

CORRESPONDENCE

The 'Reunion Magazine.'

SIR,—It is high time, I am sure, that the present barefaced action of the Ritualistic party in our Church should be more widely known than it is. By perusing the new serial published by the 'Order of Corporate Reunion,' it may be seen how far it is possible for members of a reformed Church to play into the hands of the Pope of Rome in the most calm and deliberate way conceivable, while professing allegiance to their own communion. True Catholicism keeps pace with the progress of the age, according to our Lord's promise; and differs as greatly from Roman Catholicism as it does from popular Protestantism. The leaders of the O. C. R. ought undoubtedly to be turned out of their livings, no matter what the immediate consequences might be. But if the Bishops cannot, or will not, do this, *Church Bells* would be doing a good work if it would 'ring out' these false apostles and brethren in more decided tones than it has hitherto done. DISCIPULUS.

The Draft Bill.

SIR,—You reported in a recent No. that four dioceses had accepted 'the Draft Bill' agreed to by Convocation. Can you say by what majorities? Lincoln rejected it last Friday by 75 to 73. The laity voted, I think, 26 to 12 against. There seemed a dread of entering Parliament at all; also a strong disinclination to approve or forward legislation with the sheet of alterations in last week's *Guardian* 'looming in the distance.' It was felt the work of ten years had been hurriedly pressed through at last, and that the burning question of the Ornaments Rubric had been settled by Canterbury (and disapproved by York), through 'an understanding' which turned out to be 'a misunderstanding,' and that many men's minds were sorely exercised upon that point. The '*Quicumque vult*' note, also, was rather distasteful; and although accepting the 'Draft Bill' was not necessarily to approve all this, yet it seemed as if delay was preferred. It was also objected that Convocation needed reform itself; and the amendment took this shape—'That the Prayer-book remain as it is till Convocation be reformed.' There was scarcely time in the few hours of the debate to invent an amendment which would have been acceptable to all objectors, and so this was agreed to: but it is not to be presumed that all who voted for the amendment cared much for the Reform of Convocation. Probably to some the amendment was acceptable because that event seems so distant—equivalent to *sine die*, in fact: others voted for the amendment because they felt aggrieved that the laity had not been consulted in all these alterations. So you see the amendment was, by a sort of chance, able to bring to its side many varying thinkers. Could your readers give us in course of time information as to how the Draft Bill has been received in all the dioceses? A LINCOLNSHIRE RECTOR.

'Is Christianity Complete without the Church?'

SIR,—Will you allow one of the 'practical business men,' whose questions are such a thorn in the side of your correspondent, 'I. R. V.,' to say a few words in reply to the article with the above heading? In company with many of your readers, I have been admitted by Baptism into the visible 'Church' of Christ. I am an attached member of the 'Church' of England, and, I hope and trust, a member also of the great spiritual 'Church' of God. I go to 'church' on Sunday, and I have a 'church' in my own house, of which I am priest. When I see the word 'church' used in so many senses I may be forgiven if I sometimes wish that it could, for awhile at least, be obliterated from the language, till men had chosen a separate expression for each sense in which the word is now used. We should then be saved endless discussions about nothing; and it would be impossible for any one to write such an illogical piece of argument as the article in question, where the writer would try to persuade us that something which he calls the 'Church' was brought into the world by our Lord, fully organized like the Jewish Church; that it settled differences during His lifetime, before the outpouring of the Holy Spirit; decided minute questions of dress, &c., in the time of the Apostles; continued one and undivided for three hundred years, and is now represented by the High Church section of the English branch of the Church of Christ! No, sir; if Church questions are ever to be settled it must be by some argument more cogent than this, which is about as convincing as it would be to say that because 20s. equal one pound, and one pound equals 16 oz.; therefore 20s. equal 16 oz. F. BOYD.

Reverence in Church.

SIR,—As 'H. A. W.' has alluded to my letter, I wish to say I am no Romanizer. I can realise and endorse all he has written respecting the Church in France. I should be loth to tell my own experiences. I only quoted the language of my parishioner, and I have no doubt that in its general phase all that he said he saw was true, and that if we were to look at a body of worshippers all on their knees, all apparently devout and God-worshipping, all facing one way, with an officiating priest decidedly reverential in his movements and manner, and contrast it with the quiet, undemonstrative, unimpressive way of going through our service of twenty years ago, with a congregation mostly seated, and utterly guiltless of anything like worship, the difference would strike us as it did him. My thoughts were simply fixed on the fact of the minister moving about during the *Gloria*, which I take to be the solemn ascription of praise to the triune Jehovah, and which doubtless would be treated in a very different way by a Roman priest, whatever others in the church might be doing. There are other blemishes also. I can enter into all that 'An Old Subscriber' has written. I was once told by a clergyman likely to know the fact, that there was (probably is) a Wesleyan chapel in Notting Hill where the English Prayer-book is used; and there, if you like, said my informant, 'the beautiful prayers of our Church are *prayed* indeed, and the Canticles *majestically* sung.'

IN EARNEST.

RECEIVED ALSO.—William Fitzpatrick; Elizabeth Garnett; A. H.; W. G. G.; E. G. H.; J. E. Y.; Mrs. Kaye; J. P. Wright; Lina; and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Acta et Futura of the Oxford University Society of Change-ringers.

SIR,—In accordance with a suggestion made a few months ago by J. E. Acland-Troyte, Esq., I beg to send the following short account of last term's proceedings, together with notice of meetings as arranged for this term:—

- May 3. 1260 Grandsire Triples at New Coll., in which 4 changing bells were taken by members of this Society.
 " 10. 720 Bob Minor at New Coll., with the help of Mr. J. Field, Instructor.
 " 21. 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor at New Coll., with Mr. Field.
 June 4. 720 Bob Minor at New Coll., with Mr. Field: and 1120 Grandsire Triples at Ch. Ch., with three members of the City Society.
 " 6. Six members went to Drayton, by kind invitation of Rev. F. E. Robinson, and rang 720 Bob Minor; repeating the same on the return journey at St. Nicholas's, Abingdon.
 " 8. At Horspath, Oxon, 720 Bob Minor.
 " 9. At St. Thomas's, Mr. Holt's 720 Bob Minor, without a Single.
 " 14. At Kirtlington, Oxon, a peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's ten-part). In this five members took part, the others being Rev. F. L. Robinson and G. H. Phillott, Esq., who rang 6 and 7; and Mr. Smith, of the City Society, tenor.

Meetings as arranged for this term are:—Mon. and Thur., St. Thomas ye Martyr, 4.30 p.m., six-bell practice; Tu. and Fri., 7 p.m., handbells at Rose Lane Schoolroom; Wed. and Sat., eight-bell practice at New Coll.

W. S. WILLETT, Oriel Coll., Hon. Sec.

A Guild of Bell-ringers.

At a meeting recently held at Devizes, the Rev. R. Nicholson, R.D., in the chair, it was resolved that a Society should be formed with the title, 'The North Wilts Guild of Ringers.' The objects of the Guild are set forth in rules that were then framed, for the encouragement of the proper use of church bells, and, as a principal means to this end, the promotion of change-ringing. It was resolved that the Bishop should be asked to be patron of the Guild. The following officers were then elected:—*President*: the Ven. Archdeacon Buchanan; *Vice-Presidents*: Rev. A. O. Hartley, R.D., Rev. T. Pearce, R.D., Rev. A. Baynham, R.D., Rev. E. P. Eddrup, R.D., Rev. R. Nicholson, R.D., Rev. J. Sturton, R.D., Rev. F. H. Du Boulay, Mr. H. E. Meddlcott, Mr. Alex. Mackay; *Secretary and Treasurer*: Rev. C. W. Hony. *Committee*: the President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary, together with the following:—Rev. A. Law, Rev. E. G. Wyld, Rev. J. Parr, and Messrs. G. Pile and Abbot.

Muffled Ringing at St. Peter's, Fareham, Hants.

On Tuesday, the 30th ult., were rung several six-cores of Grandsire Doubles with the bells half muffled, in memoriam for the late Mr. W. Parker, for upwards of fifty years a ringer at the above church. C. Privett, 1; F. Ford, 2; F. Hill, 3; W. G. Moss, 4; H. Carter, 5; J. W. Whiting and G. Passingham, 6.

South Lincolnshire Association of Change-ringers.

On Saturday, the 11th inst., six members of the above Association rang at SS. Mary and Nicholas Church, Spalding, a 720 of London Singles, in 26 mins. J. Wilson, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; R. Clark, 3; R. Mackman, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Creasey (conductor), 6.—Also, on Sunday evening after service a 720 Bob Minor, Dixon's Variations, containing 60 treble leads, 138 bobs, 6 singles, and 4 extremes, in 26½ mins. J. S. Wright, 1; R. Clark, 2; W. H. Tyler, 3; R. Mackman, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Creasey, 6. Tenor, 21 cwt.

It is proposed to hold a meeting of the above Society at Market Deeping on Monday week, October 27th; when the bells of St. Guthlack's Church will be at the disposal of the Society. Dinner will be provided at the White Horse Inn at 2 p.m., at a charge of 2s. per head. All members intending to dine must send in their names to me before Tuesday, October 21st.

JAMES RICHARD JERRAM, Secretary.

Farewell Touch at Calverley, near Leeds, Yorkshire.

On Monday evening, the 13th inst., the Society of Change-ringers at Calverley rang a touch of 2592 of Kent Treble Bob in 1 hr. 35 mins. W. Child, 1; E. Keighley, 2; I. Hollings, 3; J. Cordingley, 4; H. Mortimer, 5; W. Hollings, 6; R. Cordingley, 7; W. Davison, 8. The above touch was conducted by Richard Cordingley, who is going to emigrate to Australia.

Change-ringing at Rotherham, Yorkshire.

On Monday, the 13th inst., the Sheffield and Rotherham Branch of the Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers rang at Rotherham 5079 changes of Stedman's Caters, in 3 hrs. 33 mins., being the first peal of this method accomplished by the Association. C. H. Hattersley (composer and conductor), 1; T. Jenkinson, 2; F. Coates, 3; J. Athey, 4; W. Coates, 5; C. Bower, 6; G. Flint, 7; T. Lee, 8; A. Rodgers, 9; T. Oxley, 10. Tenor, 32 cwt.

DATE TOUCH.—On Tuesday, October 7th, 1879, at Bromsgrove, Worcester-shire, eight members of St. John's Society of Change-ringers, Bromsgrove, rang at the Parish Church a date touch of Grandsire Major, in 1 hr. 16 mins.

QUICK WORK.—Most ringers know something about 'Slow and Quick Courses,' but they will be surprised to hear of a new quick course lately introduced at Croydon, by which Messrs. Gillett and Bland have cast, tuned, and hung, a new bell of 10 cwt. in three weeks, to add to a ring of three at Benhlton, Surrey.

CLOCK AND BELL WORKS AT CROYDON.—These extensive works are fully described in the *Croydon Guardian* of the 11th inst., a wonderfully cheap pennyworth.

RECEIVED ALSO.—E. Judd; J. A. Troyte; Bob; G. Pope; J. Warsefold; and others.