

Christians whose mode of bringing up, or whose line of thought and character, prevents them from appreciating other than extemporary prayer. If the Church is to keep within her pale, or bring in those who have wandered from it from amongst non-conforming bodies, she must be prepared to allow her clergy, where it is deemed expedient, elasticity in her services in this direction. It would, therefore, be wise to do away with the Act of Uniformity, which was at the first, and continues to be, an unnecessary chain hampering her usefulness. With all the thought, life, and activity in the Church of England, it does seem very strange that no steps are taken to remove this blot upon liberality of thought and action, and which historically has been the cause of disunion amongst Christians, the effects of which we are feeling more and more every year. The Church which did without such a restraint for so many hundreds of years can surely do without it now. A few weeks ago I had a special (extemporary) prayer-meeting after evening service in the schoolroom. Two Wesleyans present (one of them offered up prayer) said afterwards to me, 'We did not think it was possible to have such a hearty and earnest meeting in connexion with the Church of England.' Why should not this meeting have been held in the church? H. C.

The Mixed Chalice.

SIR,—With reference to the question asked by your correspondent, 'F. C. B.,' Dr. Pusey certainly had good ground for speaking authoritatively on this subject, for not only is he backed by the custom and practice of the Catholic Church (the Latin Church included, of course), but also the fact that on the Jewish Passover wine was mingled with water; hence the presumption that it was so used at the Institution of the Blessed Sacrament. I quote the following from the Liturgy of St. James, commonly admitted to be the purest representative of the Apostolic Service: 'Likewise after Supper, He took the cup, and mixed it with wine and water, and looked up to Heaven and showed it to Thee, the God and Father, and gave thanks, and hallowed and blessed it, and filled it with the Holy Ghost, and gave it unto His disciples.' Dr. Pusey is therefore in excellent company. J. C. H.

Laymen reading the Lessons.

SIR,—I should like to elicit some opinions as to a habit which seems growing (chiefly in the rural districts, I think): I mean, the practice of laymen reading the Lessons, when there seems to be no reason on the score of health why the clergyman should not read them himself. It seems to be almost universally assumed that a layman can legally read the Lessons, though I must confess I should like to hear the reasons definitely stated. But is it *advisable* that it should be so, as a rule? If we require an ordained minister to read the rest of the service, and to preach, surely such an important part of the service as the reading of God's Word should also be performed by him, unless there are special circumstances which may fairly justify him in availing himself of the liberty allowed. Is not the advantage supposed to accrue from the recognition of the principle that the laity should take part in our church services, likely to be more than balanced by the feelings that may arise in the minds of Churchmen in the middle and lower ranks of society, when they notice that in almost all cases the function is confined to the one or two rich and influential members of the congregation? I would respectfully suggest to the clergy, in these days, when questions are often arising between landlords and tenants, and employers and employed, how desirable it is that they should show caution and delicacy touching the matters I have just alluded to.

A LAYMAN WHO LOVES THE CHURCH.

The 'Cope Compromise.'

SIR,—Those who are advocating the above seem to ignore one of the most practically important considerations involved in the matter, viz. that of *convenience*. Now a cope is about as convenient for celebrating as a riding-habit is for dancing. Its heavy folds would be perpetually getting in the way, and sweeping things down, &c., whereas the chasuble leaves the arms quite free. Begging 'W. G.'s' pardon also, the Ritualists do not, as far as my experience goes, 'generally use' chasubles 'of the modern Roman shape.' In the eyes of what 'W. G.' calls 'the law' copes are as much forbidden in parish churches as chasubles. Why, then, in the name of common sense, should we, in endeavouring to improve our Ritual, cast away a visible link of connexion with the Church of the past in this country, and saddle ourselves with a practical inconvenience? A. P.

Vivisection.

SIR,—I write in order to draw the attention of the clergy to a subject much neglected by them, but, nevertheless, one which demands their serious attention. The crime of vivisection—for I think it may properly be termed a crime—seems to have been as yet treated with utter indifference by the great majority of clergymen. A few have spoken and preached against it; but, as far as I know, only a few. The great bulk of those in holy orders have completely neglected the subject. Now we frequently hear sermons against drunkenness and immorality when there are willing victims. Why should we not hear sermons against vivisection, when the victims are dumb animals at the mercy of their tormentors? I would humbly suggest that the clergy denounce from their pulpits the cruel practices of those so-called men of 'science' who behave like fiends for the purpose of satisfying their morbid curiosity. GILBERT HENRY WORDSWORTH HARRISON.

The next Church Congress.

SIR,—I am not surprised to see 'Old Brum's' letter respecting the next Church Congress, but he unintentionally does an injustice to the Birmingham clergy when he complains that 'our powers that be have never invited the Congress to meet in our busy commercial centre,' and that 'some of our clergy who should be leaders in this matter seem quite incapable of being so.' I believe the simple fact to be, that the Church Congress is never held anywhere unless the Bishop of the diocese consents to preside, and that our own excellent and deservedly beloved Diocesan has positively refused to do

so. However much this is to be regretted the fact remains, and, under such circumstances, neither the Birmingham clergy nor any one else can move in the matter. A BIRMINGHAM CLERGYMAN.

Bangor, North Wales.

SIR,—In your brief account of the 'Pro-Cathedral of Liverpool' in *Church Bells* of Oct. 15 I notice a statement as follows: 'The mother-church of Walton has two incumbents, a rector and a vicar—an arrangement probably almost without a parallel in England.' It may interest 'H. C. R.', and possibly other of your readers, to know that the parish of Bangor, North Wales, has two vicars—a senior and a junior, with, however, only one vicarage. A. BARBER.

Extracts from the Fathers.

SIR,—Can any of your readers recommend any work dealing with quotations, selected passages, proverbs, maxims, &c., from the Fathers, early Christian poets, schoolmen, or monks? It is possible that such a collection may be in existence, and the name of the work would greatly oblige

AN INQUIRER.

[We do not remember, at this moment, any collection of elegant extracts from early ecclesiastical writers. But our correspondent would find many admirable cuttings from Fathers and Schoolmen in such works as Aquinas' *Catena Aurea*, the *Commentary* of Cornelius a Lapide, that of Bishop Wordsworth, Hagenbach's *History of Doctrines*, Neale and Littledale's *Commentary on the Psalms*, &c. Perhaps some of our readers may be able to supplement an answer.—ED.]

An Acknowledgment.

SIR,—Will you kindly express my heartfelt thanks to the unknown friend who has forwarded me *Church Bells* for many months past? I receive it regularly fortnightly or so, and prize it much. I hope it will be continued. After reading it myself it goes the rounds of my parish, which is a very extensive one. I hope you will find a corner in your paper for this acknowledgment. (Rev.) W. C. BRADSHAW.

Peterborough, Canada.

PLANS FOR A MISSION ROOM.—The Rev. W. Howell Evans (Oswestry Vicarage) writes:—'Will some of your readers who have had experience in building mission rooms kindly help me, by informing me as to the best plans for such, and also as to the probable cost of one to hold about one hundred? I should like one which might be divided into two rooms, for classes, &c., when required. Any hints will be acceptable.'

RECEIVED ALSO.—Vicar; H. F. W.; C. J. O.; M. A.; Rector; and others.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Peals at Romford, Essex.

SIR,—Mr. Fakenham thinks that we have fallen into an error when we say that the last peal preceding our peal of Grandsire Triples on the 3rd of September was rung in the year 1813. Mr. Fakenham says that the last peal was rung in the old tower by the same Society on Monday, Feb. 18, 1811, which, he says, was 5248 Oxford Treble Bob Major, and that it was called by Shipway. Allow me to say that he is mistaken, as the very same peal he speaks of was rung in 1811, and was composed and called by G. Gross, Shipway ringing in the peal; which I am prepared to prove by the Peal-book of the Cumberland, and also the Romford old Peal-book.

ACKLAND J. PERKINS.

A 720 Bob Minor in Three Parts.

SIR,—I should be glad if you will kindly insert my peal of Bob Minor in this week's issue, as it might be of use and interest to six-bell ringers; and I have a band made up to ring it immediately it appears.

Twice repeated.

16 Bective Road, Forest Gate.

M. ELLSMORE,

Member of the Essex Association.

The Ringing at Kenninghall, Norfolk.

SIR,—I notice in your issue for Oct. 1st, that a new composition by my friend, Mr. H. Dains, has been rung at Kenninghall; and as this peal is of more than ordinary merit, I beg to inform your readers that it can be reduced to 5056 changes, the least number possible in a two-part peal, by using the calling here given.

Saffron Walden.

N. J. PITSTOW.

Grandsire Caters.

SIR,—Will any of your readers give me the shortest touch of Caters known, in the titium position, the 6th behind the 9th, and round at hand? Saffron Walden. N. J. PITSTOW.

Norwich Diocesan Association of Change-ringers.

The members of the above Association held their Annual Meeting for this year at Norwich, on Monday, the 26th ult. There was a fair attendance of ringers from all parts of the diocese. The numbers would have been greater had it not been known that St. Peter's bells, the great attraction for ringers, were doomed to silence, owing to the work of restoration which is still going on outside the tower. The bells of seven of the city churches were

kept well at work, especially those of St. Giles, which are now again being used after a silence of several years. At one o'clock a short service was held at St. Andrew's Church, the sermon, founded on the words, 'Ye serve the Lord Christ' (Col. iii. 24), being preached by the Ven. Archdeacon Perowne. 'Did the ringers,' said the Archdeacon, 'but bear in mind these words, their service in God's sanctuary would be a hearty, holy, and a happy one.' At two o'clock the members repaired to 'The Lamb,' when they sat down to dinner (about one hundred in number) under the presidency of Gervas Holmes, Esq., who was supported by the Revs. A. G. Blyth, C. F. Blyth, N. Bolingbroke, H. E. Bulwer, R. H. Gwyn, E. Harris, G. H. Harris (Secretary), T. H. Marsh, and J. H. White, Captain Moore, and H. D. Arnott, R. Coperson, N. W. W. Meadows, G. T. W. Meadows, Esqs., &c. &c. After dinner the usual toasts were given. The Rev. H. E. Bulwer responded for that of 'Success to the Association,' and then read for the Secretary (the Rev. G. H. Harris), who was suffering from a severe cold, the Report. From this we gathered that the Association now numbers 480 members, and that they have rung the goodly number of twenty-seven peals, one of which was a peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus, rung at Ipswich (such a peal not having been rung in the Eastern counties for more than forty years); and in addition there was a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, rung by six clerical members. At the conclusion of the Report five honorary members were elected—the Revs. C. J. Steward and S. A. Selwyn; C. R. Day, Esq., and Messrs. C. Hurn, and F. Pitstow, and sixteen performing members. On the proposition of the Rev. C. F. Blyth the officers were re-elected, with thanks for their past services. It was decided that the District Meetings during the ensuing year should be held at Swaffham, Redenhall, and Coddanham; and the meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chairman. The members then all hastened out to have another final ring or two before they took their departure.

Sonning Deanery Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Association of Church Ringers.

THE Monthly Meeting of this branch of the Guild was held at Sonning on Saturday, the 15th inst., the eight bells of the parish church, the tenor being 22 cwt., having been lately rehung by Messrs. Mears. The Rev. Canon Pearson and the Rev. E. Cotton very kindly entertained all the ringers to a tea in the Infant Schoolroom; and we are glad to notice that the information on change-ringing which the Guild has been the means of spreading is already making the old-fashioned ringers of 'ups and downs and rounds and rounds' somewhat ashamed of their bell-hauling. We hope soon to see these 'Churchyard Bobs' (as 'call-changes' are familiarly termed) consigned to Mother Earth.

Tyne Guild of Change-ringers.

At a meeting of Change-ringers held at the 'Waverley Hotel,' Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Tuesday, the 18th inst., it was resolved to form a Guild having the above title, with the object of promoting the revival and advancement of change-ringing in the borough. Rules were drawn up and officers elected. Mr. F. Lees, a well-known local ringer, was elected Guild Master. The first weekly practice will take place at St. Nicholas Church on Tuesday evening, Oct. 25th, at 7 o'clock.

The late Henry Hubbard.

On Wednesday afternoon, the 12th inst., the remains of Henry Hubbard were interred at the Woodhouse Hill Cemetery, Hunslet, Leeds, where many of the Leeds, Hunslet, Holbeck, and other ringers, were present. After the funeral service a course of Grandsire Caters was rung on hand-bells over the grave. During the evening several muffled touches were rung on the eight bells at St. Mary's, Hunslet; and on Sunday last, after the evening service at St. Matthew's, Holbeck, the following band, by the kind permission of the Vicar, rang a half-muffled touch of 1881 changes of Bob Major in 1 hr. 6 mins. J. Harrison, 1; M. Tomlinson, 2; H. Moss, 3; S. Basnett, 4; J. J. Jackson, 5; J. Hutchinson, 6; T. West, 7; R. Binns, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. The touch was composed by the late Henry Hubbard and conducted by R. Binns.

Prize-ringing in Cornwall—Ups and Downs, Rounds and Rounds.

We grieve to learn from newspaper reports such useless waste of money in Cornwall. It is to be hoped that the Bishop of the diocese, among his other reforms in Church matters, will turn his attention to such acts of desecration and prostitution of the goods of the Church supplied for pious uses.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Belbroughton, Worcestershire.

On Wednesday, the 21st ult., a peal of Six-score Grandsire was rung. The peal contained 38 bobs and 22 singles. A. Parton (first peal), 1; G. Parton, 2; E. Hutton, 3; J. Parton, 4; J. Bayes, 5; H. Martin, 6.

On Sunday, the 2nd inst., being Harvest Thanksgiving service, a peal of Kent Treble Bob was rung for morning service; and a peal of Oxford Treble Bob (time, 26 mins.) and 180 Plain Bob for evening service. E. Baylis, 1; G. Parton, 2; E. Hutton, 3; J. Parton, 4; J. Bayes, 5; H. Martin (conductor), 6. Tenor, 16 cwt., in F sharp.

At Aldford and Eccleston, Cheshire.

On Saturday, the 1st inst., the Daresbury Society visited Aldford, and rang at the parish church a peal of 720 Bob Minor in 27½ mins. T. Houghton, sen., conductor. Tenor, 14½ cwt. Also on the same day, at Eccleston Church, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob in 28 mins. T. Houghton, jun., conductor; and 720 of College Single in 27 mins. T. Houghton, sen., 1; P. Johnson, 2; T. Ellison, 3; P. Hamblett (conductor), 4; J. Ellison, 5; T. Houghton, jun., 6.

At St. Mary's, Sheffield, Yorkshire.

On Monday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, also members of the Yorkshire Association, rang Holt's One-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 12 mins. T. Hattersley, 1; J. Mulligan, 2; J. Dixon, 3; W. Bugar, 4; E. Woodward, 5; J. Mulligan, 6; T. Dixon (conductor), 7; G. Potter, 8. Tenor, 25 cwt.

At West Ham, Essex.

On Tuesday, the 4th inst., six members of the West Ham Company, assisted by Messrs. Reeves and Byrnes of the Walthamstow Company, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 1260 changes, in 54 mins., on the back eight bells, to commemorate the marriage of the Rev. C. E. Hubbard and Miss Scott. F. Byrnes, 1; G. Pearl, 2; H. Randall, 3; F. Gobbett, 4; C. Lee, 5; H. Reeves (composer and conductor), 6; W. Doran, 7; F. Searl, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D.

At SS. Peter and Paul's, Mitcham, Surrey.

On Wednesday evening, the 5th inst., the last half of Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 2520 changes, was rung in 1 hr. 28 mins. D. Springall, 1; G. Pell (conductor), 2; G. Russell, 3; G. Welling (his first-half peal), 4; S. Greenwood, 5; A. Brockwell, 6; S. Hayes, 7; F. Fayers, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt.

At St. Margaret's, Lee, Kent.

On Wednesday evening, the 5th inst., a mixed band rang a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. R. Scutt, 1; W. Pead, 2; H. J. Shade, 3; T. Taylor, 4; T. G. Deal (conductor), 5; F. Fraser (first peal inside), 6. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

At St. Giles-in-the-Fields, London.

On Thursday evening, the 6th inst., the following members of the Royal Cumberland (late London Scholars) rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 2 mins. G. Newson (conductor), 1; J. Page (his first peal in the method), 2; T. Titchener (his first peal), 3; J. Gobbett, 4; J. Hannington, 5; J. Woods (of Kenninghall, Norfolk), 6; H. Dains, 7; J. Barrett, 8. Tenor, 17 cwt.

The composition is by H. Dains, and has the 6th the extent in 5, 6, at home at 8 course-ends, and is the first ever composed and rung upon this plan in London.

N.B.—About 30 years have elapsed since these bells were rung a peal in this method; and the steeple-keeper deserves credit for the way his belfry is now kept.

5024									
2	3	4	5	6	M.	B.	W.	H.	
6	5	4	3	2	2	-	2	1	
5	6	2	3	4	-	-	1	2	
5	2	3	6	4	1	-	2	2	
2	4	3	6	5	2	-	1	2	
4	6	2	5	3	-	-	-	-	
3	4	5	6	2	-	2	2		
3	4	6	2	5	-	-	1		
4	2	3	5	6	-	-	-		
2	5	3	4	6	1	-	-		
5	4	3	2	6	1	-	-		
2	5	4	6	3	-	-	2		
4	5	6	2	3	1	-	1		
4	3	5	2	6	-	1	1		
3	2	5	4	6	1	-	-		
4	5	2	3	6	1	-	1		
5	3	2	4	6	1	-	-		
2	3	4	3	6	1	-	1		

At St. Mary's, Lichfield, Staffordshire.

On Thursday evening the 6th inst., a date touch of Grandsire Triples was rung in 1 hr. 15 mins. W. Treadgold, 1; H. King, 2; W. Hopley, 3; J. Key, 4; H. Meacham, 5; F. J. Cope (conductor), 6; T. Meredith, 7; C. North, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt., in E.

At Aldford, Cheshire.

On Friday, the 7th inst., six members of the Aldford Society rang a peal of 720 College Singles in 27 mins. J. Basnett, 1; C. Manning, 2; T. Basnett, 3; J. Manning, 4; C. Thomas (conductor), 5; W. Manning, 6.

Also on Sunday, the 9th inst., for evening service, a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob in 26 mins. S. Manning, 1; C. Manning, 2; T. Basnett, 3; J. Manning, 4; C. Thomas (conductor), 5; W. Manning, 6.

Also on Monday, the 10th inst., a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob in 27 mins. C. Manning, 1; S. Manning, 2; T. Basnett, 3; J. Manning, 4; C. Thomas (conductor), 5; C. Price, 6. Tenor, 14½ cwt.

At West Malling, Kent.

On Sunday, the 9th inst., for evening service, six members rang a peal of 720 Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. W. Driver, 1; C. Payne, 2; E. Baldock, 3; D. Hall, 4; W. Leonard, 5; F. G. Newman, 6. Also after service two 720's Bob Minor in 50 mins. W. Driver, 1; F. G. Newman, 2; E. Baldock, 3; H. Foreman, 4; W. Leonard, 5; C. Payne (conductor), 6. Tenor, 12 cwt. All members of the Kent County Association.

At Sheffield, Yorkshire.

On the 10th inst. the Sheffield and Rotherham Branch of the Yorkshire Association rang at Nerfolk Row Church a peal of 5024 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 20 mins. C. H. Hattersley (composer and conductor), 1; J. Athey, 2; J. Horner, 3; C. Bower, 4; T. Dixon, 5; C. Steer, 6; T. Hattersley, 7; A. Rodgers, 8. This peal has the 6th its extent in 5-6. Tenor, 25 cwt.

At St. George's, Southwark, London.

On Saturday, the 15th inst., the St. James's Society rang a peal of 5040 changes of Triples upon Stedman's Principle, in 3 hrs. 3 mins. J. Cox (conductor), 1; J. Rogers, 2; H. Page, 3; H. Dains, 4; H. Shade (his first peal in the method), 5; F. Bate, 6; D. Stackwood, 7; J. Barry, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt. The peal was composed by Mr. Thurstan and rearranged by Mr. Brookes. Twenty-one years have elapsed since a peal in the method was rung on these bells.

At St. Saviour's, Southwark, London.

On Saturday, the 15th inst., twelve members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5014 Stedman's Cinques in 3 hrs. 56 mins. J. Pettit, 1; W. Cecil, 2; J. W. Rowbotham, 3; W. Jones, 4; C. F. Winny, 5; W. Tanner, 6; G. Mash, 7; R. French, 8; W. Greenleaf, 9; E. Gibbs, 10; E. Horrex, 11; J. M. Hayes, 12. Tenor, 52 cwt. The peal was composed by Mr. J. Cox and conducted by Mr. J. Pettit.

[* First peal on 12 bells.

† First peal in this method.]

RECEIVED ALSO.—H. Dains (a printer's error); Tiro (we advise you to consult a bell funder; we do not tout for any); and others.