COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

UNITED STATES.

For several years Dr. Hopkins (son of the late Bishop of Vermont) and others have been advocating the arrangement of the dioceses into provinces, instead of leaving them to multiply with the advance of population under only one presiding Bishop, the senior of all in consecration. The General Convention has been induced to sanction the idea. In Pennsylvania, accordingly, the three dioceses within the State have confederated, a council being formed of sixty members, half clerical and half lay. The five dioceses in the State of New York have acted similarly, and likewise those of Illinois.

INDIA.

At Nazareth, Tinnevelly, the special services of Holy Week and Easter were especially noteworthy. The *Indian Churchman* relates:—'An interesting service also was held early in Lent, to render thanks for deliverance from cholera. In the months of December, January, and February, special services had been held for the removal of this dreadful plague. Many of the people being panic-stricken the clergy and choir went night after night through the chief streets of the town, repeating portions of the Litany, and singing Tamil lyrics. Many who had recovered from cholera now met in church for the Thanksgiving Service. It was a touching scene. Men, women, and children, just snatched from the jaws of death, humbly kneeling at the altar-rails, the *Te Deum* chanted by the choir, the special offerings made by the people for their recovery—all breathed a spirit of true religion, and showed the desirableness of the Church adapting her services to commemorate special occasions like this.'

GERMANY.

The Irvingites have been joined by Pastor Alpers in Hanover. The *Evangelisch-Kirchlicher Anzeiger* says: 'It is to be feared that he will give more trouble to the Protestant clergy; at any rate they must feel the necessity of guarding their flocks from being led astray by a man who unites undeniable piety with great zeal.'

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Peal of Bob Major.

5040.

2 3 4 5 6	W.	M.	H.
6 4 3 5 2		–	–
3 6 2 4 5	–	–	
2 4 3 6 5	–		
5 3 2 4 6	–	–	–
2 5 3 4 6			–
3 2 5 4 6			–
6 5 3 2 4	–	–	–
3 2 6 5 4	–		–
6 3 4 2 5	–	–	
4 6 5 3 2	–	–	
5 6 2 3 4		–	
2 3 5 6 4	–		–
5 2 3 6 4			–
3 5 2 6 4			–
4 2 3 5 6	–	–	–

Twice repeated.

This peal has the 6th twelve times each way in 5-6, and the 5th nine.

Benjamin Francis, *Diss.*

Surrey Association.

The Annual Meeting of this Association will be held (by the kind permission of the Vicar) at Leatherhead, on Monday, July 21st. The tower will be open for ringing from 4 o'clock; but if any members can get to Leatherhead before that hour they are requested to communicate with the hon. sec., who will make the necessary arrangements. The business meeting will be held in the schoolroom at 6 p.m. All ringing members who attend this meeting will be allowed the sum of 1*s.* 6*d.* towards travelling expenses, &c., as it has been found impossible to arrange for the usual tea. At 6.30 there will be ringing for service, which takes place at 7. This is a short special service which the Vicar has kindly undertaken to hold for the ringers: it is hoped that there will be a good attendance. The Vicar has kindly consented to preside at the meeting, unless he is obliged to be away from Leatherhead on that day.

34 *Dingwall Road, Croydon.* Arthur B. Carpenter, *Hon. Sec.*

St. Mary's Bell-ringing Society, Old Battersea.

Very recently we recorded the excursion, by several members of this Society, to Birchington, in the Isle of Thanet, and the successful display of bell-ringing by them on that occasion. We have now the painful task of recording the death of one of the most active members, Mr. Ernest Ellis Robins, who on that occasion, his twenty-fifth birthday, rang the tenor in a 5040. On the 1st of July he was apparently in good health, in company with other members of the Society, and on the following day he died suddenly. His remains were removed to Chedworth, Gloucestershire, and interred in the churchyard of St. Andrew's. Had the funeral taken place at Battersea there would have been a numerous gathering of his brother-members and friends, anxious to show the last mark of respect to an associate so highly esteemed. On Tuesday, the 8th inst., eight members rang Holt's Ten-part peal, half-muffled (5040 changes), in 2 hrs. 52 mins. W. Orchard (first peal), 1; W. Baron (conductor), 2; A. G. Thomas, 3; C. J. Hopkins, 4; O. Bliss, 5; H. S. Thomas, 6; H. A. Hopkins, 7; H. Swain, 8. The coffin bore the inscription, 'Ernest Ellis Robins, born June 1st, 1858; died July 2nd, 1884.'

Waterloo Society, London.

On Wednesday, the 9th inst., eight members of the above Company rang a muffled peal (the usual whole pull and stand) as a last mark of respect to the late Mr. E. Robins, a much-respected and esteemed member of the Society, who died at the early age of twenty-four years. W. Baron (conductor), 1; H. Langdon, 2; C. Harvey, 3; W. Coppage, 4; W. D. Matthews, 5; W. Jones, 6; D. Stackwood, 7; J. Mansfield, 8.

New Bells at Murrurundi, New South Wales.—A Carillon.

The new ring of bronze bells which were ordered to supply the place of the old steel ones arrived very recently, and were chimed for the first time on the following Sunday. There are eight bells composing the ring, ranging from C to C. They are in perfect harmony, and are very sweet and pure in tone. They were cast by Messrs. J. Warner & Sons of London. They are rung by means of Ellacombe's apparatus, and a lady or child can easily chime them. Two more bells are expected soon, a semitone B flat, and an upper D, when a greater range of Church hymn tunes will be obtained. The large steel bell, which was the tenor bell in the old ring, will be kept to toll at deaths and funerals.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Emmanuel Church, Streatham, Surrey.

On Sunday evening, the 6th inst., for service, a 630 of Grandsire Triples (with 18 bobs) was rung in 27 mins. H. Laflin, 1; D. Springall, 2; S. Greenwood (conductor), 3; W. Pell, 4; H. Daniells, 5; W. Sheppard, 6; G. Pell, 7; H. Pate, 8. Tenor, 27½ cwt.

At Belgrave, Leicestershire.

On Monday, the 7th inst., the St. Peter's Society of Change-ringers rang 720 six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently (being a variation on the previous 720). J. Pole (conductor), 1; W. A. Clayton, 2; H. Clayton, 3; S. Pole, 4; W. Bennett, 5. Tenor, 14¾ cwt., in F.

At St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

On Wednesday, the 9th inst., eight members of the St. Paul's Society rang H. Johnson's Two-part peal of 5056 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 20 mins. J. Griffin, 1; E. I. Stone, 2; H. C. Woodward, 3; T. Meredith, 4; H. Wakley, 5; J. Howe, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley (conductor), 8. Tenor, 26 cwt. This peal has the sixth the extent in 5-6. It is published in Snowdon's *Treatise*, Part II., p. 35, and has never been previously performed. All the above are also members of the Midland Counties' Association.

At Christ Church, Liversedge, Yorkshire.

On Wednesday, the 9th inst., the company of change-ringers of this church attempted to ring a peal in honour of the eighty-fourth birthday of William Sottanstall, the veteran ringer of Sowerby, but owing to repairs then going on in the tower they were unable to proceed, and the peal was deferred till the following Sunday morning. It was then rung in 1 hr. 5 mins. J. Whitworth, 1; W. Goodall, 2; W. Firth, 3; T. North, 4; G. Illingworth, 5; S. Goodall, 6; L. Illingworth, 7; M. Ramsden, 8. The peal was composed for the occasion by Mr. William Sottanstall [name omitted in MS.] of Sowerby, and conducted by Mr. Wm. Goodall of Liversedge.

The Peal—1884 changes of Treble Bob Major.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	
2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7	These four changes braced must be rung to make a start for the first treble leads.
2 4 1 6 3 8 5 7	
2 4 6 1 8 3 7 5	
2 6 4 8 1 7 3 5	

	M.	W.	H.	
5 2 3 6 4	2	2	2	1882.
3 2 6 5 4	–	2	1	
5 4 2 6 3	1	2	2	By ringing the four changes braced to make a start reduces the peal to 1884 changes.
3 4 6 2 5	1	2	1	
2 3 4 5 6	2	2	2	

At St. Sepulchre's, London.—Muffled Peal.

On Thursday, the 10th inst., ten members of the Cumberland Society rang a muffled peal as a last token of respect to the memory of Mr. Ernest E. Robins, a much-respected member of this Society, who died very suddenly July 2nd, aged twenty-five years. The peal, which consisted of the whole pull and stand, &c., was concluded with a touch of 500 changes of Grandsire Caters. J. Nelms (conductor), 1; C. Hopkins, 2; G. Church, 3; H. Dains, 4; J. Mansfield, 5; E. F. Cole, Esq., 6; W. Matthews, 7; D. Lovett, 8; J. Rumsey, 9; J. Barry, 10. Tenor, 32 cwt.

At St. Cuthbert's, Chester-le-Street, Durham.

The first anniversary of the opening of the ring of six bells, and of the millenary services held in July 1883, was celebrated on Monday, the 14th inst. By the kind invitation of the Vicar (Canon Blunt), the St. John's Guild of Ringers, Newcastle, visited this town, and rang the bells in the afternoon and for evening service. At 6 p.m. a tea was provided in the Mission-room, to both clergy and ringers, several of the former being present from neighbouring parishes. After tea, a course of Caters was given on hand-bells by the Guild. Ringing for service at 7.30 closed the day's ringing at Chester, all present having spent a most enjoyable day. The ringing comprised a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Campbell, 1; R. S. Story, 2; F. Lees, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; E. W. Scott, 5; R. Smith (conductor), 6. And a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob in 29 mins. W. Bowes, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; R. S. Story, 4; R. Smith, 5; W. Reed (conductor), 6. Tenor, 19¾ cwt. Messrs. Reed and Smith hail from North Shields. Tenor, 19¾ cwt.

After leaving Chester-le-Street, the ringers rang at St. John's, Newcastle-on-Tyne, a 504 of Grandsire Triples in 21 mins. G. Campbell, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; R. Smith, 3; R. S. Story, 4; F. Lees, 5; W. Reed (conductor), 6; E. W. Scott, 7; W. Bowes, 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt.