

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Chime Tunes.

SIR,—Would any readers of *Church Bells* be so kind as to tell me of some tunes suitable for bell chimes? I know of those commonly adopted, like 'Home, Sweet Home,' 'Blue Bells,' &c., but feel sure that many others will be known to those interested in bells and ringing. A gentleman has just forwarded to me a copy of an old tune formerly played by the chimes at Witney: it is such tunes as these that are wanted. I should be very grateful for any information on the subject.

HENRY T. LILLEY.

St. Mary's Vicarage, Smethwick, August 26th.

Bell Inscription at St. Chad's, Kirkby, Lancashire.

SIR,—Canon Gray has furnished you with a translation of a Latin inscription on the bell at Kirkby Church; I send you another in my own words.

West Bradley School, Glastonbury.

W. H. JONES.

'He, who in stone hath founded
This Church, with gifts abounded,
Bid me to lift th' confounded
To faithful ministration;
In penitence they will rejoice,
Who harken well to my loud voice:
"Come, nations all, with a great noise
Praise th' Lord in adoration."

The Kent County Association.

On Saturday, the 24th inst., several members of the Lewisham District belonging to the above Association had their annual holiday, and went to Eastbourne. On arriving at 10.30, St. Saviour's was the first place visited, a good ring of eight. Dinner being over, the next church was St. Mary's, a light ring of eight bells. At these churches several touches of GRANDSIRE, STEDMAN TREBLE BOB, and OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, were rung; after which a waggonette was chartered to convey all to Beachy Head, 540 feet above the sea. Returning, tea was served, and the Eastbourne ringers played several Scotch tunes on the handbells. The party returned highly pleased with their holiday.

The Bells of Bakewell.

A CORRESPONDENT WRITES:—

'Not only Bakewell, but all Derbyshire, is poorer by the loss of the beautiful old bells which have been so long among the things of which the little county was justly proud. The bells, it is true, are again hung, but they have been re-cast, and the tone completely altered. The soft mellow tone which delighted every one who heard them is gone, and a metallic jangle has taken its place; they have, it is said, been made lighter. Who is responsible for this act of vandalism? Three of the bells, I am told, were cracked, but very slightly, or perhaps becoming cracked. The others (there is a peal of eight) might have been turned; but old Bakewell has been smitten, it seems, with a love of novelty, and the bells which have been rung out among the hills on so many solemn and so many happy occasions for the last 150 years were sent to be re-cast. One person remarked "that the silver has all been taken out;" certainly the silvery tones have gone. What the churchwardens or the lovers of antiquity have been about, no one knows—probably asleep; but Bakewell can no longer boast of its peal of bells, and in this matter, though we have to hide our diminished heads, we can never forget the sweet, solemn sound of the bells of the past.'

Dedication of Bells at Clutton, Somersetshire.

On Wednesday, the 21st inst., the bells of the parish church of St. Augustine, which have been out of repair for about seven years, and which have been repaired, were rededicated by Bishop Jenner, late of Dunedin,

New Zealand, in the unavoidable absence of the Bishop of the diocese. The work was entrusted to Messrs. Llewellyns & James, of Bristol. Four of the five bells have been quarter-turned and rehung, and one (the fourth) has been recast, whilst the frame has been braced and a new floor put in the bell-chamber. The steps to the ringing-room have been recased. A new chiming apparatus has been fixed which can be utilised for the five bells now in use, but it is made so that it can be applied to a sixth bell when one is placed in the tower. The total cost is about 100*l.*, which has, with the exception of a small sum, been raised by subscriptions. It is hoped eventually to be able to place a sixth bell in the tower. The service of Dedication was held in the tower, in the presence of a numerous congregation, which included the Lord of the Manor, Earl Warwick. The Bishop was attended by the Rector, the Rev. A. Boudier, and the Rev. J. H. Boudier as his chaplain; and the Rural Dean, the Rev. J. B. H. Hawkins, of Chelwood, was also present. After the customary Dedication service there was a choral celebration of the Holy Eucharist, at which the Rev. A. H. Ward, vicar of St. Raphael's, Bristol, was the preacher. He selected as his text, 'Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.' After the service members of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Society of Change-ringers (under Master C. D. Bofflower) rang a peal of 120 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, and the bells were rung at intervals during the day.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford.

On Saturday, the 10th inst., ten members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5021 STEDMAN CATERERS in 3 hrs. 18 mins. C. H. Fowler, 1; W. Smith, 2; C. Hounslow, 3; P. A. Hind, 4; A. Fox, 5; C. Exon, 6; W. C. Baston, 7; T. Payne, 8; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 9; E. Pegler, 10. Tenor, 31 cwt.

At St. Peter-at-Arches, Lincoln.

On Wednesday, the 14th inst., eight members of the North Lincolnshire Association rang a peal of 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 11 mins. J. B. Fenton (composer and conductor), 1; R. Lane (Loughborough), 2; A. Craven, 3; G. Chester, 4; C. Wells, 5; J. W. Watson, 6; G. Lindoff, 7; C. W. P. Clifton, 8. Tenor, 20 cwt.

At St. Peter and Paul's, Tonbridge, Kent.

On Saturday, the 17th inst., eight members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths rang a peal of 5056 BOB MAJOR in 3 hrs. 10 mins. K. Hart, 1; G. H. Stonestreet (first peal in the method with a bob-bell), 4; E. Mankelov, 3; W. H. Card, 4; W. Latter, 5; C. Chapman, 6; G. A. Card, 7; T. Card, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt. Composed by F. Hopgood and conducted by T. Card. Messrs. Hart and Stonestreet belong to the local band; Mankelov and Latter came from Tunbridge Wells; Chapman, Speldhurst; the others, Southborough.

A Half-muffled Peal at St. Clement Danes, Strand, London.

On Monday, the 26th inst., the members of St. James's Society (it being their practice-night—once a fortnight) rang a half-muffled peal as a mark of respect for the late Edwin Smith, a member and lately a steward of the Society, who died suddenly on the 12th inst. J. R. Haworth, 1; W. Weatherstone, 2; H. Langdon, 3; J. Waghorn, sen., 4; T. H. Taffender, 5; E. P. O'Meara, 6; C. F. Winney (conductor), 7; J. Barry, 8. Afterwards a touch of STEDMAN TRIPLES. Mr. O'Meara (Master of the Society) conducted a touch of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES; GRANDSIRE CATERERS were rung, and a course of KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR by Messrs. J. Barry, W. Weatherstone, H. Langdon, J. Waghorn, sen., F. M. Butler, E. Horrex, E. P. O'Meara, and W. J. Cockerill.

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