

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

New Bells at St. Elvan's, Aberdare, Glamorgan.

THE ring of eight bells having been sadly out of repair for some time, the work of taking them down and rehangng them has now been completed by Llewellyns and James, bell-founders, Bristol.

New Bell at St. Peter's, Clifton, Bristol.

A NEW tenor bell, to form one of a proposed ring of six, has just been cast and hung in the tower of this church by the same founders.

The New Ring of Bells at St. James's, Whitfield, Derbyshire.

SIR,—I have been a regular subscriber to your excellent paper ever since its commencement, and I was much gratified by the notice that appeared in No. 722, for October 25, of the new ring of eight, by Messrs. Warner and Sons, which has been recently placed in the steeple of St. James's Church (Whitfield), Glossop. The bells were first rung on Thursday, October 9, as you have already announced; and on the following Sunday, October 12, advantage was taken of the harvest thanksgiving services, which had been previously fixed for that day, and a short dedication service was held with much impressiveness. The old set of ringers from All Saints' Church, Glossop, have been most obliging in teaching our young men how to ring, and in coming themselves twice on Sunday to invite our people to worship, with one accord, in the courts of the Lord's house. These short peals are admirably executed, and usually occupy about 45 mins. Certain alterations have just been effected in the belfry, in accordance with the recommendations of these experienced men, and on Saturday afternoon last, the 15th inst., they rang the first complete peal on these bells of 5088 Kent Treble Bob Major in 2 hrs. 58 mins. J. Lawton (conductor), 1; J. Robinson, 2; J. Harrop, 3; J. Maloney, 4; J. Sellars, 5; S. Knott 6; W. Sandham, 7; J. Pye, sen., 8. Tenor, 12½ cwt., in G.

CHARLES BRUCE WARD, *T'car.*

A Peal of Bob Minor.

720									
2	3	4	5	6					
S	3	2	5	6	4				
S	2	3	6	4	5				
S	3	2	4	5	6				
	2	5	3	6	4				
S	5	2	6	4	3				
S	2	5	4	3	6				
S	5	2	3	6	4				
	2	6	5	4	3				
S	6	2	4	3	5				
S	2	6	3	5	4				

Twice repeated.

EDWARD FRANCIS, *Dis.*

The Change-ringers of Mersham, Kent.

THE annual outing of the above band took place on Saturday last, the towers in and around Tonbridge being selected as fresh ground on which to try their skill; and leave being obtained through the Rector (Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen), we started by an early train to Tonbridge, thence to Hadlow by road. Here we partook of a substantial breakfast, very kindly provided by the Rector (the Rev. J. T. Money Penny). We then made for the belfry, where a touch of Bob Major was rung by E. Ruck, jun., 1; J. Harrison, 2; E. Ruck, sen. (conductor), 3; Rev. R. B. K. Hugessen, 4; D. Paine, 5; G. Paine, 6; T. Finn, 7; G. Finn, jun., 8. Then a touch of 462 Grandsire Triples, by J. Harrison, 1; G. Finn, sen., 2; W. Jay, 3; E. Ruck, sen. (conductor), 4; G. Finn, jun., 5; G. Paine, 6; F. Finn, 7; D. Paine, 8. The bells being in good order, these were followed by other short touches. Tenor, 15 cwt.

Leaving Hadlow we proceeded to East Peckham. A peal of Bob Major was then rung on the six bells by E. Ruck, sen., 1; W. Jay, 2; D. Paine, 3; E. Ruck, jun., 4; G. Paine (conductor), 5; G. Finn, jun., 6. This was followed by a peal of Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Harrison, 1; G. Finn, sen., 2; E. Ruck, sen. (conductor), 3; G. Paine, 4; F. Finn, 5; G. Finn, jun., 6. Tenor, 16½ cwt.

We then returned to Tonbridge on our way to Speldhurst, at the kind invitation of C. Poyle, Esq. On approaching the village, where there is a capital band of ringers, the sound of the church bells greeted our ears, and Mr. Poyle gave us a hearty welcome; then conducted us to the inn, where he had an excellent dinner provided, at which the Speldhurst band joined, and the Squire himself took the chair. Dinner being over, a few kind appreciative words were addressed to us by the Chairman, expressing his belief of the great good now being done by the Association, the Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen responding. Our next visit was to the church, some making their way to the belfry, others to a survey of the building, which is a beautiful structure, and well kept in every part. It is worth a visit. The Speldhurst band now rang a peal, that being the qualification for full membership of the Society. This was succeeded by another peal (Grandsire Doubles) from same band, and both were extremely well struck. Ringing was kept up with great spirit till the time drew near for our return journey. On reaching Tonbridge we directed our steps to that belfry, where our party rang touches of Bob Major and Grandsire Triples—E. Ruck, sen., conductor—but the bells going so badly, ringing was almost impossible. We reached home about 9.30. Thus ended a pleasant day.

Surrey Association.

A DISTRICT Meeting of this Association will be held at Epsom (by the kind permission of the Vicar) this day, Saturday, the 22nd. The tower will be open for ringing from 4 to 9 p.m. A. B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*
34 Dingwall Road, Croydon.

Death of a well-known Ringer.

MR. G. STOCKHAM, who was for many years steeplekeeper of St. Clement Danes, Strand, London, and was celebrated as a handbell-maker as well as a ringer, died on Saturday, the 15th inst., aged seventy. He has rung about two hundred peals, from 5000 to 12,000 changes. Many of his Lancashire and Yorkshire friends will remember him.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Parish Church, Basingstoke (Hants).

ON Sunday, the 9th inst., being the Prince of Wales' birthday, the bells were rung throughout the day; also on Monday, the 10th inst., under the leadership of Mr. Geo. Capron, Queens, Rounds, and Calls alone were done, the Society being at present in its infancy with change-ringing.

On the 17th inst., the Poland Street Hand-bell Ringers visited the town, giving a very fine selection of tunes; one especially, 'Morceaux,' from Mozart's VI. Sonata, was all that could be desired. Mr. Miller explained the difference between the ordinary bell and the hand-bell, and the ringers' art generally. He probably made a slight mistake when he said that 479,001,600, being the number of changes that can be rung on twelve bells, would take seventy years to ring; but, according to Troyte and others, it will take 37 years 355 days, being a little more than half the time.

At St. George the Martyr, Southwark, London.

ON Tuesday, the 11th inst., eight members of the St. James's Society rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 3 mins., in honour of the Rector's birthday. A. E. Church, 1; E. F. Strange, 2; H. Langdon, 3; W. Jones, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; M. Murphy, 6; R. French (conductor), 7; T. Coxhead, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt., in F.

At St. John's, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

ON Tuesday, the 11th inst., eight members of the Durham and Newcastle Association attempted a peal of Plain Bob Major, but after ringing 3100 changes in 1 hr. 50 mins. the bells were set, owing to a mistake on the part of one of the band. W. Eggleston, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; W. G. Routledge, 3; W. Bowes, 4; F. Lees, 5; H. Thompson, 6; W. Story, 7; R. S. Story (conductor), 8.

At the same place, on Monday the 17th inst., a peal of 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung in 29 mins. W. Story, 1; W. Bowes, 2; F. Lees, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; T. Denton (Cumberland Youth), 5; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 6. Tenor, 12½ cwt., in G.

At the Parish Church, Nuneaton, Warwickshire.

ON Thursday, the 13th inst., the local Company rang ten six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, called differently, in 45 mins.; 3rd and 5th bells the observation bells. G. E. Swain, 1; W. Swain, 2; H. Bacon, 3; H. Horwood (conductor), 4; T. Lingard, 5; W. Adler, 6; J. J. Mawley, 7; J. Ballard, 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt., in E.

At St. Mary's, Beddington, Surrey.

ON Saturday, the 15th inst., ten members of the Surrey Association rang a peal of 5003 Grandsire Caters in 3 hrs. 12 mins. W. Shepherd, 1; S. Greenwood, 2; C. E. Malini, 3; G. Russell, 4; E. Bennett (conductor), 5; A. Springhall, 6; E. F. Cole, 7; J. Plowman, 8; G. Pell, 9; T. Verrall, 10. Tenor, 20½ cwt., in E flat. Composed by H. Johnson, sen.

At St. Mary's, Redenhall, Norfolk.

ON Saturday, the 15th inst., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers, being also members of the Royal Cumberland Society of London, rang a peal of 5024 Oxford Treble Bob in 3 hrs. 8 mins. E. Smith (conductor), 1; J. Smith, 2; W. Matthews, 3; F. R. Surridge (first peal), 4; J. C. Allen, 5; R. Whiting, 6; W. Roope, 7; Capt. Moore, 8. Tenor, 24 cwt. The peal was composed by Mr. J. Thorp (see Snowdon's *Treatise*, Part 2, p. 47).

At the Parish Church, Tipton, Staffordshire.

ON Sunday, the 16th inst., was rung by members of the Society of Change ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford T. Day's Six-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 58 mins. J. Jones,* 1; T. Bennet,* 2; W. R. Small,* 3; T. Horton,* 4; W. Mallin, 5; J. Fullwood (conductor), 6; W. Ellesmore, 7; H. Winfield, 8. Tenor, 12 cwt. 3 qrs. The above peal was rung at the first attempt, and is supposed to be the only peal on the bells for nearly thirty years. [* First peal. + College Youths.]

At Caversham, Oxon.

ON Sunday, the 16th inst., for Divine service in the morning, six members of the St. Peter's Society rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Hands, 1; J. Butler, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also after evening service a like peal in 29 mins. E. Menday, 1; J. Butler, 2; G. Essex, 3; E. Pottinger, 4; T. Newman, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. Tenor, 16½ cwt., in F.

At Peterborough, Northamptonshire.

ON Tuesday, the 18th inst., the St. John Baptist's Company rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor (18 bobs and 2 singles, 7th and tenor behind) in 30 mins. W. Johnson, jun., 1; R. Beeston, 2; H. Plowman, 3; W. Johnson, sen., 4; G. Baker, 5; E. F. Read (conductor), 6; J. Binks, 7; T. Ellington, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt. [This is the first peal accomplished by the Company.]

NOTICE.—An 'Ignorant Parson' is requested to send his address to the Editor.