

Bells and Bell-ringing.

Meetings for Practice

Cumberland Youths: at St. James's, Clerkenwell, on February 9th; St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, on February 11th.
Waterloo Society: at St. John's, Waterloo Road, on February 9th, and St. John-the-Divine, Kennington, on February 10th.
College Youths: at St. Mary's, Bow, E., on February 7th; St. Paul's Cathedral, on February 8th; Christ Church, Spitalfields, on February 9th; St. John's, Wilton Road, on February 10th; St. Stephen's, Westminster, on February 11th.—All about 8 p.m.

The St. James' Society.

MEETINGS at St. Clement Danes will be resumed on Monday evening next, February 7th, 1898. R. A. DANIELL, *Hon. Sec.*

The Sussex County Association.

CHICHESTER.—The Chichester Cathedral Bell-ringers held their annual dinner at the Eagle Hotel on January 25th. The chair was taken by the Rev. Prebendary Codrington, D.D., and the vice-chair by Mr. R. Walter, and among those present were the Ven. Archdeacon Mount, the Rev. Prebendary Bennett, the Rev. — Agell, the Rev. F. J. Birkett, the Rev. F. R. Lees, the Rev. S. J. Norman, Councillor Gale, and Messrs. Allen, C. Benford, W. H. Barrett, T. A. Butland, F. Chitty, R. Heaps, E. Jacob, E. Miles, W. H. Penny, W. D. Rasell, C. Snowden, and F. B. Tompkins, the company numbering upwards of eighty. After dinner, the chairman said letters of regret for non-attendance had been received from Canon Teulon and Mr. Frampton. He then gave the loyal toast. Councillor Gale submitted 'The Bishop and clergy of the diocese.' He said it gave him great pleasure to give this toast, and it did not require any comment from him to recommend the clergy of Chichester. They ought to shake hands with themselves at having such honourable men above them. He coupled with the toast the name of the Rev. Prebendary Bennett, who, in reply, spoke of the vigour and energy of the Bishop in getting to know his diocese, and in high terms of Archdeacon Mount, than whom no one among the clergy was more respected. Mr. F. B. Tompkins gave 'The Visitors,' of whom he was pleased to see so many present, including their youngest citizen, the Rev. F. R. Lees. He was also glad to see members of the Press amongst them, as the Press had great power, and the journalists in Chichester always acted in the best way for the city. He coupled with the toast the name of the Rev. F. R. Lees, who, in returning thanks, said if he were the youngest citizen there was a chance for him yet. In speaking of bell-ringers he alluded to his first induction, when he was asked by the Bishop to go in and ring the bell. He took hold of the rope and pulled and pulled away, and at last he did get a sound out of the bell, and now he could chime, and hoped to improve further. The chairman next gave what he said was the toast of the evening, 'The Chichester Cathedral Bell-ringers.' The toast was heartily received, and Mr. R. Walter, in reply, said it gave the ringers great pleasure to see so many present, that being a record company. The Ven. Archdeacon Mount gave 'The Sussex County Association of Change-ringers,' coupled with the name of Mr. F. B. Tompkins. The ven. gentleman, who was received with loud applause, said the Sussex Association commended itself to all. It was doing, over the whole of the diocese, what their own change-ringers were doing at Chichester. He then read the report of the Association, in which it was stated that they held their own last year, and were going in for quality instead of quantity. Mr. Tompkins, in replying, said it gave him great pleasure to inform them that they were still the premier Association in England, heading the list with sixteen peals and 271 more points than any other Association. He mentioned that they had now instituted a committee of advice. The Rev. S. J. Norman proposed the health of the chairman in most eloquent terms, and the toast was received with musical honours. The chairman, in returning thanks, trusted they had all spent a pleasant evening, and said he was sure they were all pleased with the way their host had provided for them.

CHANGE-RINGING.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.

At St. Sepulchre's, Holborn, on January 29th, a peal of STEDMAN CATERS, 5009 changes, in 3 hrs. 27 mins. Tenor, 31 cwt. 14 lbs.

James Pettit	1	Samuel E. Joyce	6
William B. Manning* ..	2	George J. Smith	7
Matthew A. Wood	3	William D. Smith	8
Albert Coles*	4	Walter Prime	9
Henry Springall	5	William T. Cockerill ..	10

Composed by Nathan J. Pitstow, conducted by James Pettit.
 [* First peal of STEDMAN CATERS.]

The Sussex County Association.

At St. Peter's, Brighton, on January 24th, a peal of SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 changes, in 3 hrs. 22 mins.

James N. Frossell ..	1	Frank Bennett ..	5
Keith Hart	2	George Williams ..	6
George F. Attree ..	3	George A. King ..	7
Arthur A. Fuller ..	4	George Smart ..	8

Composed by Nathan J. Pitstow and conducted by George Smart. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of Mr. W. Robinson, a member of the St. Peter's Society, who was buried on that day.

ALSO at St. Paul's, Brighton, on January 27th, Brook's Variation peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 2 mins.

James N. Frossell ..	1	George Williams (condr.)	5
Frank Bennett ..	2	William Allfrey ..	6
John Jay, sen. ..	3	Philip Allfrey ..	7
Henry Stalham ..	4	Frederick Hill ..	8

AND at St. Nicholas's, Brighton, on January 28th, a peal of STEDMAN CATERS, 5037 changes, in 3 hrs. 10 mins.

George Gatland ..	1	John Jay, sen. ..	6
Frank Bennett ..	2	William Allfrey ..	7
Herbert Rann ..	3	William Palmer ..	8
John Smart ..	4	George Williams ..	9
Edward C. Merritt ..	5	Richard Frentimen ..	10

Composed by Charles H. Hattersley, and conducted by George Williams. This was the 50th peal rung by Messrs. Rann and Palmer, and Mr. Gatland's 100th peal, his performances being: 5040's of MINOR, 30; GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 6; BOB MAJOR, 3; TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 17; STEDMAN TRIPLES, 32; STEDMAN CATERS, 2; DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 9; and SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 1.

ST. OLAVE'S, HART STREET, E.C.—On January 15th, 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR. A. W. Brighton (conductor), 1; A. J. Perkins, 2; C. Fenn, 3; R. Fenn, 4; T. Faulkner, 5; A. Hardy, 6.

WALTHAMSTOW.—At St. Saviour's, on January 29th, a quarter-peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES, 1280 changes. A. W. Brighton (conductor), 1; G. B. Lucas, 2; J. Basden, 3; G. R. Fardon, 4; W. Truss, 5; E. Andrews, 6; C. F. Winney, 7; F. Buller, 8.

NOTICE.—In order that peals may be reported without delay, conductors should send particulars to Mr. W. T. COCKEBILL, 37 Tradesant Road, South Lambeth, immediately after the events.

IN reply to a communication from the Education Department, stating that under the Voluntary Schools Act, 1897, in distributing the aid grant the department could not legally make a payment to extinguish a debt incurred prior to the passing of the Act, it has been pointed out that 'if regard is had to the maintenance of voluntary subscriptions, the annual deficiencies on the schools' current accounts ought to be regarded as one evidence of their claim to a share of the special aid grant; and that a debt incurred before the passing of the Act will not preclude any school from receiving a grant towards its annual deficiency.' We do not think so reasonable a contention is likely to be disputed by the department.

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