

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Testimonial to Mr. Henry Hubbard.

A COMMITTEE of nine members, representing the different societies of change-ringers in Leeds, has been formed to promote the testimonial to Mr. Hubbard, which has previously been alluded to in these columns. Mr. Wm. Whitaker, of the Leeds Parish Church Company, is the president; Mr. J. Winder, treasurer of the Yorkshire Association, the treasurer; and Mr. Jasper W. Snowdon the honorary secretary to the fund. The following is a copy of the circular which is being issued by the Committee. We are requested to state that the Committee hope this circular, as published in our columns, will be taken as addressed to each individual company. On receipt of a post-card giving the address, the Secretary will, however, be glad to forward a copy to any society:—

'After the conclusion of the General Meeting of the Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers at Bingley, on April 23rd, the urgent necessity of making some public recognition of the services rendered by Mr. Henry Hubbard, senior, to the art and science of Change-ringing, was brought before the members. It was suggested that, as Mr. Hubbard now lives in Leeds, the best way to carry out this object would be to elect a Committee of ringers representing the Leeds district, who should undertake to bring his claims before the ringing fraternity, receive and hold all subscriptions, and attend to the disbursement of them in the most desirable manner. This Committee having been elected, now appeals to you to assist in carrying out this work.

'Mr. Henry Hubbard was born at Norwich, on August 23rd, 1807, and is therefore now in his seventy-fourth year. Until 1856 he resided at Norwich, and was a Member of the Society of Norwich Scholars, but in that year he removed to Leeds, and became a Member of the Leeds Parish Church Society of Change-ringers. In this Society he continued until a few years ago, and although, owing to the state of his health, during the later years of his membership he was unable to attend except at very irregular intervals, received a certain quarterly allowance from the Society. After suffering severely from asthma for many years, Mr. Hubbard at last became quite incapacitated from working, and has for some time been a confirmed invalid, totally dependent on others for support. It is therefore now, especially, that the assistance of his friends may advantageously be extended to him. In making this appeal, the Committee would submit to you the great interest both with regard to the practice and science of change-ringing that Mr. Hubbard has taken throughout his lifetime.

'In the year 1845, Mr. Hubbard published the first edition of his *Campanologia, or an Essay on the Art of Change-ringing*. Since that time this book has passed through several editions, the fourth of which was published in 1876, and thus for about thirty years Mr. Hubbard's book was almost the only one on Change-ringing in the hands of the public. To very many ringers this book was the sole source from which they could procure any information, either on the practical or scientific branches of the art, and if the production of this work was all that Mr. Hubbard had done for the advancement of Change-ringing, the Exercise would still be greatly indebted to him.

'Not only, however, as a writer has Mr. Hubbard so long been connected with Change-ringing, but to a former generation his name was also well known as a practical performer in some of the greatest feats in scientific ringing which had ever been accomplished. In evidence of this it may be mentioned, that besides assisting in many ordinary peals, Mr. Hubbard has taken part in the following excellent performances:—

'On April 11th, 1831, he took 3-4 in 2520 changes of Stedman's Triples, rung on handbells at Norwich, the greatest length ever rung in hand, at that time, in this complicated method. On February 6th, 1835, he rang the fourth at St. Giles's, Norwich, in 5376 of Superlative Surprise Major, the second peal in this method, of which seven only have been rung. On November 17th, 1835, he rang the fourth at St. Andrew's, Norwich, in 5280 changes of London Surprise Major, the first peal in this method, of which two more only have since been rung. On January 18th, 1844, he rang the eleventh at St. Peter's, Norwich, through 7126 changes of Stedman's Cinques in 5 hrs. and 17 mins., this being the longest length then completed in the method. Mr. Hubbard's last peal was rung on August 23rd, 1868, at Guiseley, near Leeds, when he conducted a peal of 5088 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, which was rung by eight men whose united ages amounted to 553 years.

'Having thus laid before you the claims that Mr. Hubbard has to the assistance of the Exercise, the Committee trust that you will do your best to assist them in this object. It is also suggested, that in many cases where individual subscriptions may not be thought of sufficient value to be worth forwarding, a small all-round subscription amongst those practising at any church would make a creditable sum when entered in the name of the Tower, and especially would this be the case where any Society will contribute a small sum quarterly during such time as they may be disposed. I shall be glad to answer any further inquiries, and to receive any donations to this fund with which you may favour the Committee. Yours respectfully,

'Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

JASPER W. SNOWDON, Hon. Sec.'

Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers.

A DISTRICT Meeting of the above was held at Hingham on Monday, the 16th ult. There was a fair attendance of ringers from Norwich and the neighbourhood, and the ringing during the day, especially two or three touches of Treble Bob, was very creditable. At 1.30 an adjournment was made to the 'White Hart,' where the members and friends, to the number of forty, sat down to dinner under the presidency of the Rector, the Rev. M. W. Currie, who was supported by the Revs. C. L. Kennaway, H. W. Turner, J. E. Bartlett, J. Miller, N. Bolingbroke, D. Mustard, G. H. Harris (Sec.), Captain Moore,

R. Heald, C. Cordley, Esq., &c. The Chairman, in proposing the toast of the day, said, in a very happy speech, that he could not but wish success to the Association. Whichever way he looked at it, and the objects it sought to promote, it seemed to him worthy of all encouragement. The Secretary (the Rev. G. H. Harris), in responding, thanked the chairman for his hearty welcome and the interest he showed in their work, and mentioned as a proof of it that Mr. Currie had come down from London that morning for the sole purpose of meeting the ringers, and had invited several guests (these all became, or intend to become, members). The election was then proceeded with, and the following were elected Honorary Members:—The Revs. H. W. Turner, T. Holt Wilson, J. E. Bartlett, Haynes S. Robinson, R. Heald, and R. Copeman, Esq. Eighteen performing members and two probationers being afterwards elected. The next meeting will be held at Yarmouth.

Reply to Mr. Gordon.

SIR,—The 5038 Grandsire Triples which appeared in *Church Bells* for April 2nd is your composition, handed to me by H. Dains, and inserted to convince Mr. Livermore. J. B. K. T.

A Correction.

SIR,—For the information of the Change-ringers of Garston I beg to state that the peal rung by them on Easter Monday was not the second rung by College Youths in Liverpool or suburbs. The opening peal on Nov. 9th, 1800, was Grandsire Triples; in Nov. 1809, a peal of 6048 Plain Bob Major and 5088 of Oxford Treble Bob; in 1850 a peal of 5111 of Grandsire Caters. These peals are on tablets in St. Peter's, rang by College Youths, besides a score of other peals in different methods recorded in their peal-book. Should any one doubt the accuracy of the above statement I shall be most happy to show him the same. ROBERT WILLIAMS (College Youths).

St. Peter's, Liverpool.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Mary's, Stebbing, Essex.

On Tuesday, the 24th ult., being the Queen's Birthday, five of St. Mary's Church ringers rang in 40 mins., at 5 A.M., a touch of 1000 changes in five distinct methods, namely, Calendar, Bob Doubles, Stedman's Slowcourse, Grandsire Doubles, and Antelope. E. Hynds, 1; J. T. Barker, 2; W. Stock, 3; E. Claydon (conductor), 4; G. Ruffet, 5. Tenor, 16 cwt. in G.

5024.

At Redenhall, Norfolk.

On the Queen's Birthday, the 24th ult., the Redenhall Branch of the Norwich Diocesan Association, with N. H. Mack, Esq., of Tunstead, rang a peal of 5024 Oxford Treble Bob in 3 hrs. 4 mins. The peal was composed by Mr. H. Dains. E. Smith (conductor), 1; J. Bentley, 2; J. Smith, 3; N. H. Mack, Esq. (first peal), 4; R. Whitney, 5; F. Smith, 6; G. Mobbs, 7; Captain Moore, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt., in D.

	2	3	4	5	6	M.	D.	W.	H.
OXFORD TREBLE BOB.	3	2	6	5	4	2			2
	3	6	5	2	4			1	2
	3	5	2	6	4	1	-	2	2
	6	2	5	3	4	1	-		2
	2	6	4	3	5			1	2
	2	4	3	6	5	1	-	2	2
	4	5	3	6	2	1			2
	4	5	2	6	3			1	2
	5	2	6	4	3			1	2
	2	3	6	4	5	1			2
	3	5	6	4	2	1			2
	5	3	2	4	6	2			2
	5	2	4	3	6			1	2
	5	4	3	2	6	1	-	2	2
	2	3	4	5	6	1	-		2

At Godstone, Surrey.

On Wednesday, the 25th ult., six members of the Nutfield and Bletchingley Societies rang a peal of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins., this being the first time this peal has been rung on these bells. C. Sendall, 1; L. Killik, 2; E. Fuller, 3; J. Burkin, 4; T. Boniface, 5; W. Burkin (conductor), 6. [Weight of tenor not given.]

At St. Werburgh's, Derby.

On Friday, the 27th ult., six members of the Derby Society rang (on the back six bells) a peal of 720 Bob Minor, with 18 bobs and 2 singles, in 28 mins. J. Ridgeway, 1; G. Lee, 2; R. Redgate, 3; H. C. Woodward, 4; J. Newbold, 5; J. Howe (conductor), 6. Tenor, 17 cwt., in E. This is the first peal of Bob Minor rung in Derby for upwards of twenty years, and the first peal in the method by the present Society.

At St. James', Norton, Derbyshire.

On Saturday, the 28th ult., six members of the Norton Branch of the East Derbyshire Association rang a peal of 120 Grandsire Doubles. J. Allen (conductor), 1; H. Ward, 2; W. Biggin, 3; J. Atkin, 4; J. Biggin, 5; J. Goucher, 6. Tenor, 11½ cwt. This is the first performance for the last twenty-three years by the Norton ringers, who have been tutored by J. Dixon and J. Mulligan for seven weeks.

At Christ Church, Oxford.

On Saturday, the 28th ult., the Oxford Society of Change-ringers rang a date-touch, comprising 1881 Stedman's Triples, in 1 hr. 17 mins. J. Lapworth, 1; H. Janaway, 2; E. Harrison, 3; F. Williamson, 4; S. Hounslow, 5; C. Hounslow, 6; G. M. Coleridge, Esq., 7; A. Strange, 8. Tenor, 42 cwt. Composed by Mr. J. Field and conducted by Mr. G. F. Coleridge.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL CHANGE-RINGERS.—The Secretary writes to say that the Annual Meeting will take place on Saturday, the 11th inst., instead of the date mentioned in our last issue.

RECEIVED ALSO.—J. B. Seaman; Burnley (no writer's name); Rev. F. E. Robinson; J. Lee; and others. Rev. C. Camidge should write to Jasper Snowdon, Esq., Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.