BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Ringing at Lytham, Lancashire.

On Saturday, Dec. 2, a peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, was rung by the parish-church ringers in 2 hrs. 57 mins. The peal was composed by Mr. William Taylor, and contains 194 bobs, 46 singles, and 120 dodges. The ringers were:—W. Knowles, treble; Jno. Fisher, 2nd; J. Miller, 3rd; Jos. Fisher, 4th; R. Allanson, 5th; H. Gregson, 6th; R. Atkinson, 7th; W. Miller, tenor. Conducted by Mrs. Henry Gregson. Weight of tenor, 14¾ cwt. It is only two years last September since the tower contained a ring of eight bells. The ringers are all self-taught, and have not rung in any peal before.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at Walton-le-Dale, Lancashire.

On Sunday evening, Dec. 3rd, a muffled peal (on the occasion of the death of Sir H. de Hoghton, Bart.) was rung on the bells of St. Leonard's Church, Walton-le-Dale, by the parish ringers, kindly assisted by Mr. J. Mather of Higher Walton. The peal rung consisted of 720 changes of College Single, and has not been rung on these bells since the death of the Duke of Wellington in 1852, when the parish ringers at that time rang a complete peal of 5040 in seven different methods, including College Single. The ringers on this occasion were:—R. Dewhurst, treble, conductor; P. Gregson, 2nd; H. Robinson, 3rd; J. Robinson, 4th; J. Mather, 5th; and James Robinson, tenor.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at St. Mary's, Grassendale, near Liverpool.

On Saturday, Dec. 9th, was rung on the bells of the above church, 720 changes of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. by the following persons:—S. Gough, treble; A. Nicholson, 2nd; W. G. Mann, 3rd; T. Hammond, 4th; J. R. Pritchard, 5th; J. Aspinwall, tenor. Conducted by J. R. Pritchard. Weight of tenor, 12 cwt.—*Reported.*

Change-ringing at Appleton, Berks.

On Monday, the 11th inst., ten members of the Appleton Society of Change-ringers rang on the bells of the parish church a peal of Stedman's Caters, comprising 5184 changes. It was brought round in 3 hrs. 30 mins. by the following persons:—F. White, treble; E. Holifield, 2nd; J. Newman, 3rd; W. Bennett, 4th; B. Barrett, 5th; G. Holifield, 6th; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7th; J. Avery, 8th; H. Woodwards, 9th; T. Bennett, tenor. Conducted by F. White—*Reported.*

Change-ringing by the Yorkshire Association.

On Saturday, November 18th, the above Society rang 5056 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major at St. Matthew's, Holbeck, in 3 hrs. 7 mins. C. Ralph, treble; L. Cawood, 2nd; F. Marston, 3rd; J. Whittaker, 4th; W. McGowan, 5th; T. Lockwood, 6th; H. Hubbard, jun., 7th; J. Winder, tenor. The peal —which has the sixth its extent wrong and right in 5-6—was composed by S. March and conducted by T. Lockwood. Weight of tenor, 16 cwt.—*Reported*

Muffled Peal at St. Mary's, Battersea.

On Tuesday, the 21st Nov., were buried the remains of Mr. J. Jenkins, one of the ringers at the above church. He was ringing on the 9th (Lord Mayor's Day), caught cold on leaving the belfry, and died on the 16th. Mr. Jenkins was in his 30th year, and greatly respected among the ringers of London. He leaves a widow and four young children. As a tribute of respect the ringers of St. Mary's rang a muffled peal. J. Potter, treble; J. Longhurst, 2nd; G. Ambrose, 3rd; J. Taylor, 4th; W. Ambrose, 5th; J. Ambrose, 6th; F. Ambrose, 7th; G. Chesterman, tenor. Conducted by J. Ambrose.—*Reported.*

Muffled Peal at Nutfield, Surrey.

On Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 28th, a muffled peal of Oxford Single Bob, containing 720 changes, was rung, as a mark of respect, after the funeral of Mr. John Scarlett, one of the Nutfield Society of Change-ringers, who died on Nov. 22nd, aged fifty-four years. The corpse was carried to the parish churchyard by six ringers of the same Society. Mr. Scarlett had been a member of the College Youths' Society, London, from March 4th, 1851. The ringers of the muffled peal were:—C. Sendall, treble; J. Bone, 2nd; E. Fuller, 3rd; T. Fuller, 4th; J. Burkin, 5th; W. Webb (conductor), tenor.—*Reported.*

Bell-ringing in Ireland.

The consecration of the Bishop-elect of Meath, the Lord Plunket, took place in the Cathedral of Armagh on the second Sunday in Advent. When the news of his Lordship's election reached the Cathedral in Dublin, where he holds the office of Precentor, the Amateur Society of St. Patrick's Bell-ringers assembled and rang a series of changes. *A propos* of this, a similar society has been formed in the steeple of Waterford Cathedral; but at Limerick, where there is, according to the Dean, a splendid set of sweet-toned bells, there are no persons able or willing to ring them. At Lurgan, in the diocese of Dromore, it is intended at once to obtain a ring of eight bells, at an expense of 1000*l.*, the greater part of which has been contributed.—*Guardian.*

The Great Bell at Cologne.

After many more or less unsuccessful attempts the 'Emperor's bell' in the Cathedral of Cologne, cast out of French cannon, has been made to give forth a clear sound. The previous failures appear to have been in part attributable to the insufficient weight of the clappers used, though the largest weighed 1500 cwt. Now a huge clapper, weighing over a ton, has been put up, suspended by leather straps, and the sound evoked is deep and clear. —*Guardian.*

Received also.—H. B. Hawkins: there are many instances of self-taught ringers—youths of intuition and perseverance. Conductor, J. R. Jerram.

ANNABLE'S MS.

By Jasper W. Snowdon, Ilkley, Yorkshire.

'Court Bob Major,' a lead of which is pricked, is our ordinary Double London Court Bob, and a peal by the treble lead ends is given. With the exception of the fourth lead in every course and the first in some of them, every lead is called throughout the peal. Very curiously, *exactly* the same peal is given in the appendix to Shipway's work, where it figures as the composition of G. Fisher of Bath. I have certain reasons for thinking that this book may probably have been at Bath since Annable's death; but the reasons are too long to enter upon at present. Certainly the peal is so simple that it *may* have been produced by Fisher without any knowledge of Annable's peal. This composition is given in the last edition of Mr. Hubbard's work on Change-ringing, as are also some of the subsequent peals in this book.

'College Tripples' follows with a treble lead and a description of a peal by the hunts, and the information,—'The first 5040 was rung by the College Youths, in 1727, at St. Olave, Southwark.'

'London' or 'Fulham Tripples' follows, and with 'Grandsire Tripples-Double,' it is also stated that they will go '5040 changes, with two doubles, without two changes alike.' Annable, therefore, admits the use of two singles in Double Grandsire Triples.

'Dunstan's Tripples' has a note to the effect that—

'The first 5040 was rung by the College Youths.'

'Cambridge Surprize Major' follows, but is pricked in a slightly different manner from the variation now practised. A 5120 is given, but its truth is hardly worth investigating.

After this comes 'Double Cators'—Grandsire—and a note:—

'The first Peal of 5094 was rung by the College Youths, 1732.'

On the following page there is 'Double Cinques,' and a peal given, as in the case of the Cators; but as I cannot at all explain these peals I give them as they appear, hoping some person better able to analyse them may translate them into plainer language:—

5058

Double Cators.

One in 4th's place and one in 7th's
One in 4th's
5th's
6th's
5th's } Five times
Two in 6th's
6th's
One in 6th's
One in 8th's, one before and a double
One in 6th's
Two in 5th's
One in 7th's
One in 5th's

5060

Double Cinques.

One in 4th's place and one in 9th's
Two in 6th's
7th's } Four times
One in 6th's
5th's
Two in 6th's
7th's
One in 6th's
10th's
One before, one in 6th's, one in 8th's, and one in 6th's.

The latter peal has the following remark appended:—

'5060 Double Cinques rung by the College Youths at St. Bride's, Nov. 29, 1738.'

'Plain Bob Major' next appears, and, after the usual lead and description, Annable's well-known peal of 5040 is given. As this is of interest, I give his own words:—

'To call 5040 is thus:—One in 5th's and 6th's, G. D.: One in 7th's and 8th's, G. U.: Four times. One in 5th's and 6th's, G. D.: Three courses, 1680. Then a bob makes it go 5040, three courses.'

This peal is followed by a 40,320 of Bob Major in twelve parts, the treble lead ends of the first part being pricked. This is followed by 'Bob Major Tripples,' in which the seventh is the whole hunt. This is the description given:—

'This peal is called thus, because the treble leads of the 40,320 Bob Major is the compleat number of this peal as it is here prickt, change after change, and no other difference but by making the 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 — 2 3 4 5 6 7 8, then adding the 1 shows all the treble leads.'

The first lead of three Treble Bob Minor peals which follow are headed 'Sam Jeacock's three peals,' and at some subsequent time 'false' has been added. Sam Jeacock was a contemporary of Annable's, as may be known from the fact that they both rang in the peal of Treble Bob Royal at St. Sepulchre's in 1741.

On the following pages come several Treble Bob Minor peals, 'Court Bob Major second way' (this is different from any of the Courts now pricked), a Treble Bob Major peal called 'The College Youths' Pleasure,' and a plain peal called 'London Tripples.' These are followed by several five-bell peals, and then rules for calling the bells round in Double Grandsire Cators, several touches in that method, and a few uninteresting pages. Double Cinques is treated in the same manner as the Cators. After this the treble lead ends of the eight courses of Treble Bob Major, which end with two bobs at home, are pricked; and following them comes 'Plain Bob Tripples,' with a 5040 given by the description of the hunts. It is followed by this remark:—

'This peal was first rung by the Society of College Youths at St. Saviour's in Southwark, in December, 1730.'

On reference to the peal-book of the College Youths, I find that this peal was composed and conducted by Annable. This peal, written out in the usual manner, from this description by the hunts, will be found in Mr. Hubbard's edition of his work on Change-ringing, and I think that any one acquainted with Annable's composition in Bob Major will see how in style this resembles the masterly manner in which that peal is constructed: a simpler production in Bob Triples it would be hard to imagine. Probably this is the peal alluded to by the writers of the *Clavis*. It is a great pleasure to me to have been in any way able to assist in the resuscitation of this peal. It is worthy of remark, as tending to show the probability that many other of the earliest compositions, and ones of considerable merit, may have been utterly lost sight of, that this peal has been totally forgotten for a great number of years, and its place usurped by much inferior compositions. When Shipway wrote in 1816 there was not a peal known to be compared with this one; and, with the exception of the recent improvements without singles by Mr. Hubbard, I consider it is a long way the best one still to be found.

(*To be continued.*)