

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

STR.—Some time since I saw in *Church Bells* that ordinary country rope-makers were not the proper persons to supply church bell-ropes. Now, I do not wish you to tout for one firm, but if you, in your next issue, would mention two or three makers, I should be much obliged.

HENRY LUDGATER.

Aylthorpe Roding, Dunmow.

The Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

A GENERAL Meeting for the transaction of business will be held at St. Paul's Schoolroom, Exeter, on Wednesday, February 4th, at 2.30 p.m. *Agenda:* To consider the election of a Secretary in the place of the late Rev. J. L. Langdon Fulford; to elect members; to arrange the meetings for the year, &c. A Committee Meeting will take place on the same day and place at 1.45 p.m.

W. BARTHOLOMEW FULFORD, *Hon. Treasurer.*

Essex Association of Change-Ringers.

A DISTRICT Meeting will be held at Colchester on Thursday, February 5th. The last meeting was held at Barking, Dec. 11th, when, owing to the remarkable fog, there was only a small assemblage: but there were some very good ringing and hand-bell practice. The Ven. Archdeacon Blomfield presided, and became an honorary member. The Rev. F. H. Powell, Curate of Barking, was also elected, with several other gentlemen, and also nine performing members and probationers. The bells of St. Margaret's Abbey, Barking, have been put into perfect ringing order; and the state of the belfry and all connected with it betokens great care, and reflect great credit on the painstaking chief ringer of the old abbey, Mr. Sewell.

JOHN B. SEAMAN, *Hon. Sec.*

New Bells at Teignmouth, Devon.

A NEW ring of bells, augmented from three to eight, with new English oak frames, fittings, and apparatus for chiming, has been erected in St. James's Church by public subscription. The key of the peal is F; the bells are from the celebrated foundry of Mears & Stainbank.

Examine your Clappers.

WE lately said a few words on this subject: we would now say something more as to what should be done when a bell gets cracked. Don't consult any architect, nor builder, nor smith, nor any middle-man, unless you wish to add commission-money to the expenses. Consult at once your pet bell-founder—well experienced, honest, and true. Don't attempt to get the recasting done *cheap*. The usual cost of recasting is about 42s. per cwt. The price of copper and tin is regulated by a tariff, issued periodically; therefore, the price of all good bell-metal should be the same everywhere. Metal of a lower price cannot be offered without adulteration. The cost of rehanging may vary according to circumstances. If the cracked bell is an ancient one, and long-waisted, with heavy cannon, let the new bell be cast without cannons, especially if you go in for change-ringing. Indeed, in the re-hanging of any of these fine, old, long-waisted bells, picturesque as they are, we advise you to allow the cannons and argent to be cut off, and hung up with bolts, passed through holes to be drilled in the heads. Don't be afraid of damaging the tone of the bell, for the cannons have no more to do with the tone than the rope has, being suspended by one, pulled by the other. We have known bells without any head at all—musical, too, in peal; and others with ornamental openings in the waist, and of good tone. The tone depends on the perfect soundness of the sound-bow, and in the *continuity* of the edge, or brim, of the bell without flaw or crack, which nothing but the furnace can mend.—*Edn.*

Death of Mr. Wm. Harrison of Mottram.

WE are informed by our valued correspondent, Mr. Snowden, that Mr. William Harrison, of Mottram-in-Longdendale, Cheshire, died at Upper Mill, Saddleworth, Yorkshire, on Thursday, the 22nd inst., and was buried at Mottram on the 24th. Mr. Harrison was born on September 26th, 1820, and was, therefore, in his 59th year. From his able compositions, especially those in the Treble Bob methods, and for the willingness with which he was always ready to impart the information which his studies of these matters had made so valuable, Mr. Harrison will long be remembered by his friends. His peal of 8896 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, rung in 1876 by the Cumberland Youths, still remains the longest length ever composed in this method, without parting the tenors or any deviation from the system.

After the interment a mixed society rang a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 768 changes, corresponding as near as possible with the number of months which the deceased had lived. W. Fawcett, 1; H. Shaw, 2; R. Shaw, 3; W. Middleton, 4; G. Longden, 5; E. Buckley, 6; G. Wood, 7; J. Thorpe (composer and conductor), 8. And on Sunday, the 25th inst., a muffled touch of Kent Treble Bob Royal was rung at Ashton.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Bishop's Waltham, Hants.

ON New-year's Eve the members of the Bishop's Waltham Society rang, at St. Vitus's Church, a half-muffled six-score of Grandsire Doubles. W. Linter, 1; J. H. Garnett, 2; T. Shorney, 3; A. House, 4; E. N. Garnett, jun., 5; C. B. Brock, Esq., 6. And on Monday, the 19th inst., six of them rang twelve six-score of Grandsire Doubles, in 1 hr. 5 mins. W. Linter, 1; J. H. Garnett, 2; T. Shorney, 3; J. Miles, 4; E. N. Garrett, jun. (conductor), 5; A. House, 6. Tenor, 19 cwt., in F.

At St. Michael's, Framlingham, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, the 17th inst., eight members of the Framlingham Branch of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang a peal of 5040 changes of Bob Major

in 3 hrs. 20 mins. P. Meadows (conductor), 1; R. Hayward, 2; W. Flory, 3; S. Whiteman, 4; E. Hall, junr., 5; R. Ruth, 6; D. Collins, 7; E. Collins, 8. Tenor, 18½ cwt.

At SS. Mary and Nicholas, Spalding, Lincolnshire.

ON Saturday, the 17th inst., a 720 of Plain Bob, comprising 42 Singles. G. Harrison, 1; W. A. Tyler, 2; R. Creasey (conductor), 3; R. Clark, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Mackman, 6.

ON Tuesday, the 20th inst., a 720 of Plain Bob, comprising 14 Bobs and 2 Singles. J. Willson, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; W. A. Tyler, 3; R. Clark, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6.

ON Tuesday, the 27th inst., a 720 of Plain Bob, comprising 9 Bobs and 6 Singles. J. Willson, 1; R. Clark, 2; W. A. Tyler, 3; R. Mackman, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; J. S. Wright (conductor), 6. Tenor, 21 cwt.

At All Saints, Kingston-on-Thames.

ON Thursday, the 22nd inst., a muffled quarter peal of 1260 Grandsire Triples was rung in 45 mins., as a mark of respect to the late Mr. Henry Shrubsole, Mayor of Kingston, who died suddenly, while distributing gifts to the aged poor at their annual dinner, on the 15th. A. Challis, 1; W. Duffell, 2; T. Duffell, 3; H. Parslow, 4; J. Parslow, 5; J. Strutt, 6; J. Wright (conductor), 7; W. Phillips, 8. Tenor, 33 cwt.

At All Saints, Maidstone, Kent.

ON Thursday, the 22nd inst., the Maidstone Youths rang a 720 Grandsire Minor in 2¼ mins. M. Relf, 1; W. Elliott, 2; R. Simmonds, 3; A. Moorcraft, 4; A. H. Woolley, 5; H. Pearce (composer and conductor), 6.

At St. Stephen's, Lindley, Yorkshire.

ON Thursday, the 22nd inst., the Society of Change-ringers rang 1880 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, being the date of the present year, in 1 hr. 10 mins. R. Kitson, 1; E. Ellam, 2; A. Sykes, 3; B. Shaw, 4; C. Craven, 5; B. Berry, 6; J. Royston, 7; F. Schofield (conductor), 8. Composed by E. T. Jowitt of Birstall. Tenor, 18½ cwt.

At Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.

ON Tuesday, the 20th inst., the St. Nicholas' Company rang at the parish church 1008 changes Plain Bob Major. Twenty-four years have passed since so large a number of changes in this method was rung by a Yarmouth company. W. Blyth, 1; W. Lee, 2; R. Christian, 3; W. Secrett, 4; D. Hayward, 5; M. Long (conductor), 6; W. Fletcher, 7; J. Matthews, 8.

Also the first half of Holt's Ten-part Peal of 2520 changes Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 45 mins. W. Blyth, 1; W. Lee (conductor), 2; R. Christian, 3; W. Secrett, 4; D. Hayward, 5; M. Long, 6; W. Fletcher, 7; J. Matthews, 8; H. Wright, 9. Tenor, 31 cwt., in D.

At St. Andrew's, Gargrave, Yorkshire.

ON Saturday, the 24th inst., six members of the Gargrave Society rang, in 1 hr. 11 mins., a peal of 1880 changes, viz., 720 Violet, 440 Bob Minor, and 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Clarke, 1; W. Stephenson, 2; H. Birtwhistle (conductor), 3; W. Mallinson, 4; J. T. Middlebrook, 5; J. McKell, 6. Also, for a service peal on Sunday morning, in 26 mins., a 720 Bob Minor, comprising 26 Singles and 16 Bobs. A. Birtwhistle, 1; J. T. Middlebrook, 2; H. Birtwhistle, 3; W. Mallinson, 4; C. Lancaster, 5; J. McKell (conductor), 6. Tenor, 16 cwt. This peal was composed by Mr. J. Pewning, of Saffron Walden, Essex. It is supposed to be the first time that such a peal was rung in Yorkshire. This beautiful ring of six is being augmented to eight, and as such will be opened on Saturday, February 5th, by members of the Yorkshire Association.

At St. Mary's, Battersea, Surrey.

ON Saturday, the 24th inst., a muffled peal was rung by members of the Battersea Youths' Bell-ringing Society, as a tribute of respect to the late Philip Cazenove, Esq., one of the patrons of the Society, who died on the 20th inst., as reported in our last issue. F. J. G., and W. Ambrose, Allen, Orchard, Ludwig, Longhurst, Taylor, Durrant, and Thomas. Conducted by H. S. Thomas. [The order in which the men stood should have been given.] We have received the list of officers and the rules of the above Society, which was founded in 1777 and re-constituted in 1877, under the presidency of the Rev. Canon Erskine Clarke, Vicar of Battersea.

At St. Michael's, Garston, Lancashire.

ON Saturday, the 24th inst., a muffled date touch of 1880 (Grandsire Triples) was rung in 1 hr. 14 mins., as a mark of respect to the late John Lightbody, Esq., of Grassendale, brother to the donor of the bells. S. Gough, 1; R. Rowlands, 2; P. Barton, 3; J. Aspinwall (composer and conductor), 4; J. Large, 5; G. W. Hughes, 6; T. H. Mawdsley, 7; Serjeant-Major Turner, 8. Tenor 12½ cwt.

At Doncaster, Yorkshire.

ON Sunday, the 25th inst., the Doncaster Society rang for Divine service a quarter peal of 1260 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. C. Armitage, 1; H. G. Wilson, 2; W. Lawrence, 3; H. Marwood, 4; W. Gardiner, 5; C. Crawford (conductor), 6; W. Burkinshaw, 7; S. Holmes, 8. Tenor, 31 cwt., in E flat. [Name of the church not mentioned.]

At Daresbury, Cheshire.

ON Tuesday, the 27th inst., the Daresbury Society rang a 720 Bob Minor (Dixon's Variations), in 27 mins., containing 138 Bobs, 6 Singles, and 6 Extremes. T. Houghton, sen., 1; P. Johnson, 2; T. Ellison, 3; P. Hamblett, 4; J. Ellison, 5; T. Houghton, jun., 6. Tenor, 12 cwt.

A CORRECTION.—In our paragraph on clappers last week, lines 3 and 4, for too slow read too low.

RECEIVED ALSO.—Muffled Ringing at Leigh—no name: D. Hayward; F. Goodman; G. Eaton; and others.