either of those places in that method.
(*Times*, Thurs. 1 Jan. 1789; also *Star*, same date.)

On Wednesday last was rung, in a masterly manner, by the junior Set of Ringers at Prestwich, 5040 Changes, in three Hours and thirty-fix Minutes.
(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 6 Jan. 1789)

On Monday 29th December last was rung at St. John's Church Bromsgrove by a band of junior performers of the union society of that place, a musical true and complete peal of Bob Majors containing 12000 changes with the tenors dodging at home the last six by course ends [*sic*] the above performance was completed in seven hours and thirty eight minutes at the first attempt.
(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 8 Jan. 1789)

1789

On New Year's Day was rung at Wakefield Church, by the Society of Ringers there, a new complete peal of Tripples, in eight courses, consisting of 5040 changes and called Morning Pleasure. It was performed in three hours and twenty six minutes, with the greatest exactness and distinction, and met with applause from all who heard them.

(*Leeds Mercury* and *Leeds Intelligencer*, both Tues. 6 Jan. 1789)

On Sunday Evening was rung at our Cathedral, by its own Society of Ringers, a correct Peal of Grandsire Catons, consisting of 5003 Changes, which was completed (tho' the *first* Effort of the Kind ever attempted by them) in 3 Hours 28 Minutes. - The Weight of the Tenor is 53 Hundred.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 20 Jan. 1789)

On the 15th instant was rung at Wakefield church, by the society of ringers there, a new complete peal of Tripples, in eight courses, consisting of 5040 changes. It was performed in three hours and 24 minutes, and called Five shillings to drink. The peal was composed by one of the local ringers in honour of the town being that night first lighted with lamps.

(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 27 Jan. 1789; similar report in *York Courant* of the same date, but omitting 'and called Five shillings to drink'.)

On Monday evening, the 2d inst. was rang at Bromley, in Kent, by the Society of Ringers of that place, 5088 Changes of Oxford Treple-Bob [*sic*], in twenty-one courses, which was completed in three hours twenty-eight minutes.

(*General Evening Post*, Tues. 10 Feb. – Thurs. 12 Feb. 1789)

On Monday last Mr. Holt's peal of Five thousand and Forty Grandsire triples was compleatly rung at St. Peter's, in this town, by the junior Society. The time, three hours and twenty five minutes.

Ars non habet inimicum nisi ignorantem.

(*Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 14 Feb. 1789; also *Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 12 Feb. 1789 and *Leicester Journal*, Fri. 13 Feb. 1789)

THOMAS SMITH,

At the NORTH MACHINE,

In the NORTH - GATE, Leicester

Begs leave to inform his Friends and the Public, that he has lately entered upon the above House and laid in a good, assortment of Ale and Liquors, where all favours will be gratefully acknowledged by their

Humble Servant

THOMAS SMITH.

N.B. The Machine, made by Mr. Arnold of Leicester, is in good order, and weighs with the greatest exactness

(*Leicester Journal*, Friday 20 Feb. 1789 - advert)

A long peal of Bob Major at Aston, Birmingham

COUNTRY NEWS.

Extract of a Letter from Birmingham to a friend in London, Feb. 16.

“Knowing you to be an admirer of the art of change-ringing, I here send you the particulars of a late performance, which I doubt not will receive from the worthy admirers of the art in London that applause and approbation it so justly merits. On the 16th instant, 8 young men practitioners of this place, went off for a peal of 15,120 bob-major on the Aston bells (a place near this town.) After ringing 8 hours and 45 minutes, some of them requested the bob called to bring the bells round, which he accordingly did, and made a compleat peal of 14,224 changes in the above-mentioned time. If we consider the age of the youths, some of whom are but just turned of 18, and the weight of the bells, the tenor weighing 22 cwt. and that there was not a single person in the steeple but themselves, I believe I shall be perfectly free from presumption in pronouncing it the most extraordinary exertion, as well as the greatest number of changes, ever rung at one time by any set of men in this kingdom.”

(*Star*, Sat. 21 Feb. 1789)

An attempt was made last Monday by eight Birmingham youths, some of whom are under twenty years of age, to ring 15120 changes in bob majors; but after they had exerted themselves upwards of eight hours, it was doubtful whether the desired period could be perfectly attained; on which account it was thought prudent to have the bells brought round the first favourable opportunity by the caller, which was done by omitting a bob; and instead of effecting their first intention, they made 14224 changes complete, such as would stand the strictest criticism of every judicious hearer. This is the most extensive number ever completed by any one set of performers whatever; and had their aim been successful, the whole 120 seven-eights would have been introduced without a single. The time that was engaged in the execution of the above was eight hours and forty-five minutes.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 23 Feb. 1789; also *Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 26 Feb. 1789, under the by-line 'Birmingham, Feb. 23d.' Similar extracts in *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 28 Feb. 1789; and *Norwich Mercury*, 7 March 1789, under the by-line 'Birmingham, Feb. 26.' - both extracts per David Cubitt; slightly shorter report in *Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 6 March 1789, under the by-line 'Lincoln, March 5.)

Monday, Sept. 12, was attempted to be rung at Aston, by eight Birmingham youths, some of which are under 20 years of age, a compleat peal of 15120 bob-majors. After they had rung in a most masterly manner for upwards of eight hours and a half, they found themselves so much fatigued, that they requested the caller to take the first opportunity to bring the bells home, which he soon did by omitting a bob, and so brought them round, which made a compleat peal of 14224 changes, in eight hours and forty-five minutes, and was allowed to be fine striking through the whole performance, and the longest peal ever rung in that part of the country.

.....

(*Sporting Magazine*, Sept. 1796; despite the incorrect date, the peal at Aston was presumably the one of that number of changes rung there in the same time on 16 February 1789.)

Winchester, Saturday, Feb. 21.

This week was rung at Alton, a compleat peal of 5040 changes of bob-majors. This was the first peal ever rung on the new bells; it was performed by the Cumberland Society of that place, in three hours and fifteen minutes.

(*Hampshire Chronicle*, Mon. 23 Feb. 1789; similar report in *Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 9 March 1789 and *Bury and Norwich Post*, Wed. 11 March 1788, in each of which it was said to have been rung 'lately'.)

At Repton in this County, on Tuesday the 24th of February, was rung, by six young men of that place, — bob minor, the first time ever compleated on those harmonious bells.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 26 Feb. 1789)

Derby, March 4. On Thursday evening last, when the news arrived of our most gracious Sovereign being "free from complaint", the inhabitants of this place were animated with the joyful intelligence in a way, that gives the most convincing proof of their loyalty and affection for the best of Kings — the bells of all the churches were rung, with very little intermission till almost midnight, ...

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 6 March 1789)

On Wednesday last was opened at Rosliston in this county, a musical peal of three bells, (the old two having been re-cast) with a new additional tenor, raised by subscription.—The whole was completed by Mr. George Hedderly, Bell-founder of Nottingham, and gave universal satisfaction.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 5 March - Thurs. 12 March 1789)

The restoration of his Majesty's health being fully confirmed, Henry Watchorn, Esq. (our Chief Magistrate) requested, by public notice, that this happy event might be celebrated by a general illumination. Yesterday was accordingly observed here as a day of public festivity and rejoicing. The bells rang from morning 'till night ...

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 13 March 1789)

A Correspondent who was at Loughborough on Tuesday last informs us, ... the inhabitants of that place participating in the general satisfaction, and being anxious to give the most lively and animating proofs of their loyalty and attachment to the best of kings, about 12 o'clock in the afternoon set the bells a-ringing, which continued with little intermission, and with frequent clanging until midnight ...

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 13 March 1789)

Monday last a true and compleat peal of five thousand and eighty changes, in that superior and most intricate method of Oxford treble, Bob royal (ten in) was rung on the deep toned peal of ten bells at St. Mary's church Nottingham, by a select band of the Sherwood society in that town. - The time three hours and forty-eight minutes. - Weight of the tenor 34 hundred 2 quarters, 8 pounds.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 19 March 1789; also *Leicester Journal*, Fri. 20 March 1789)

In the morning of the rejoicing day at Doncaster, the Society of Change Ringers met at the church, and rung Mr. Holt's true peal of Grandsire Tripples, containing five thousand and forty changes, which was completed in three hours and twenty-six minutes—weight of the tenor, 29cwt. 3q. 14lb. The above is the first long peal ever rung on those bells.

(*Sheffield Register*, Sat. 21 March 1789; this refers to celebrations at the recovery of King George, and an earlier report in the same issue refers; 'Festivities commenced at Doncaster on Wednesday last...')

On Thursday evening, the 19th instant, was rang at Bromley in Kent, by the Society of Bromley Youths, 5520 changes of real double (eight in) with bobs behind and before, and 2 bobs in a lead, which is the full extent of changes that can be obtained with tenors together, every backstroke treble lead, which was compleated in three hours and forty-four minutes, and the first peal of real double (with two bobs in a lead) rang in England.

(*Maidstone Journal*, Tues. 31 March 1789)

BELLS.—A peal of 5080 changes, in the superior style of *Oxford Treble Bob Royal*, ten in, was rung at Nottingham, by the Sherwood Society—time, three hours forty-eight minutes; the weight of the tenor 34cwt. 2qrs. 8lb.

(*World*, Tues. 31 March 1789)

Tuesday the 24th March, being the day appointed at Sheffield for a public rejoicing on the happy event of the King's recovery, the Society of Ringers of that town met at the Trinity church and rung 7040 changes of that harmonious and intricate method of Oxford Treble Bob (eight in) the method of Bobs composed by Mr. W.D. Crofts of Nottingham and called by Thomas Babb, which was completed in 4 hours, 54 minutes, by the following persons:-

Rich. Owen	Treble.	John Hill	6th.
Geo. Wilde,	2d.	Wm. Crewick	7th.
Sam. Willey,	3d.	Tho. Babb	Tenor.
Wm. Lee,	4th.		
Step. Webster	5th.	Weight of Tenor, 33cwt.	

(of the society at Eckington)

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 3 April 1789)

CANTERBURY, April 14.

Extract of a letter from Ashford, April 4, 1789.

“On Tuesday last was rung at Ashford, by the Ashford Young Ringers, a true and complete Peal of 5040 Bob Major Changes, in three hours and eleven minutes, by the following men:

Thomas Eves,	Treble	Anthony Hills,	5
Leonard Gurr,	2	John Wanstall,	6
John Howland,	3	John Hills,	7
James Worsfold,	4	Henry Hadds,	Tenor.

“The above was performed in the shortest time it ever was on Ashford bells before, and the first time that six of the men ever performed it. The Peal was called by John Hills.”

(*Kentish Gazette*, Fri. 10 April - Tues. 14 April 1789)

WANTED immediately, at Albrighton, near Wolverhampton, several Journeymen Clock-makers (young Men will have the Preference) their Employ will be to work for the Wholesale Trade, will have a Set of Tools to work with much greater Expedition and Accuracy than in the common Way, the Prices given Will be somewhat less, but not in Proportion to the Advantage gained in the Tools; also a young Man, a Brass Founder, to cast Clock Work, Bells, &c. and occasionally to work at Clocks, the larger Sort of Mathematical Instruments, Spirit Levels, Reflecting Telescopes, &c. it is expected they will engage for a Time; it will be needless for any to apply, unless they produce Testimonials of their Honesty, Industry, Sobriety, and good Conduct, to such young Men this Advertisement will be well worth their Attention.—Apply to John Baddely, Clock Maker, at Albrighton aforesaid.

Albrighton, April 21, 1789.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 27 April 1789 – advert, per Chris Pickford)

REJOICINGS.

At Hathersage, in Derbyshire, on the 21st inst. the festivities of the day commenced in the morning with ringing of bells, when a complete peal was rung by the gentlemen ringers of that place; a large bonfire distinguished the afternoon, and a general illumination the night. [The report continues with a description of acts of benevolence, etc.]...

(*Sheffield Register*, Sat. 2 May 1789)

The following is a literal copy of an elegant printed card, which is presented to every new-married couple, as they come out of church at the bottom of Holborn:

“Honoured Sir and Madam,

“We the bell-ringers present our respects to congratulate your happy marriage, humbly hoping to be *happy* enough ourselves to *receive the favour*, as we do from all other gentlefolks on this most happy event. Which is all at present from your humble servants,

The Bell-ringers.

“N. B. We shall be happy to serve you both, or either, upon any future occasion.”

(*Chester Chronicle*, Fri. 15 May 1789)

RINGING.

ON Monday, May 25, will be opened at Eye, in Suffolk, A PEAL of EIGHT BELLS, some of them being new cast, and put in tune by Thomas Osborn, of Downham, in Norfolk. They are allowed by capital judges, who have nicely inspected them, to be the best peal of eight bells in the county.

☞ A good Ordinary will be provided at the Crown at Two o'clock, where the company of all gentlemen ringers will be esteemed a favour, by their humble servant,

WILLIAM KING.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 23 May 1789 - advert)

RINGING at WARFIELD, BERKS.

ON Thursday the 11th of June next, will be given by Batt. Stiff, at the Bull Inn, at Bracknall [*sic*], Five very good Hats, to that company that ring the best Round Peal of 15 minutes on Warfield bells; no man to ring but what dines at the ordinary, which will be on the table at one o'clock, to begin ringing precisely at three; also Five Pair of very handsome Gloves, to that company that ring the second best Peal. No less than five companies to ring. To prevent the usual unfair method of decision, proper umpires will be engaged, unconnected with any of the ringers. The bells are free for trial at any time, (Sundays excepted, till after Divine Service in the afternoon) go remarkably pleasant, having undergone a thorough repair. An underpuller allowed to assist at the fourth and tenor. One Say Peal of not more than 20 minutes, will be allowed before one o'clock on the day of ringing to any company that has not made trial before. No Warfield man to ring.

The key of the belfry to be had of Batt. Stiff.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 25 May 1789 - advert)

The restoration of the bells at Stamford, Lincolnshire

Stamford, May 29.

The steeple of St. Mary's church, in this town, has been lately repaired by Mr. J. Hames, and Mr. Arnold is engaged to compleat the peal of bells by his Majesty's birth-day the 4th of June, in honour of which the bells will be rung for the first time for some years past.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 29 May 1789)

Stamford, June 5.

The anniversary of his Majesty's birth was observed here yesterday by ringing of bells, &c. ...

The day was also particularly observed here by ringing (for the first time lately) the bells of St. Mary's steeple, which have been lately rehung and compleated by Mr. Arnold, of Leicester. – The repairs of the steeple by Mr. John Hames, and the hanging of the bells by the said Mr. Arnold, redound much to the credit of both parties, and have given universal satisfaction to the parish and town, not the least particle of cement having been stirred by the many peals so compleately rung. An elegant dinner was provided on the occasion at the Talbot inn, where several loyal and constitutional toasts were given, and the whole concluded with the greatest harmony.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 5 June 1789)

A visit to Norwich by the College Youths

A considerable picked body of gentlemen campanalists from London, are expected in this city on Sunday to contest the prize with the ringers of St. Peter's, whose abilities have hitherto stood unrivalled, and we hope for the honour of Norwich will remain so. - The contest takes place on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday next.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 30 May 1789 – quoted in the *Ringing World*, 1982 p.182)

A company of ringers from the metropolis arrived in Norwich at the beginning of this week on a visit to Messieurs the St. Peter's ringers. It has been reported that the strangers came with a view to contest the claim to superiority in their art with the Norwichians; but this report has been strenuously contradicted by a correspondent, who asserts that the sole inducement of the Londoners for making the journey was to enjoy the pleasure of ringing so rivalled and much-admired peal of bells as that of St. Peter's. However, be this as it may, it seems that a *fracas* took place between the rival sons of the clapper, and the strangers departed in disgust. Our correspondent appears to be *shocked* at the *unpolite* treatment of our rustics to their town brethren, and that the harmony of their bells should be contrasted by such discordant behaviour. In vindication of the merit of the Londoners our correspondent requested us to insert the following paragraph from the London General Advertiser of October 8, 1788:

"Monday last the Society of College Youths rang on the peal of twelve bells at the church of St. Martin in the Fields, a true and compleat peal of 6,204 Stedman's Principle, in 4 hours and 47 minutes, being the greatest number of changes of that peal ever rung in England. This very curious and intricate composition was invented in the last century, but was, by the connoisseurs of the present day, deemed impracticable to be achieved, until there darling sons of distinguished merit have, by this, in addition to many other meritorious performances, shown to their cotemporaries that industry and resolution, united, will ever get through the most arduous task."

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 6 June 1789; the same paper reports that St. Stephen's parishioners had obtained leave to dispose of their bells and buy an organ.)

Hospitality to strangers is the peculiar characteristic of the English - the want of common civility only marks the barbarous and ignorant. A friend to St. Peter's ringers and an admirer of their delightful performances hopes, that the mistaken zeal of some individuals, and their behaviour towards the College Youths, who lately visited this city, will not draw any unjust censure on that ingenious body.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 6 June 1789 – quoted in the *Ringling World*, 1982 p.182.)

Tuesday last the Ancient Society of Cumberland Youths, in an excursion to the country, rant at All Saints, Edmonton, Middlesex, a compleat peal of 5040 bob-majors, in 3 hours and 18 minutes with the sixth at home 12 times wrong and 12 times right, it being the first performance of the kind on those bells.

(*Bath Journal*, Mon. 1 June 1789; the peal book of the Royal Society of Cumberland Youths records that the peal was rung on Mon. 18 May 1789.)

A proposal to dispose of the bells of St. Stephen's Church, Norwich

We hear that the parishioners of St. Stephen's have obtained leave of the Bishop of this diocese to dispose of their bells and to purchase an organ; an instrument which, for its melody and magnificence, is well adapted to a parish where so much devotion and liberality prevail, and to an edifice in which beauty & elegance are blended and displayed.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 6 June 1789; the paragraph is immediately followed by the report of the College Youths' visit to Norwich, qv)

At a vestry meeting of the parishioners of St. Stephen's, in this city, on Monday last, at twelve o'clock in the forenoon, in consequence of notice given at the church ONLY, the day preceding, it was determined by a majority to keep the bells, and not to burthen the parish with an organ.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 25 July 1789 – quoted in the *Ringling World*, 1982 p.182)

We are desired to say, in reply to the paragraph in our last paper, respecting the vestry held at St. Stephen's the 20th inst. the notice given forenoon and afternoon the preceding Sunday, was the usual practice and the majority of only four against the disposal of the bells, was solely obtained by the senior churchwarden inadvertently fixing too early a period to close the poll, by which many respectable persons who intended voting, were thus prevented, and whose names would have made a considerable majority for disposing of four in-harmonious bells, for a capital organ on equal terms.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 1 Aug. 1789 – quoted in the *Ringling World*, 1982 p.182)

Wednesday last died Mr. Thomas Nudd, an eminent farmer at Moulton, near Acle, in this county, in the 59th year of his age. He was esteemed an honest man, a good neighbour, and an agreeable companion; as such, his loss was regretted by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. As soon as his remains were deposited in the family vault, a dumb peal, as a tribute of respect, was rung by the Acle ringers, of which science he was a great amateur.

(*Bury and Norwich Post*, Wed. 24 June 1789)

The most compleat set of chimes now in London, has been lately made by George Harman of High Wycombe, Bucks, for the parish of Christ Church, Spitalfields. They play seven tunes, and change the tune each night at twelve o'clock while playing; and the machine is so mechanically constructed as not to be prejudiced by the ringing of the bells.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 13 July 1789)

ALDBOURN, WILTS.

R. WELLS, BELLFOUNDER,

BEGS Leave to acquaint his Friends and the Public,
That he continues the BELLFOUNDERY in all its
Branches, viz., Church Bells in Peal or otherwise; Turret
and Chime Bells; complete peals of Hand Bells, strictly in
Tune, and in any Key; Musical Sheep Bells; Horse, Clock,
and Room Bells; —the Whole cast in the completest Manner,
and on the most reasonable Terms.

Goods of the best Quality, in any Quantity, cast on the
shortest Notice for exportation.

* * Mill Brasses cast on the lowest Terms, and the best
Price given for old Bells.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 25 July 1789 - advert)

We hear from Aylesham, that St. Peter's Ringers will on Monday se'nnight next entertain the ladies and gentlemen of their town and vicinity, by ringing the ten bells belonging to the church there.
(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 1 Aug. 1789 – quoted in the *Ringing World*, 1982 p.182)

Thursday last was married, at Market Downham, Mr. Gregory Wright, gent. farmer and grazier, of Terrington St. John's, Marshland, to Miss Osborne, daughter of Mr. Osborne, bell-founder, of Market Downham, a lady whose personal and mental qualifications have rendered her the admiration of those who know her.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 8 Aug. 1789 – quoted in the *Ringing World*, 1982 p.182)

R I N G I N G.

WINKFIELD, BERKS.

ON Monday the 5th of October next, Six very
good Hats will be given to the Company that Ring
the best round peal of 15 minutes on Winkfield Bells;
each Company to provide their own umpire; to begin
ringing at three o'clock precisely.

No Company will be permitted to ring, nor any person to
be an umpire, but what dines at the ordinary at Mrs. Bright's,
at the White Hart, which will be ready at one o'clock—
The umpire of the winning Company will also be entitled
to a hat. - No say peals on the day of ringing.—The bells
are in excellent repair, and free for trial.—No Winkfield
man to ring or be an umpire.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 31 Aug. 1789 - advert)

On Tuesday last in honour of his Majesty's coronation day, was rung at our parish-church, by the society of ringers here, an abstract of 5632 changes of that Intricate Double Treble Peal of College Exercise, in three hours and twenty-five minutes, it being the first time that ever it was rung upon eight bells in this kingdom, (London excepted) and was allowed by judges of that art who gave their attention during the performance, to have been rung with the greatest exactness and nicety.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 29 Sept. 1789; the claim is (just) incorrect as a peal in the method was rung at Bletchingley, Surrey, on 11 April 1789, a peal which was recorded in a peal board.)

On Sunday last a peal on eight bells was rung at Rochdale, by two fathers, seven brothers, two uncles, six sons, six nephews, and six cousins - in all eight persons.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 20 Oct. 1789; also *Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 15 Oct. - Thurs. 22 Oct. 1789, beginning 'On Sunday se'nnight...')

On Sunday morning the 18th inst. died at Sheffield, suddenly, Mr. Jonathan Wild, cutler; one of the most popular change ringers and composers in this country.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 22 Oct. 1789; also *Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 27 Oct. 1789.)

DIED.

At this place, on Sunday morning, suddenly, Mr. Jonathan Wild, cutler; one the most popular change-ringers and composers, in this country. His death is regretted by all who knew him--for he was possessed of a disposition friendly, humane, and charitable. On Wednesday his remains were interred in the Old Church-yard. During the procession, the bells were chimed, with the clappers muffled, by the junior ringers. After the burial-service, the present society of change-ringers rung twelve hundred and sixty changes, with the clappers muffled, of the much-admired peal of Sheffield Triples (the composition of the deceased) which had a most solemn effect.

(*Sheffield Register*, Fri. 23 Oct. 1789)

DIED].—On Sunday morning the 18th ult. at Sheffield, suddenly, Mr. Jonathan Wild, cutler; one of the most popular change ringers and composers in this country.—...

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 2 Nov. 1789)

Stamford, Oct. 30.

On Friday last a new peal of six bells was opened at Timberland, in this county (by a society of ringers from Bicker), with the peals of treble and court bob. After much good ringing on that day, the gentlemen of the town and neighbourhood met at the Miller's arms, where the evening was spent with the greatest harmony and satisfaction.—The bells were cast by Thomas Osborn, of Downham, in Norfolk, and are allowed by competent judges, to be an extraordinary fine peal.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 30 Oct. 1789; similar report in *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 31 Oct. 1789, starting 'On Friday se'night...')

The 24th ult. was opened at Symondsburly, near Bridport, a new peal of five bells, which is allowed to be a very musical set. They were cast by Mr. Belbie[*sic*], of Collumpton, and do him much credit.

(*Salisbury and Winchester Journal*, Mon. 2 Nov. 1789)

A RINGING MATCH,

BETWEEN Barton-Stacey and Baughurst in the county of Hants, for Five Guineas a side. To ring a round peal on five bells, ten minutes long, at each place. The Barton-Stacey men to ring at Baughurst on Monday the 16th of November instant, and the Baughurst men to ring at Barton Stacey on Saturday the 28th of November instant.

A dinner at the New Inn at Baughurst at one o'clock, and the men to ring before dinner; also a dinner at Mr. Spratt's, at Barton-Stacey, on the 28th at one o'clock.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 9 Nov. 1789 - advert)

GLOCESTER.

JOHN RUDHALL,

BELL-FOUNDER,

RESPECTFULLY informs his Friends and the Public, that he not only continues to cast (at the old established Foundry here)

CHURCH BELLS

In Peal and otherwise, but also tuned sets of Hand, Dish, and Horse BELLS, and all sorts of Plantation, Ship, Turret, House, and Clock BELLS, also Mortars and Mill Brasses.—Any orders, he may be favoured with, will be executed in the best and most expeditious manner, and on the very lowest terms, with a proper allowance to those who sell again.

☞ FOUR THOUSAND *Church Bells* have been cast by the RUDHALLS, which have given universal satisfaction.

(Advert in *Hereford Journal*, Weds. 18 & 25 Nov. 1789; also *Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Fris. 17 and 24 Oct. 1789, the latter per Chris Pickford.)

On Monday se'nnight was rung at Keighley, by Three Brothers and their Three Sons, 5040 changes, in two hours and 52 minutes, from the following peals, viz. London, York, Durham, Litchfield, Bristol, Worcester and Chichester, being the first time the same was ever rung in this kingdom, London excepted.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 24 Nov. 1789; the methods were presumably taken from the 1788 *Clavis Campanalogia*.)

Respect to departed merit

On Thursday se'nnight died, in the 34th year of his age, Mr. John Marven, late of Copdock, in this county. A dumb peal was rung at St. Mary Tower church on Tuesday last, by the society of ringers here; also at Hadleigh, and several other places, as a token of his great skill in that science.

Monday last was rung a complete peal of 5040 bob major, by the gentlemen of the Woodbridge company, in 3 hours; and, on the following, evening, Vigor [*sic*], for Mr. John Marven, deceased, late a member of the society.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 28 Nov. 1789; presumably 'Vigor' was muffled ringing.)

On the evening of the 3d of this inst. were rung by the Cratfield company, the four compleat peals of plain, court, treble and double bob, with the bells bumbled [*sic*]; in respect to the late Mr. John Marven, who was a great adept in the science of ringing.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat 12 Dec. 1789)

A company of ringers, at Oldham, Lancashire, have existed together, in one state of harmony, 40 years; death not having cut a single *rope* of the societies life during that period.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 11 Dec. 1789; also *Chester Courant*, Fri. 4 Dec. 1789.)

On Monday last was rung at St. Edward's Church in this town, a complete and melodious peal of *Fulbourn-Surprize*, consisting of 720 changes, composed by Mr. Charles Dawson, in 154 bobs and two singles; which, after a great number of unsuccessful attempts by Professors of the art, in various parts of the kingdom, was finished, for the first time, and without a false change, by the following select members of the Great St. Mary's society:

Treble,	Mr. Hazard,	4th,	Mr. Spencely,
2d,	Mr. Steers,	5th,	Mr. Day,
3d,	Mr. Lawson,	Tenor,	Mr. Bowtell.

The bobs were called by Mr. Spencely.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 12 Dec. 1789; similar report in *Hampshire Chronicle*, Mon. 14 Dec. 1789, with by-line 'Winchester, Saturday, Dec. 22' [*sic* - error for 12]. Summary given in *Cambridge Independent Press*, Fri. 8 Dec. 1939, in a column headed '150 YEARS AGO. / WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 12th, 1789.')

The bankruptcy of William and Thomas Mears

BANKRUPTS ... William Mears and Thomas Mears, of Whitechapel, Middlesex, bell-founders, dealers.

(*Hereford Journal*, Wed. 16 Dec. 1789)

[Bankrupts] ... / CERTIFICATES to be granted. / ... / Thomas Mears, of Whitechapel, Bell-founder
(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 29 March 1790 – per Chris Pickford)

RINGING.

ON Friday, January 8, 1790, A PEAL of BELLS will be opened at NAYLAND, by a company of Ringers from Hitcham; when the company of all gentlemen ringers will be esteemed a favour, by their humble servant,
WM. KENINGALE, Vine, Nayland.

☞ Dinner at Two o'clock.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 26 Dec. 1789 - advert)

The Society of Ringers at Newport-Pagnell, on Christmas Eve last, completed a Peal of 5040 Changes, on eight Bells, with that Accuracy that promises them fair in a short Time to be unrivalled by any Cotemporaries [*sic*] in that Science.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 26 Dec. 1789)

HENRY POTTER,

(Nephew of the late JOHN POTTER, Carpenter, deceased)

BEGS Leave to inform the Customers of his late Uncle and the Public in general, that he has taken his Shop and Yard in Saint Alphage in this City, and continues to carry on the CARPENTER and JOINER'S BUSINESS, and humbly solicits the Favor of their Countenance and Support, hoping to merit the same by a strict and assiduous Attention to their Commands, which will be ever gratefully acknowledged

By their most obedient humble Servant.

N. B. Wheels made to Church Bells, and hanging the same as usual, on the most reasonable Terms.

CANTERBURY, Dec. 29, 1789.

(Advert in *Kentish Gazette*, Fri. 25 Dec. – Tues. 29 Dec. 1789; also same paper, Tues. 29 Dec. 1789 – Fri. 1 Jan. 1790.)

A melancholy accident happened in the parish-church of Stretton Granstone [Grandison], in this county, on Christmas day last. One of the ringers of the name of Hollins, son of a respectable farmer there, having by some accident overthrown his bell, ascended to the loft in order to adjust it, when one of the other bells by some means falling from its upright state, crushed him to death upon the spot.

(*Hereford Journal*, Wed. 30 Dec. 1789; *Felix Farley's Bristol Journal*, Sat. 2 Jan. 1790, without 'by some means' before 'falling', also 'Herefordshire' vice 'in this county'; also *Northampton Mercury* and *Jackson's Oxford Journal*, both Sat. 2 Jan. 1790, *Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 8 Jan. 1790, and *Hampshire Chronicle*, Mon. 11 Jan. 1790.)

Sunday morning, was rung at Hexham, a complete half peal of Grandsire Tripples, consisting of 2520 changes, in one hour and forty minutes, by five of the Union Society of Ringers, belonging to this town, and the other three belonging to Hexham. This peal gave the highest satisfaction to the inhabitants of Hexham, it being the longest ever rung there.

(*Newcastle Courant*, Sat. 2 Jan. 1790)