BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

North Lincolnshire Bell-ringers' Association.

On Wednesday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the above Association met at Great Grimsby, at the request of the Vicar, to ring a peal of Grandsire Triples, and thus celebrate the opening of the new ring of bells which has lately been placed in the tower of St. James's Church. After raising the bells in peal, a start was made about one o'clock for Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples; but, unfortunately, after ringing for fifty-two minutes, the bells broke down, owing to the seventh bell 'throwing' her rope, and setting at the back-stroke. After readjusting the rope, it was decided to ring a half-peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's Ten-part), time not allowing for a full peal being rung, and this half-peal was successfully brought 'home' in 97 mins. The ringers who took part were:—W. Lunn, 1; M. W. Ashton, 2; H. Burkitt, 3; J. C. Tinker, 4; T. Pattison, 5; I. Vickers, 6; W. D. Tinker (conductor), 7; C. Brewin, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt. At half-past four o'clock the company sat down to a capital dinner at the 'White Hart,' the Rev. J. P. Young (vicar of Grimsby) presiding. The Secretary of the Association (Mr. W. Lunn) proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar and Churchwardens of Grimsby, for the honour they had conferred upon the Association in allowing them to formally open the bells. The Chairman responded, and expressed his obligation to the Association for coming forward. The early departure of the evening train necessitated an early departure of the visitors, whose only regret was that circumstances over which they had no control had prevented the peal being accomplished.

The Lancashire Association.

A Ringing Meeting will be held at New Hey, near Rochdale, on Saturday, February 19th. Ringing from 2.30 p.m.

Joel Redford, A. Holme, *Hon. Secs.*

The Oxford Diocesan Guild (Reading Branch).

The Annual Meeting will be held on Monday evening, the 21st inst., at the 'Wheatsheaf' Hotel. Supper will be laid on the table at 7.30 p.m. precisely. An allowance of 1*s.* 6*d.* will be made to all ringing members of the Branch. Members intending to be present must send word *without fail* to the Secretary, before Friday, February 18th, stating how many friends are likely to accompany them. No allowance will be made to members who have not thus signified their intentions. Any friends from a distance will receive a hearty welcome, but are requested to send intimation beforehand.

Caversham, February 9th. G. F. Coleridge, *Hon. Sec.*

The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths.

Members are requested to attend St. Martin's belfry, 7.30 p.m. sharp, Friday next, February 25th, and Meeting-room 8.30 p.m., to oblige the Master.

Henry Dains, *Hon. Sec.*

Waltham Abbey Society, Essex.

Change of Head-Quarters.—The Waltham Abbey Society beg to notify to all concerned that they have removed their head-quarters from the 'Three Tuns,' Market Place, to the 'Green Dragon,' Market Place, Waltham Abbey. All inquiring friends or intending visitors are requested therefore, in all instances, to forward their communications to the head-quarters, addressed to the Hon. Secretary.

Walter Dymock.

[Meeting nights every alternate Saturday, commencing February 12th.]

St. Martin's Society, Birmingham.

Notice.—Mr. Johnson's seventy-eighth Birthday Anniversary Dinner will take place at 'St. Martin's Hotel' on Monday, February 28th, at six o'clock. Tickets 3*s.* each, application to be made on or before the 21st inst. All friends wishing to take part in it will be welcome. A peal of Stedman Cinques is contemplated to be started for on that date at two o'clock.

Fentham Road, Birchfields, Birmingham. W. Kent.

Ringers' Dinner at Salisbury.

The Annual Dinner of the united ringers of the belfries in Salisbury was held at the 'Shoulder of Mutton Inn' on Monday week. Mr. Councillor Fullford presided, and was supported by the Rev. T. J. Woodall, Rev. S. Dugdale, Mr. Councillor Dear, and Rev. A. C. Gibson. Justice having been done to an excellent dinner, the Chairman proposed the health of the Queen, which was then drunk, and a verse of the National Anthem sung. The next toast was that of the Prince of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family. The Chairman proposed the health of the Bishop and Clergy, and in so doing he called attention to the very difficult position which the clergy had to occupy in the present agitated state of the religious and political elements. The Rev. T. J. Woodall and the Rev. A. C. Gibson responded in a few suitable words, and Mr. Woodall apologised for the unavoidable absence of the Vicar, who was out of town that day. Mr. Jerram gave the health of the Mayor and Corporation, coupled with the names of Councillors Dear and Fullford, which toast was heartily received. Both gentlemen replied in a few suitable words. The Chairman then proposed 'Success to Ringers, and especially the Salisbury Diocesan Guild,' calling attention to the great improvements in the local belfries made lately, in the shape of two new bells at St. Edmund's and two new bells at St. Martin's. He said that he hoped they were now in a fair way towards getting St. Thomas's bells rehung, which had been in a disgraceful state for so long. With the toast he coupled the names of Messrs. T. Blackbourn, J. Short, J. R. Jerram, and J. Parsons. Each of those gentlemen responded, and called attention to the progress of change-ringing, till lately unknown in Wiltshire. Mr. J. Parsons, sen., spoke of the disgraceful state of belfries years ago, when men thought nothing of eating, drinking, and smoking in them, and when bells were seldom if ever rung for strictly Church purposes. Mr. Short also touched upon the same subject, and spoke of what used to take place in St. Thomas's belfry in his younger days. Mr. Short proposed the health of the Chairman, and Mr. Blackbourn that of the Vice-Chairman. Both gentlemen suitably responded.

Woughton-on-the-Green, Bucks.

It has been recently decided, at a meeting of the parish, to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee by recasting an ancient bell which has been cracked nearly forty years, to tune the other three bells, and to put the ring of four bells into good working order. A former generation of ringers tried in vain to stop the crack at various stages by drilling holes and filing the bell to get at the end of the crack, but they did not succeed. The labour of these ringers in trying to make their bell sound must have been very great. An old ringer says that they spent very many nights at their laudable task, each in his turn taking the file as the other became tired.

Death of a Ringer.

We are sorry to record the death of Mr. Thomas Wallwork of Walkden, who had been a Warden at the parish church for upwards of thirty years. He was taken to his rest on the 3rd inst., and was interred at the parish church on the 7th inst. At the close of the ceremony a muffled peal was rung by the local company in 29 mins. W. Denyer (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Dakes, 3; J. Williamson, 4; J. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At St. Michael's, Mottram-in-Longdendale, Cheshire.

On Tuesday, the 1st inst., eight members of the United Counties' Association rang a peal of 5088 Kent Treble Bob Major in 2 hrs. 54 mins. R. Wright, 1; J. Harrop, 2; R. Shaw, 3; G. D. Hadfields, 4; W. Middleton, 5; M. Williamson, 6; G. Braddock, 7; T. Braddock, 8. Composed by Mr. Dains and conducted by Mr. Wright. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

At the Parish Church, West Malling, Kent.

On Wednesday, the 2nd inst., eight members of the Kent County Association rang a peal of 5040 Bob Major in 2 hrs. 54 mins. R. Simmonds, 1; C. Payne, 2; A. H. Woolley, 3; A. Moorcraft, 4; E. Baldock, 5; D. Hall, 6; S. Snelling, 7; J. W. Leonard (conductor), 8. Tenor, 14½ cwt.

At the Parish Church, Warnham, Sussex.

On Thursday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Sussex County Association rang a peal of 5040 Canterbury Pleasure Triples in 3 hrs. 4 mins. G. Charman (composer and conductor), 1; W. Short, 2; H. Wood, 3; T. Andrews, 4; H. Cook, 5; H. Burstow, 6; H. Chanler, 7; T. Hogsflesh, 8. Tenor, 14¾ cwt. The above is the first peal rung in the method.

At the Parish Church, Micheldean, Gloucester.

On Friday, the 4th inst., eight members of the Hereford Diocesan Guild rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Reversed) in 2 hrs. 51 mins. H. Bird, 1; W. Honeyfield, Esq. (Monmouth), 2; J. G. Wall, 3; J. Atkins, 4; J. Jones (Monmouth), 5; A. Bird, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; R. Clark, 8. Tenor, 18 cwt.

At St. Chad's, Saddleworth, Yorkshire.

On Saturday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Yorkshire and United Counties' Association rang a peal of 5056 Albion Major in 2 hrs. 55 mins. J. J. Brierley (composer and conductor), 1; J. Radcliffe, 2; J. Holden, 3; J. Wrigley, 4; J. L. Buckley, 5; E. Buckley, 6; J. H. Shaw, 7; J. Wood, 8. Tenor, 12 cwt. The first peal of Albion Major on the bells, and the first in the method by all the above, who are members of the local company and of the above Association.

At St. Mary's, Walthamstow, Essex.

On Saturday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Essex Association rang Holt's Original (Reversed) peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 46 mins. A. J. Keit, 1; T. Maynard, 2 G. Grimwade, 3; H. Nunn, jun., 4; R. Maynard, 5; J. H. Wilkins, 6; F. G. Newman (conductor), 7; W. Crockford, 8. Tenor, 19¾ cwt.

At St. Mary Matfelon's, Whitechapel, London.

On Saturday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Brooke's Variation of Thurstan's peal of 5040 Stedman Triples in 3 hrs. 4 mins. W. Cecil, 1; J. Pettit (conductor), 2; W. Tanner, 3; H. Springall, 4; S. E. Joyce, 5; E. Wallage, 6; E. Horrex, 7; W. Greenleaf, 8. This is the first peal rung on the bells in the new tower. Tenor, 20 cwt. The last peal was rung in the old tower in 1875, and was reported in *Church Bells* as follows:—'On Thursday, January 7th, 1875, eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hrs. 53 mins. J. R. Haworth (conductor), 1; W. Jones, 2; G. Tanner, 3; E. Wallage, 4; S. Reeves, 5; W. Tanner, 6; J. M. Hayes, 7; W. Greenleaf, 8. The last peal on the bells before the demolition of the tower and church, the workmen beginning to take down the tower the next day.'

At St. Mary's, Slough, Bucks.

On Saturday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Royal Cumberland Youths rang Holt's Ten-part peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 4 mins. W. Baron, 1; A. C. Fussell (first peal as conductor), 2; W. Coppage, 3; C. E. Malim, Esq., 4; W. Wilder, 5; H. S. Thomas, Esq., 6; A. G. Thomas, Esq., 7; J. Pursey (first peal), 8. Tenor, 9½ cwt. This is the first peal on the bells, which were augmented to eight by the addition of two trebles last year by Frederick Charsley, Esq., a great benefactor to this town, and the ringers take the opportunity, through the medium of *Church Bells*, to thank him for his munificent gift.

At All Saints', Duffield, Derbyshire.

On Saturday, the 5th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of 5008 Double Oxford Bob Major in 2 hrs. 58 mins. B. Sugden, 1; S. Johnson, 2; J. Howe, 3; J. Griffin, 4; G. Hingley, 5; W. Hickling, 6; H. Wakley, 7; A. P. Heywood (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor, 17 cwt., in F. In this peal, which was now rung for the first time, the 2nd and 3rd are never in the 6th's place.

On Sunday, the 30th ult., for evening service, the following persons rang a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major in 46 mins. B. Sugden, 1; S. Johnson, 2; W. Hickling, 3; E. Moreton, 4; G. Hinkley, 5; A. Robinson, 6; J. Howe, 7; A. P. Heywood (conductor), 8.

At Aston-juxta-Birmingham.

On Monday, the 7th inst., five members of the Holt Society met at the residence of Mr. W. Kent, and rang upon handbells retained in hand a peal of 5013 Stedman Caters in 2 hrs. 55 mins. H. Bastable (conductor), 1–2; W. Kent, 3–4; B. Witchell, 5–6; G. Townsend (first peal of Stedman), 7–8; H. Johnson, jun., 9–10. Composed by H. Johnson, sen. This peal, which had not been previously performed, contains the 5th and 6th each twenty-three courses behind the 9th, with 7, 8, 9 in Tittum position, and the treble a 2nd bell, and was rung in the presence of Mr. John Buffery and Mr. Thomas Reynolds, who marked off each course-end as it was rung. This is the first peal of Stedman Caters rung on handbells out of London, also the first in the method by the above on handbells. It may be interesting to know that three of the above members took part in the first peal ever rung on handbells in Birmingham—viz., Hy. Johnson, W. Kent, and H. Bastable (conductor), which was Grandsire Triples, on July 30th, 1873.

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

On Monday, the 7th inst., eight members of the Midland Counties' Association and the St. Paul's Society rang a peal of 5184 Cambridge Surprise Major in 3 hrs. 34 mins. J. Austin, 1; E. I. Stone, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; H. Wakley, 5; J. Jaggar, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley (conductor), 8. Tenor, 26 cwt. This peal is a variation by A. Percival Heywood, Esq., of Middleton's original peal. The members of the St. Paul's Society decided on January 1st this year to commence learning the above method, but owing to illness very little was done in the early part of the month. A plain course was accomplished for the first time on January 20th, and short touches were rung on the 27th and 30th, and on February 3rd and 6th.

At St. Michael's Schoolrooms, Wood Green, Middlesex.

On Friday, the 11th inst., a lecture on Church Bells was delivered in connexion with the Wood Green Institute by Mr. W. Mawer, F.G.S., the Vicar occupying the chair. A company of handbell-ringers, under the leadership of Mr. Haworth, illustrated the lecture by examples of change-ringing, airs, &c., and were greeted with loud applause. We understand that Mr. Mawer is willing to repeat the lecture in other parishes.

At St. Giles', Camberwell, Surrey.

On Saturday, the 12th inst., a peal of 5130 Grandsire Caters was rung in 3 hrs. 33 mins. by members of the St. James' Society. J. Davidson,* 1; J. Bonny,* 2; C. Fussell,* 3; H. Langdon, 4; R. French, 5; W. H. Judd,† 6; W. W. Thorne, 7; W. Jones, 8; A. Hayward, 9; T. Coxhead, 10. Tenor, 25 cwt. Composed by the late H. Booth, conducted by R. French. [* First peal of Caters. † First peal of Caters with a bob bell.]

At Christ Church, Southgate, Middlesex

On Saturday, the 12th inst., eight members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths rang Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 2 mins. W. F. Meads, 1; J. Barry, 2; J. Horton, 3; H. J. Davies, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; A. E. Church, 6; G. Newson (conductor), 7; W. G. Wild, 8. Mr. Meads (who is an old Cumberland) came from Hayward's Heath, Sussex. This is his first peal, and was arranged for him on the previous evening at St. Martin's Lane, W.C. It is the quickest peal on the bells. Tenor, 24 cwt.

At Rayleigh, Essex.—On Monday, the 3rd ult., 1160 changes in the following methods were rung: 720 Grandsire Minor and 440 College Single. G. Smith, 1; F. Strugnell, 2; J. Johnson, 3; J. Collin, 4; F. H. Brewer, 5; H. Deal (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, the 30th, for Divine service in the evening, 720 College Single, in 26 mins. H. Smith, 1; G. Smith, 2; J. Johnson, 3; F. Strugnell, 4; F. H. Brewer, 5; H. Deal (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by G. Smith with a bob bell. All communications to be addressed to F. H. Brewer, High Street, Rayleigh, Essex.

At St. Michael's, Twerton-on-Avon, near Bath.—On Thursday, the 13th ult., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), taken from Holt's Ten-part peal, was rung. G. Temple, 1; J. Smith, 2; J. Hinton (conductor), 3; J. Wotton, 4; J. Blackmore, 5; G. Daltry, 6; H. Wotton, 7; E. Bendall, 8. Also on Sunday, the 16th ult., at the same church, 504 Stedman Triples. H. Tucker, 1; J. Smith, 2; J. Hinton (conductor), 3; J. Wotton, 4; J. Blackmore, 5; G. Daltry, 6; H. Wotton, 7; G. Temple, 8. And 384 Grandsire Major, G. Temple and J. Hinton changing places, the others standing as before.

At Kenn, Devon.—On Tuesday, the 18th ult., six members of the Kenn band of the Devonshire Guild rang a muffled peal as a mark of respect to the late Earl of Iddesleigh, who was an honorary member of the above Guild. A. T. Truman, E. Truman, H. Skinner, W. Woollacotte, T. Cleal, and G. J. Truman.

At Barnwood, Gloucestershire.—On Tuesday evening, the 18th ult., six members of the St. Lawrence's Society rang for practice 720 Plain Bob Minor (18 bobs and 2 singles) in 27 mins. H. Barnes, 1; S. Romans (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; G. Miles, 3; J. R. Wilkins, 4; A. A. Waite (conductor), 5; J. Yeates, 6. On Sunday morning, the 23rd ult., prior to Divine service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (9 bobs) in 26 mins. H. Barnes, 1; G. Miles, 2; W. Sevier, 3; J. Yeates, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; A. A. Waite (conductor), 6. Tenor, 14 cwt., in G. This 720 Treble Bob Minor was rung to celebrate the return home of Mr. W. Sevier, after being absent for about six months in the north of England. His brother-ringers were much pleased to receive him. He arrived home just in time to fulfil the office of an instructor for the above Association.

At Cliffe, Rochester, Kent.—On Saturday evening, the 22nd ult., some members of the St. Margaret's Company, Rochester, paid a visit to the above place and rang 720 Plain Bob Minor, with the sixth and eighth behind, in 32 mins.; and also assisted the Cliffe company to ring several touches of Triples. E. Rayner, 1; J. Rayner, 2; G. Chantler, 3; J. Tulett, 4; W. Baker (conductor), 5; A. Ring, 6; E. Andrews, 7; J. P. Kidd, 8. E. Andrews belongs to the Royal Engineers' Band.

At the Parish Church, Glemsford, Suffolk.—On Monday, the 31st ult., the following members of the Glemsford Society of Change-ringers, in company with Mr. Charles Sillitoe of Sudbury, rang a peal of 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 30 mins. J. Slater, 1; S. Slater, 2; C. Adams, 3; F. Wells, 4; C. Sillitoe, 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6. Tenor, 16 cwt., in F.

At St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol.—For some considerable time past the ringers of the above church have entertained a desire to perform some creditable change-ringing on the bells. They have been prevented, however, from doing so owing to the eleventh bell being in a bad condition. Notice was given to the churchwardens, and an order for the rehanging of the bell was sent to the firm of John Taylor & Co., bell-founders, Loughborough. They at once despatched two men, who thoroughly rehung her, and she now rings as well as any bell in the tower. This was proved by a lad sixteen years of age being able to ring her with ease. On Monday evening, the 31st ult., the ringers met at the church and rang a quarter-peal of 1260 Grandsire Triples on the lower eight, to celebrate the rehanging, in 56 mins. G. Stadon, 1; A. Anderson, Esq., 2; E. Duckham, 3; E. Beak, 4; W. Emery, 5; F. Price (conductor), 6; W. Parsons, 7; R. Watkins and G. Stallard, 8. Tenor, 50 cwt., in C.

At St. Clement Danes, Strand, London.—On Monday, the 31st ult., ten members of the St. James's Society attempted Hubbard's peal of 5039 Grandsire Caters, but after ringing 3 hrs. 11 mins. a shift course occurred, and the bells were brought round. W. H. Manning (Pinner), 1; W. W. Thorne, 2; W. Weatherstone, 3; J. Barry, 4; H. Langdon, 5; R. French (conductor), 6; R. Woodley, 7; W. H. Fussell, 8; W. H. George (Pinner and London), 9; A. Hayward, 10. Tenor, 24 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Hitchin, Herts.—On Monday, the 31st ult., for practice, 518 Grandsire Triples. J. Randall, 1; A. Squires, 2; F. Furr, 3; H. Buckingham, 4; J. Foster, 5; S. Hare, 6; J. Hare (conductor), 7; G. Halsey, 8. Tenor, 28 cwt., in D.

At Galleywood, Essex.—On Tuesday, the 1st inst., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. E. Dains,* 1; H. F. de Lisle, 2; J. Dains, 3; C. Waskitt, 4; W. Piper,* 5; A. Tarbun, 6; E. Scotcher (conductor), 7; J. Bloomfield, 8. [* First quarter-peal.]

At St. Margaret's, Barking, Essex.—On Thursday, the 3rd inst., eight members of the Essex Association started for a peal of Bob Major, but lost it through a 'shift' after ringing about an hour. Afterwards 720 Bob Major was rung by W. Nash, 1; J. Gobbett, 2; J. Nunn, 3; W. B. Manning, 4; R. Sewell, 5; W. Lebbon, 6; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 7; T. Scarlett, 8. Tenor, 22½ cwt.. This peal was started to commemorate the birthday of one of the ringers, and would have been the first peal in this method by six of the band.

At St. Mary's, Beddington, Surrey.—On Saturday, the 5th inst., 757 Stedman Caters were rung by E. Bennett (conductor), 1; J. Branch, 2; G. Russell, 3; A. B. Carpenter, 4; W. Burkin, 5; J. Trappitt, 6; J. Plowman, 7; G. Welling, 8; C. Gordon, 9; E. Burtenshaw, 10.

At St. Mary's, Wimbledon, Surrey.—On Saturday, the 6th inst., for Divine service, 720 Superlative Surprise Minor was rung in 24 mins. R. Moss, 1; B. E. Battrum, 2; C. Byde, 3; J. Cooley, 4; A. Garrott, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, for practice, 360 Superlative. G. Byde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Byde, 3; J. Cooley, 4; A. Garrott (conductor), 5; B. E. Battrum, 6. 360 Cambridge. G. Byde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Byde, 3; J. Cooley, 4; B. E. Battrum, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, the 13th inst., 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor in 25 mins. G. Byde, 1; B. E. Battrum, 2; C. Byde, 3; J. Cooley, 4; A. Garrott, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6.

At St. Mary's, Woolwich, Kent.—On Sunday, the 6th inst., for Divine service, 1260 Grandsire Triples was rung in 33 mins. G. Hogg, 1; H. Bright, 2; W. E. Tydeman (Salisbury), 3; H. Harman, 4; W. Weatherstone (conductor), 5; W. W. Gifford (Salisbury), 6; E. Richard, 7; R. Carter, 8.

At Chigwell, Essex.—Lately, five members of the Loughton Society rang for Divine service six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. G. Perry, 1; J. Rann, 2; E. Bacon, 3; F. Freeman, 4; W. Lebbon, 5. This was rung on the occasion of the reopening of the church, which is now a splendid building. This is the first six 6-scores ever rung on the bells, several previous attempts having failed owing to the long flight and the incessant clattering of the ropes against the galleries, which have now been removed, but still it is no easy matter to ring the bells in change-ringing. Tenor, about 15 cwt.

St. Paul's, Fisherton, Salisbury.—The tenor bell, which has been cracked for nearly two years, was last week removed by Mr. T. Blackbourn, and sent to the foundry of Messrs. Mears & Stainbank, London, to be recast.

Received also:—H. Dains; Birmingham (date touch); C. W. Clarke (Bedford) W. T. Pates (Cheltenham); Richards (Plumstead); and others.