impossible, but the subscription list was started in faith, and an old Harrovian who prefers to be anonymous soon afterwards sent in a subscription of 10,000*l.*, and the field was secured. Are there not at least some twenty millionaires in England who have the power and the will to do the like for a scheme which is to be of high and far-reaching benefit to the Church and to the nation, and is to commemorate a reign which in all its accompaniments is without a parallel in English history? Nor do I see the slightest reason, and here again I anticipate that the executive committee will agree with what I say, why, the Church House with all its prospective benefits first secured, the sum raised should not also explicitly include some, at least, of the benevolent objects advocated by its opponents.

An Argument from the Church in the Past and Nonconformity in the Present.

Once more I say do not let us be frightened out of a grand plan for the future and permanent good of the Church by any petty or partial or personal considerations, least of all by a commercial depression which may be only temporary, and may very possibly have passed away before the Church House has risen above the ground, or, at all events, has developed half of its potentialities for good. Already I hear that the Wesleyans are asserting that they could easily carry out a scheme of the kind, and that they regard our success as a test of the hold which the English Church has on its members. There is not a single argument used against the Church House scheme which might not, with equal force, have been used against the building of any of those cathedrals which are the pride of England, of Christendom, of the world. A cathedral may be a luxury of religion, but it does not a little to spread, to elevate, and to support it. Would England have been the better in the long run had the men who founded in faith our colleges and cathedrals, and who, as they believed, gave in this shape of their best to God, confined their attention to more local, more personal, and more material objects? Man cannot live by bread alone, and a great event like the Jubilee of the Queen presents or creates a great opportunity. Let us avail ourselves of it.—Your obedient servant, R. Bosworth Smith.

The Knoll, Harrow-on-the-Hill, Nov. 7.

WHITE CROSS MOVEMENT.

On Tuesday, October the 26th, the Annual Meeting of the Winsford White Cross Society was held in the Town Hall, and addressed by Mr. G. S. S. Vidal and others. Mr. R. Leigh, J.P., in opening the meeting, expressed great gratification at the large attendance. The Society is making steady progress in the town.

On Thursday, the 28th, by permission of the Colonel of the regiment quartered there, an address was given to the soldiers at the Shrewsbury Barracks; and in the evening another meeting was held at St. Chad's Mission Church, in the parish of Rednal, by invitation of the Rev. Bulkeley Owen, of Tedsmore Hall. The church was well filled with labourers from the surrounding district.

On Friday, October 29th, Archdeacon Lloyd presided at a meeting in the Working Men's Hall, Shrewsbury.

On Friday, November 5th, there was a good attendance at the Holy Walk Rooms, Leamington. The Rev. J. Bradley took the chair, and in his opening words gave the most cordial approval to the work. A meeting had been arranged at the Mission Chapel for the following evening, but there being only a small attendance the meeting was adjourned to the parish Institute, where a considerable number of the younger men were gathered together in the billiard-room, and the subject was introduced by the Rev. W. C. Furneaux, rector of Leamington, and Mr. Vidal.

The Bible Classes at St. John's parish met together on Sunday afternoon for a similar address, and in the evening Mr. Vidal spoke at the Boys' Mission Service, conducted by Mr. Taylor, at the Colonnade, Leamington.

INDIA.

The Report of the Panch Howds Mission at Punah shows much valuable work to be going on there, in which the Wantage Sisters take a large part. The Report observes:—'A generation is now maturing, which is as much without a real religion as were the multitudes of the Roman Empire at the commencement of the Christian era. Their minds are being fed more and more on the pabulum supplied by Mr. Bradlaugh and the like writers. In one college here there are nearly 200 students who know not their old paganism, nor Christianity either. Some few of the elders have developed a theoretical Theism, which seldom, however, is strong enough to make them abandon idolatry or caste. As for Brahmoism, our hopes have faded; it will not affect the future to any appreciable degree. The present Theists have, undoubtedly, gained their Theism from Christianity, but this fact has not inclined them to accept the Gospel. They affirm more and more that their own Vedas are full of Theism. . . . The outlook is piteous. Our educated youths are, at the best, floating about on the raft of "independent morality," and equally precarious supports. Meanwhile, there is a terrible increase of modern luxuries, and a fearful tendency to excess in drink.'

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

A Celebration at St. Saviour's, Southwark, London.

On Saturday, the 6th inst., the members who took part in the two peals annexed met to celebrate the fixing of a board recording the same in the tower of St. Saviour's Church. The tenor weighs 52 cwt. Mr. G. Newton, the present Bell Warden, kindly gave a supper to the ringers. In the absence of the Master (J. M. Routh, Esq.), Mr. G. Mash was voted to fill the position of chairman, and proposed the health of the Rector (the Rev. W. Thompson) and the Churchwardens, at the same time thanking Mr. G. Newton for his kindness in entertaining his brother-members. He wished also to remind the company of the great courtesy he had always received from the past churchwardens in respect to the ringing of the bells. In the course of other remarks, Mr. Mash said he had been steeple-keeper for twenty-two years, and his father before him; and it gave him a great amount of pleasure to meet some of his brother-members who were older members than himself. Altogether a pleasant evening was spent. Before the supper two courses of Kent Treble Bob Maximus were rung by Messrs. Pettit, Joyce, Rowbotham, French, Winny, Haworth, Mash, Gibbs, Greenleaf, Tucker, Horrex, and Hayes.

The Ancient Society of College Youths. (Established 1637.)

On Tuesday, April 29th, 1884, the following members rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus, comprising 5040 changes, in 4 hrs. 9 mins. H. W. Haley, 1; J. Pettit, 2; F. E. Dawe, 3; R. French, 4; C. F. Winny, 5; J. R. Haworth, 6; G. Mash, 7; E. Gibbs, 8; H. J. Tucker, 9; G. A. Muskett, 10; E. Horrex, 11; J. M. Hayes, 12.

Wardens:—Mr. Hunt (Great Account), Mr. Cloake (Renter), Mr. Noakes (Newcomen), Messrs. Gilson, Young, and Spratt; Mr. Williams (College), Mr. Cooksey (Bell).

On Saturday, February 28th, 1885, 5001 Stedman Cinques was rung in 4 hrs. 4 mins. J. Pettit, 1; F. E. Dawe, 2; R. French, 3; C. F. Winny, 4; J. M. Routh, 5; J. W. Rowbotham, 6; G. Mash, 7; E. Horrex, 8; E. Gibbs, 9; G. A. Muskett, 10; J. M. Hayes, 11; W. Prime, 12.

Wardens:—Mr. Petley (Great Account), Mr. Gregory (Renter), Mr. Field (Newcomen), Mr. Srivens (Rector's), Mr. Sinclair (Bell), Mr. Ashby (College).

Both peals were composed by H. W. Haley and conducted by J. M. Hayes.

Rev. Wm. Thompson, *Rector.*

The Ancient Society of College Youths.

On Tuesday, the 9th inst., at the head-quarters of the College Youths, St. Saviour's, Southwark, London, the annual election of the Officers of the Company took place, when the following persons were elected:—Master, Mr. G. T. M'Laughlin; Stewards, Messrs. Joyce and Clarke; Secretary, Mr. G. Muskett; Treasurer, Mr. J. Pettit; Messrs. Woodley and Viner were elected auditors.

This Society has just received another addition to its numerous presentations. Mr. R. W. Evans, of Wrexham, a ringer well known in Wales, and also a member of the Company, has presented a beautiful album; and Mr. F. E. Dawe has also presented a case to hold the same, together with a large green-baize bag. At the meeting of the Society lately, Mr. Dawe, on behalf of Mr. Evans and himself, made the presentation; and it is needless to say that a hearty vote of thanks was accorded them for their handsome gift. The album, which will hold 136 portraits (eight at a view), is bound in deep morocco, raised bevelled boards, and gilt-edged, with telescope clasp. The inscription is, 'Ancient Society of College Youths. Established 1637. Presented by R. W. Evans, Wrexham, 1886.' The case is made of polished mahogany, having two clasps, and lined with purple velvet padded. Inside are the words, 'Presented by Francis E. Dawe, London, 1886.'

The Essex Association.

The promised Certificates of Membership are now ready, and the Hon. Secretary will be glad to receive applications for them, accompanied by a remittance of 6*d.* from each member desiring a certificate. It will be a convenience to the Secretary, and a saving to the funds of the Association in the matter of postage, if members of companies belonging to the Association will send their applications and remittances through the leader of their company. The certificates for each company can then be forwarded in one parcel. The certificate is of simple but artistic design, and on it appear views of five Essex towers; viz., St. Mary's, Chelmsford, the county town, which has eight bells; West Ham, ten bells; Saffron Walden, eight bells; Widford, six bells; and Kelvedon, five bells. These towers have been selected partly from their architectural merit, and partly as representing the different classes of rings in the county. T. L. Papillon,

Writtle Vicarage, Chelmsford. *Hon. Sec. E.A.C.R.*

Presentation to a Ringer at St. Albans.

At the weekly practice of the St. Albans' Cathedral Society of Ringers, on Tuesday, Mr. N. N. Hills was presented by the Ven. Archdeacon Lawrence, on behalf of the members of the Society, with a chased electro-plated teapot, as a token of the esteem in which he is held by them, and in recognition of his valuable services as instructor to the Society. The Archdeacon, in presenting the teapot, which bore the inscription, 'Presented to Mr. N. N. Hills, by members of the St. Albans' Cathedral Society of Ringers, August 1886,' said he could think of no place more appropriate than the tower in which Mr. Hills had laboured so earnestly in the advancement of change-ringing for the purpose of making the presentation. He referred in feeling terms to Mr. Hills' late sad bereavement. It was intended to make the presentation before, but circumstances arose which prevented its being done. Mr. Hills thanked the Archdeacon and members for their kindness and sympathy, and said that the headway which the Society was making in the art was ample return for any pains he had taken.

Certificate of Membership.

The Sussex Diocesan Association of Bell-ringers have issued a remarkable Certificate of Membership. It is about 30 inches by 23 in size, and has small

views of no less than thirty-eight of the most notable churches of the diocese, ingeniously grouped in the ornamental border which surrounds the space left for the name and residence of the member and of the attesting official of the Society. This card is a new departure in the organization of Diocesan Societies, and is far superior to anything of the kind hitherto attempted. Any member may be proud to have such a certificate framed and hung on his wall. It has been photographed by Messrs. Waterlow of London.

Death of a Ringer.

THERE died at Aigburth, on Monday week, Samuel Atkin, aged sixty-four, who had lived for the last forty years in the neighbourhood. For some years he was in the employ of Mr. J. Taylor Cross, of Beechwood Road, Aigburth. His remains were first taken to Grassendale Church, at which he had been a ringer ever since the edifice was erected. Part of the burial service was here read by the Rev. Mr. Barker, and a muffled peal was rung by the Grassendale ringers; after which the funeral cortège proceeded to Garston Church, where the remainder of the service was read over the grave, and the Garston bell-ringers rang a muffled peal. There was a large number of friends present, and many beautiful wreaths were laid on the coffin.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Mary's, Lewisham, Kent.

ON Tuesday, the 26th ult., eight members of the St. James's Society and the Trinity Youths rang a peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES (Holt's Original Reversed) in 2 hrs. 57 mins. E. Freeman, 1; W. Pead, 2; T. G. Deal, 3; W. Weatherstone, 4; F. G. Newman (conductor), 5; W. H. Freeman, 6; A. G. Freeman, 7; S. Gibbs, 8. Tenor, 22¾ cwt.

At Holy Trinity, Bolton, Lancashire.

ON Friday, the 29th ult., was rung in 1 hr. 7 mins. a Date Touch of 1886 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, with the bells muffled in memory of a late member of the company, Mr. John Walsh, who had composed the above touch. H. W. Jackson (conductor), 1; H. Bentley, 2; J. Redford, 3; J. Lister, 4; J. W. Critchley, 5; T. E. Turner, 6; J. H. Jackson, 7; R. Lindley, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. On Saturday afternoon Mr. Walsh's remains were borne to their last resting-place in Heaton Cemetery by his brother-ringers. The Rev. S. T. Williamson, M.A., Curate of Holy Trinity, officiated in the unavoidable absence of the Vicar, the Rev. Charles Lowe, M.A., President of the Lancashire Association of Change-ringers. The deceased had been a ringer upwards of fourteen years, and had taken part in many a 5040.

At All Saints', Duffield, Derbyshire.

ON Friday, the 29th ult., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of 5008 DOUBLE OXFORD BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 58 mins. J. Howe, 1; E. Moreton, 2; S. Johnson, 3; H. C. Woodward, 4; G. Hingley, 5; W. Hickling, 6; N. J. Pitstow, 7; A. P. Heywood (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 17 cwt., in F. This peal, which was now rung for the first time, contains the 4th, 5th, and 6th in all their combined positions in 5-6, and the 2nd and 3rd never in 6th's place.

At St. Luke's, Chelsea, London.

ON Saturday, the 30th ult., ten members of the Royal Cumberland Society attempted a peal of GRANDSIRE CATERS; but, after ringing 2 hrs. 30 mins. 'Stand' was called, the tenor bell not being in a fit condition to be rung any longer. J. Rogers (composer and conductor), 1; W. Lally, 2; H. Hopkins, 3; W. Coppage, 4; H. Davies, 5; J. Barry, 6; A. E. Church, 7; H. Swain, 8; W. Baron, 9; G. Chesterman, 10. Tenor, 24 cwt., in E flat.

At St. Mary's, Coddenham, Suffolk.

ON Saturday, the 30th ult., eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association rang a peal of 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 3 mins. T. Steward, 1; C. Mee, 2; W. Matthews, 3; I. S. Alexander, 4; J. Motts, 5; F. Mee, 6; W. Motts, 7; E. Pemberton, 8. Composed by Mr. N. J. Pitstow and conducted by Mr. C. Mee. Tenor, 16½ cwt. The above are members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich, except Mr. Matthews, who belongs to the Redenhall Society; and it is rather remarkable that the band are all bachelors.

At All Saints', Loughborough, Leicestershire.

ON Sunday morning, the 31st ult., for Divine service, a quarter-peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES was rung. It was taken from Thurstans' peal. A. Cresser, 1; N. J. Pitstow, 2; J. W. Taylor, sen., 3; J. Hardy, 4; S. Smith, 5; E. D. Taylor, 6; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 7; E. Wightman, 8. Also for evening service by the above ringers, in the same order, another quarter-peal in the same method, from Haley's variation of Thurstans' peal.

ON Tuesday, the 2nd inst., for practice, 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR. S. A. Underwood, 1; A. Cresser, 2; J. W. Taylor, sen., 3; S. Smith, 4; J. Hardy, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 6.

At All Saints', Benhilton, Surrey.

ON Monday, the 1st inst., being the Dedication Festival of the above church, 720 PLAIN BOB MINOR (22 singles) was rung in 29 mins. F. Dalton, 1; James Trendell, 2; G. Petrie, 3; S. Smithers, 4; H. Bryant, 5; John Trendell (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 ever rung by Dalton, and the first in the method by Smithers.

At All Saints', Ryde, Isle of Wight.

ON Monday, the 1st inst., eight members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 3 hrs. 20 mins. J. Hewett, 1; G. H. Barnett, 2; J. Staples, 3; Rev. H. A. Spyers, 4; C. Privett, 5; J. Whiting, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; G. Grafham, 8. Tenor, 26 cwt., in E flat. This is the first peal rung on the bells since the opening by the Guild in June last. It was rung on the Dedication Festival of the church, being All Saints' Day. [J. Hewett came from Gosport; G. H. Barnett, Farnham; J. Staples, Havant; Rev. H. A. Spyers, Chalton; the others from Fareham.]

At St. Peter's, Dorchester, Dorset.

THE bells of St. Peter's (now in an unsafe state) were rung in honour of the unopposed return of Messrs. H. Durden, J. Bennett, and H. Huxtable on November 1st. It is hoped that next year the state of the bells will be taken into consideration, and that a branch of the Diocesan Guild may be formed. A few gentlemen in the town have already joined as honorary members.

[We think it would be better not to ring church bells in any political connexion, however distant that connexion may be.—ED. *C. B.*]

At St. Sidwell's, Exeter.

ON Tuesday, the 2nd inst., 216 STEDMAN TRIPLES were rung by J. Moss, 1; F. R. Shepherd, 2; E. Pitt, 3; W. Richardson, 4; A. Shepherd, 5; W. Goss, 6; F. Shepherd (conductor), 7; W. Mundy, 8. Also on Sunday, the 7th inst., 504 STEDMAN TRIPLES. J. Moss, 1; E. Pitt, 2; A. Shepherd, 3; W. Richardson, 4; W. Goss, 5; E. Shepherd, 6; F. Shepherd (conductor), 7; T. Townsend, 8. And 210 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. T. Townsend, 1; F. Shepherd, 2; E. Shepherd (conductor), 3; A. Shepherd, 4; W. Mundy, 5; E. Pitt, 6; J. Moss, 7; W. Richardson, 8.

HANDBELL-RINGING.—On Friday, the 24th ult., 1008 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. E. Pitt (conductor), 1-2; F. Shepherd, 3-4; E. Shepherd, 5-6; A. Shepherd, 7-8.

At St. Mary's, Rotherhithe, Surrey.

ON Tuesday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the St. James's Society rang Holt's Ten-part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 53 mins. E. E. Richards, 1; T. G. Deal, 2; W. Pead, 3; W. Bedwell (first peal and nineteenth birthday), 4; W. Weatherstone, 5; T. Taylor, 6; A. G. Freeman (conductor), 7; J. Law, 8.

At St. Mary's, Old Battersea, Surrey.

ON Saturday, the 6th inst., eight members of the Royal Cumberland Society rang, in 2 hrs. 42 mins., Holt's Original One-part Peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. S. Baker (first peal), 1; W. Baron (conductor), 2; H. A. Hopkins, 3; A. E. Church, 4; W. W. Thorne, 5; H. S. Thomas, 6; C. W. Ludwig, 7; W. Ambrose, 8. This is believed to be the quickest peal on the bells.

NOTICE.—The address of the Secretary of the St. James's Society is Mr. Joseph Barry, 27 Arlington Street, Islington, N.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Wesleyan Ministers' Ordination.

SIR,—I have been applied to by a Wesleyan minister, who is very well recommended by the clergyman of his parish, as to the best means of his obtaining ordination in the Church. I have every reason to think well of him, and should be very glad if it could be so. He would be glad of a Scripture-reader's post, or any other, as a beginning, and I feel sure he would be found useful. It has occurred to me that some one or other of your readers might be able to further his view. He is quite young. I have always been strongly in favour of the introduction in this way of suitable Wesleyan ministers into the Church. I well remember the private secretary of Dr. Sumner, Archbishop of Canterbury, telling me that his Grace had as many as sixty applications in the year from Dissenting ministers wishing to be ordained. I am not sure whether it was that one year, or that that was the average number year after year; probably the latter, as it is not likely that any one year should be very exceptional.

Namburnholme. F. O. MORRIS.

The Proposed Church House.

SIR,—I cannot help thinking that many of the readers of *Church Bells* will regret the tone of 'G. V.'s' remark about the distressed clergy in his article on the 'Proposed Church House.' He appears to have but little sympathy for his poorer brethren, and implies that their poverty in many cases is their own fault. This may be quite true, but surely there was no need to taunt the poor clergyman, who had a family of children to clothe, and feed, and educate, with his imprudence in marrying a wife who brought him no money. With regard to the Church House scheme, 'G. V.' says that it has taken a hold on the public mind. Where is the proof that it has done so? The correspondence which has recently appeared in the *Standard* points in the opposite direction. I am not writing in opposition to the scheme; it may be a most desirable one. A letter of Canon Gregory's in the *Standard* of yesterday goes much further to convince me that it is so than 'G. V.'s' article in *Church Bells* does. But surely the scheme ought not to be pushed on unless it is *quite clear* that it meets with the approval and support of Churchmen generally, and this at present seems to be very doubtful. C. W. S.

The Church House.

SIR,—You will forgive a North Countryman for asking what the Northern Province has to do with a Church House in London under present arrangements. Very few of us can afford to come up for the London season, even if we wished to do so, and, as at the present our Convocation sits at York, we may be excused if we fail to see what good a Church House would do to the