he procured a bath, and arranged it in such a manner that the man was by him baptized by immersion in the church. My object, however, in writing this letter, is to throw out a suggestion which, I hope, may meet with consideration and attention, and may possibly lead to something practical. It is not likely that baptism of adults will become very general, because, I trust, the much more correct method of the baptism of infants, with a view to the Church's future training of them as being Christians, is increasingly felt, and appreciated, and practised. But there is little doubt that every year there are a few unbaptized adults in every diocese who desire baptism, and who would prefer baptism by immersion, and who consequently go to those Dissenters who practise immersion in baptism.

Now, we are all desirous to render our Cathedrals more and more useful, and to give proof to all the people of a diocese that they are interested in the cathedral of their diocese. I venture to suggest that in every cathedral there should be fitted up a large and capacious baptistery, for the purpose of baptism by immersion of any person of the diocese, the Dean being the officiating minister, or the clergyman of the parishioners to be baptized acting for him. One of the numerous chapels or spare spaces with which cathedrals abound would form an appropriate place, in which a proper 'font' for immersion might be built,—and probably so constructed that the minister need not enter the water—and in which chapel there would be room for fifty or a hundred worshippers, for none other ought to be allowed to witness such a ceremony. 'The Sacraments (says the Church) were not ordained to be gazed upon.' In this way we should solve a great practical (occasional) difficulty; we should be practically teaching another great Church truth, and should be taking another step to show the usefulness of our cathedrals for the whole diocese.

G. V.

Sir,—In reply to a question of 'E. H. L.' in *Church Bells* for June 14th, as to whether in any of our churches there is a baptistery for the immersion of adults, I am able to state that (unless it has been removed) there is one in the parish church of Otley, near Ipswich. It was placed there between thirty and forty years ago.

L. M. R.

'Henry M. C. Price,' and 'J. G.' also inform us that there is a baptistery for the immersion of adults in St. Saviour's Church, Bacup, Lancashire. The church was built about 1835 by J. Maden Holt, Esq., M.P.

[In our issue for April 5th we noticed that a coast-guardsman was baptized by immersion in a large bath at St. Paul's, Ramsgate.—Ed.]

Poisonous Postage Stamps.

Sir,—Will you allow me through your paper to call the attention of the clergy and others, who have a good deal of correspondence, to the fact (which does not seem to be generally known) that it has been discovered by Dr. Hassall, the eminent analyst, that the colouring used for stamps contains poisonous matter?

M. P.

Received also.—C. A. W.; A Vicar (2); J. M.; J. F. C.; W. M. B.; H. G.; and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

SNOWDON'S 'TREATISE ON TREBLE BOB.'

A Treatise on Treble Bob. Part II. By Jasper W. Snowdon.—We have received a copy of the Second Part of Mr. Snowdon's *Treatise on Treble Bob*, which consists of a collection of peals in this method, on six, eight, ten, and twelve bells. To say that this is the most perfect work yet published concerning this method would give but a faint idea of its completeness. Indeed, it would not in any way be fair to compare any of the previous works which have dealt with the various methods of change-ringing with one which treats exclusively with one method: in such a case we cannot look for anything but an exhaustive work; and in this case, fortunately, we have the desired result.

While in Part I. several explanations were given, such as that of the 'In and out of course of the changes,' &c., which applied generally to the science of composition, Part II. deals exclusively with the various classes and plans of peals in the simple Treble Bob variations of Oxford and Kent. In Part I. Mr. Snowdon explained the mode of the proof and composition of Treble Bob peals, and strongly insisted on the laws which should regulate the 'morality' of composition. Part II. will now enable any composer to compare and test the originality of his efforts in a way which has previously been absolutely impossible. Any description of the manner in which the peals are classified or arranged, or the different plans on which they are composed, would take up more space than we can afford in these columns; and, as we hope that the work itself will soon be in the hands of all those of our readers who are interested in such matters, we will merely give a short description of its contents. Chapter 1 contains peals of Minor, with nine, twelve, and fifteen bobs; Chapter 2, nearly 800 full peals of Major on all the different plans yet known; Chapter 3, 177 peals of Royal; and Chapter 4, 62 peals of Maximus. Besides these peals, certain ways by which some of them may be altered or curtailed are given, and thus the total number of peals of 5000 changes and upwards in the collection, is brought up to more than 1100. It was hardly to be expected that in dealing, however carefully, with the number of peals from which this collection has been compiled, that a false one or two would not manage to creep in; and while two, which are noticed in the list of corrections, have been detected since the sheets containing them were printed, there is the one lately alluded to and corrected by Mr. Dains in these columns, and we publish to-day a letter pointing to another which is in error. The last chapter gives a list of the names of the different composers whose peals appear in the collection.

We must offer our most hearty congratulations, not only to Mr. Snowdon for the successful issue to which he has now brought his *Treatise on Treble Bob*, but also to the 'Exercise' generally upon this addition to bell-ringing literature. As we hope that it will be supported by all those who are interested in the advance of change-ringing in its highest and most scientific branches, we would remind our readers that copies can be obtained (Part I., 1*s.* 1½*d.*, Part II. 2*s.* 1½*d.*, post free) from Mr. Snowdon, Old Bank Chambers, Leeds; or from Messrs. Warner and Sons, The Crescent Foundry, Cripplegate, London, E.C.

Explanation from 'Looker-on.'

Sir,—I find that my poor papers have attracted far more attention than I anticipated when I wrote them, and I am therefore glad to take an opportunity of explaining their want of completeness. They were compiled in India at the end of September, 1878, the only materials at my disposal being the file of *Church Bells* from about the middle of 1872 to August, 1878. Unless, therefore, a peal was reported in *Church Bells* before the end of last August it could not be noted in my papers. This accounts for the absence of peals reported in local papers only, and of those rung and reported in *Church Bells* after August 1878.

Some of your correspondents are aggrieved because I have not mentioned achievements which they admit have never been reported at all. Surely this is unreasonable.

After mentioning that the bells at Wrexham had been rehung I added, 'It will be a thousand pities if these bells, being now in first-rate order, are not used for change-ringing.' Mr. Newall makes me say, 'At Wrexham there is a fair ring of ten bells that have lately been rehung, and which are not used for change-ringing;' and then contradicts this statement (which he gratuitously and incorrectly attributes to me) on the ground that, before the end of 1877, his company had rung several half peals of Grandsire Triples which had not been reported to *Church Bells*.

'Surveyor' will find that the peals rung by the Cumberlands, and not noted by me, were rung in the concluding months of 1878. Whether the 9120 Kent Treble Bob Major, rung at Holbeck in 1876, is or is not a peal I must leave abler judges to decide; the nature of my papers rendered it impossible to enter into particulars regarding the calling of peals, and as it was chronicled in *Church Bells* I considered myself justified in noting it accordingly.

Looker-on.

Proposed County Association of Change-ringers for Sussex.

Sir,—I am anxious to get a few other residents in Sussex, having a certain amount of leisure at their command, to join me in setting on foot a 'County Association of Change-ringers.' Such an Association appears to be very much wanted. I should propose that our numbers should be at first limited to twelve, and that we should meet and practise change-ringing in various parts of the county about once in each month. If you will kindly insert this letter it may help me in starting the Association, and I beg to request any gentlemen who take an interest in change-ringing, and who wish to practise and improve themselves in the art, to write to me as soon as possible on the subject.

J. B. Lennard, *Rector of Crawley, Sussex.*

Change-ringing at St. James's Church, Higher Sutton, Cheshire.

On Monday, May 12th, six of the Macclesfield Change-ringers visited the above church for the purpose of ringing an inaugural peal, containing every possible change that can be rung on six bells. For this purpose they rang a specially arranged touch, having 972 changes, being the number of months that the venerable donor of the tenor bell (Thomas Parrott, Esq.) had lived when the bells were opened. As 720 changes are the greatest possible number that can be had on six bells, the above number was got by introducing four different methods of scientific ringing, viz. 720 changes Grandsire Minor, 120 Stedman's Doubles, 72 Bob Minor, 60 Grandsire Doubles.

Muffled Peal at St. Mary's, Sheffield, Yorkshire.

On Monday evening, May 26th, a muffled peal was rung in 3 hrs. 12 mins. as a token of respect to the late Charles George Bateman, an old ringer, The peal was the late Mr. J. Holt's Original one-course composition. C. H. Rawson, 1; T. Hattersley (conductor), 2; G. Palmer, 3; J. Mulligan, 4; J. Dixon, 5; C. Steer, 6; E. Woodward, 7; W. Smith, 8. Tenor, 25 cwt.

Change-ringing at Liversedge, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, the 21st ult., the Society of Change-ringers rang at Christ Church a peal of Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5088 changes, in 2 hrs. 59 mins., with the 6th nine times wrong and twelve times right in 5-6, with the 6th ten courses at home. J. Whitworth, 1; W. Goodall, 2; T. Goodall, 3; L. Illingworth, 4; G. Illingworth, 5; J. Wilson, 6; J. Illingworth (conductor), 7; M. Ramsden, 8. Composed by W. Sottanstall. Tenor, 16 cwt.

Muffled Peal at Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire.

On Sunday, the 29th ult., the ringers of St. Peter's Church rang a muffled peal of Bob Major, containing 2528 changes, in 1 hr. 27 mins., in memory of the late Lieut.-Col. Mellor of the L. R. V. J. E. Pickford, 1; L. Heywood, 2; J. Hopewood, 3; T. Moss, 4; J. Andrew, 5; J. Adams, 6; G. Longden, 7; C. Thorp (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 20 cwt. Key of E.

Another False Peal.

Sir,—On looking over Part II. of Mr. Snowdon's *Treatise on Treble Bob*, I find a peal by Mr. W. Sottanstall (5024), given at page 61, false. I believe it will be true if the 14th course is called 1 M, 1 B, 2 W, 2 H; the changes then will be 5088.

N. J. Pitstow.

Saffron Walden, June 27.

Information Wanted.—Can any of the readers of *Church Bells* kindly supply the following:—The name of some picturesque village or small town, distant (in a north-eastern direction) not more than twenty miles from the General Post Office, London, having a light ring of six or eight bells in *good* ringing order? Does Hatfield, Herts, comply with the above requirements?—Fabian.

Received also—J. L. Fulford. E. C.—There are over 200 books on the subject; write to H. T. E., Topsham, Exeter, inclosing a stamp.