

Bells and Bell-ringing.

Meetings for Practice.

Waterloo Society: at St. John's, Waterloo Road, on March 16th.
College Youths: at St. John at Hackney, on March 15th; St. Mary Matfelon, Whitechapel, on March 16th; St. Magnus', London Bridge, on March 17th; St. Stephen's, Westminster, on March 18th.
Cumberland Youths: at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, to-day, March 11th; and Chapel-of-Ease, Islington, on March 16th.
The St. Margaret's Society: at St. Margaret's, Westminster, on March 17th.
 The meeting at St. Magnus' is at 7.30; all the others about 8 p.m.

The Central Council.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

THE next meeting will be held at Bristol on Tuesday in Whitsun week, May 31st, 1898.

Notices of motion, &c., must reach the Hon. Secretary not later than Tuesday, May 3rd. They must be in writing, and signed by two representatives.

Hon. Secretaries of societies are reminded that subscriptions to the Council are now due, and should be remitted to the Hon. Secretary without delay, at the rate of 2s. 6d. for each elected representative. The Hon. Secretary would also be greatly obliged for information as to any change in representatives, or their addresses, that has taken place in the last year.

H. EARLE BULWER, *Hon. Secretary.*

Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn.

The Central Northamptonshire Association.

THE quarterly meeting took place at Finedon on Saturday, February 19th, by kind permission of the Rev. G. W. Paul. Judging from an ancient inscription on the north wall of the ringing-room, giving the names of six ringers, concluding with that of the sexton and the date 1636, Finedon possessed a ring of six bells at that time. These old bells were all recast in the year 1825, the tenor being again recast twenty-three years ago. The recent addition of two beautiful trebles, and the retuning of the tenor, make this old peal a good and musical octave, ranging from a treble weighing 7 cwt. 13 lbs. to a tenor of 22 cwt. 3 qrs. 1 lb. The Rev. F. E. Robinson, master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Ringers, formed a very high opinion of these bells. The visitors found the bells in excellent order. Over fifty ringers took part in the proceedings. General regret was expressed at the departure from the district of the Rev. B. R. Wilson, rector of Kettering, who has been a hearty supporter of the Society; and all were very sorry to hear of the serious illness of Mr. F. Gilbert, of Raunds, one of the oldest ringing members. Meetings of the Association have been held at Finedon previously in 1885, 1890, and 1893. The rebuilding of the top of Finedon Church spire cost 300l., the (two) new bells and other belfry improvements 200l. Owing to the very hearty manner in which the matter was taken up by the Vicar, churchwardens, ringers, and parishioners, the total amount has already been raised.

Old Peal Tablets at St. Alfège's, Greenwich.

THE Society of Kentish Youths rang on Fryday, 1st of Decemb^r, 1732, a Peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPPLES in the eighth month of their practice by the persons under written:—

Jn ^o Gresham ..	Treble.	Jn ^o King ..	Fifth.
Th ^s Laurence ..	Second.	Sheirley Hoar ..	Sixth.
Hen ^y Wragg ..	Third.	Dan ^l Luck ..	Seventh.
Rich ^d Bolton ..	Fourth.	Edw ^d Gillett ..	Tenor.

In 3^d 9m. C. SIMPSON, *Sexton.*

ON Tuesday, February 25th, 1794, the Society of Trinity Youths did ring in this steeple a true and complete Peal of (5040) changes of OXFORD TREBLE BOB ROYAL in Three Hours 50 minutes, the first peal of TREBLE BOB rang on the 10 bells, by the following persons:—

Dan ^l Dale ..	Treble.	Will ^m Dixon ..	6th.
John Day ..	2nd.	Will ^m Herbert ..	7th.
Tho ^s Russell ..	3rd.	John Maudley ..	8th.
Tho ^s Dean ..	4th.	Will ^m Chapman ..	9th.
Tho ^s Turner ..	5th.	Geo ^s Harwood ..	Tenor.

The Peal was called by Dan^l Dale.

Mr JAS CAMPBELL, }
 Mr JOHN SETON, } *Churchwardens.*

CHANGE-RINGING.

The Ancient Society of College Youths

AT St. Paul's, Shadwell, on March 5th, a peal of KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 changes, in 3 hrs. 8 mins. Tenor, 17 cwt.

Samuel Hayes ..	1	Rowland Fenn ..	5
James Scholes* ..	2	Walter S. Wise ..	6
Ebenezer Andrews ..	3	Henry Springall ..	7
Edwin Wallage ..	4	Emanuel Hall ..	8

Composed by Thomas Day and conducted by Henry Springall.

[* First peal in the method away from the treble.]

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The Oxford Diocesan Guild.

AT St. Michael and All Angels', Hughenden, Bucks, on March 1st a peal of DOUBLE NORWICH COURT MAJOR, 5040 changes, in 2 hrs 56 mins. Tenor, 12 1/2 cwt.

Frank K. Biggs ..	1	John Evans ..	5
Frederick G. Biggs ..	2	Ralph H. Biggs ..	6
Frank Boreham ..	3	George Martin ..	7
Harry Stratford ..	4	John C. Truss ..	8

Composed by Gabriel Lindoff, conducted by John C. Truss.

WILLESBOROUGH, KENT.—On Sunday morning, February 20th, for service at the Parish Church, a peal of 720 PLAIN BOB MINOR by the following members of the Kent County Association:—W. Hobbs, 1; E. J. Dixon, 2; W. Hills, 3; C. Young, 4; W. Spice, 5; T. Tabrett (conductor), 6. For evening service, 720 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, by W. Hills, 1; J. Steddy, 2; E. J. Dixon, 3; W. Spice, 4; W. Hobbs, 5; T. Tabrett (conductor), 6. This was E. J. Dixon's first peal of KENT TREBLE BOB on a bob-bell. On Monday, February 21st, for practice, 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR, by E. J. Dixon, 1; H. Goodwin, 2; W. Hobbs, 3; W. Spice, 4; J. Steddy, 5; T. Tabrett (conductor), 6. Also 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR by F. Leeds, 1; E. J. Dixon, 2; W. Hills, 3; J. Steddy, 4; H. Goodwin (conductor), 5; W. Spice, 6. J. Steddy belongs to the Edenbridge band of ringers, Spice and Goodwin to Charing, and Tabrett to Ashford; the rest being members of the Willesborough band.

ST. LAWRENCE'S, DARLASTON.—On Sunday, February 13th, for evening service, a date touch of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 1893 changes, in 66 mins. J. Mark, 1; G. Morgan, 2; T. Lowe, 3; E. Unitt, 4; J. Foster, 5; J. A. Brown (conductor), 6; W. Smith, 7; W. Eyre, 8.

WE hear that a movement is on foot to augment the ring of bells in Rushall Church, near Walsall, and we heartily wish it success. The church is beautifully situated for a really fine ring, and, as the present one has been there some 200 years, it is time it was completed. Where a church is in the midst of a crowded population a ring of bells is not regarded with favour by every one; but in such a position as that which is occupied by Rushall Church, the bells can be heard in their full beauty and cannot possibly be an annoyance.

READING.—*Death of an Old Ringer.*—On Monday, February 14th, a muffled peal was rung on the bells of St. Mary's as a last tribute of respect paid by the Reading ringers to their old comrade, Mr. Daniel Orchard, who had been a ringer at St. Mary's for about thirty years. Deceased was a native of Aldbourn, Wilts, and was one of the ringers there. He came to Reading more than forty years ago, and worked as a coach-builder almost up to the time of his death, and was much respected. He died at the age of eighty-five, and was interred in Reading Cemetery on February 12th. The ringing comprised GRANDSIRE and STEDMAN TRIPLES and DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, the ringers being Messrs. Giles, Tubb, Watmore, Sawyer, Bruce, Cullam, Stone, Hern, R. Swain, A. Osborn, J. and H. Tucker, and F. Hopgood (conductor).

WEM, SALOP.—Two new bells were dedicated in the Parish Church of Wem, on the 2nd inst., by the Bishop of Shrewsbury, who delivered a very practical discourse on the right and the wrong uses of church bells. The tower now contains a ring of eight, and the new bells bear inscriptions in Latin and English verse, showing that they are part of the parishioner's memorial of the Diamond Jubilee. The church and vestry have also been newly floored with wooden blocks, and other improvements made, as parts of the same memorial, towards which 300l. has been raised in the parish. The weight of the new bells is as follows: Treble, 4 cwt. 3 qrs. 18 lbs., F; No. 2, 5 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lbs., E.

LONG RISTON, HULL.—A special service was held at the Parish Church on Friday evening, February 18th, by the Bishop of Beverley (Dr. Crosthwaite), for the purpose of dedicating two new bells given by Mr. W. Bethell, of Rise Park, in commemoration of the Queen's long reign. The following are the inscriptions on the three bells:—1. 'Sancta Margareta, Ora Pro Nobis' Holy Margaret, pray for us: 21. 'A.D. 1897, Victoria Per Sexaginta Annos Dei Gratia Regina, Laus Deo, Dona Dedit, William Bethall, C.E. Little, Rector. Taylor Fecit': (3), 'A.D. 1897, To the Glory of God, and in commemoration of the 60th year of Queen Victoria's Reign this bell was given by W. Bethell.'

(For remainder of Bell-ringing see page 320.)

CONSUMPTION

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Congreve's BALSMIC ELIXIR may be had of all Medicine Vendors, or direct from the Proprietor (see the book).

WERRINGTON, CORNWALL.—Werrington parishioners met on Friday evening, February 25th, to consider the proposed ring of bells for their parish church. The Chairman (Mr. R. C. Coode) said they wanted a complete ring of bells, which should be amongst the best in the county. Through the generosity of Mr. J. C. Williams and others, their church had been restored. A member of his family had now suggested that they should give six bells, and his brothers and sisters and himself were prepared to carry out the proposal. The estimate of Messrs. Mears & Stainbank for a ring of eight new bells, new iron bell-frame, fittings, including the hanging, was 537l. 15s. Towards that sum he and his family would give the six bells and all fittings, amounting to 329l. 10s. The two old bells in the tower would realise a certain amount, and 145l. 10s. had been collected. There remained 60l. to 70l. to be further provided by the parish. That sum would be necessary as many unforeseen expenses might present themselves. It was a principle with him not to begin any work before the money required to complete it was assured. They had not come, perhaps, to the end of their resources. The Duke of Bedford, a large landowner in the parish, had not yet been approached. Many parishioners and friends had contributed so well that they could hardly be expected to give more. He asked that the work of erection should be deferred until the deficit was forthcoming. The Rev. F. Thomas (vicar) concurred with Mr. Coode in regard to the number of bells, and the desirability of obtaining the money before commencing work. No alteration would be necessary in the structure of the tower. There was only one other church in the deanery with a ring of eight bells. He proposed that a small executive committee be formed to devise means of obtaining the deficit and carry out the work of erection to its completion. This was seconded by Mr. Crocker, and carried unanimously. Mr. Coode then proposed, and Mr. Vanstone seconded, that the Vicar and the two churchwardens (Messrs. E. P. Foley and J. B. Lillicrapp) be on the committee. This was unanimously carried, and also the election of Mr. Coode, Miss Milnes, and Miss W. A. Coode (secretary). Mr. Lillicrapp proposed, and Mr. Foley seconded, on behalf of the parish, a very hearty vote of thank to Mr. Coode and family for their generous offer. Mr. Coode, in reply, trusted that the bell-ringing would be heartily taken up.

WHITBY.—Mr. J. H. Blakiston, of Middlesbrough, a vice-president of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association of Ringers, has kindly undertaken to bring over a competent team of ringers to inaugurate the new bells of the Parish Church when ready. He advised that a local bell-ringing society should be formed and that an expert be engaged for a time to give the requisite instruction, and made other valuable practical suggestions. He has further promised to give his own personal superintendence. A number of persons have signified their readiness to join such a society and others are invited to join at once. It is hoped that at least two full teams may be formed and it is proposed that suitable preliminary exercise with handbells be begun without delay. Mr. Edward Corner, 1 Baxtergate, has consented to act as hon. secretary *pro tem.* of the proposed society. Names of persons wishing to join should be sent to him, or to the Rector or Churchwardens.

MESSRS. WILLIAM ANDREWS & Co., London and Hull, promise for early publication *A Book about Bells*, by the Rev. George S. Tyack, B.A., author of *The Historic Dress of the Clergy*. Numerous illustrations will be included.

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

THE Prudential Assurance Company's forty-ninth annual report for the year ending December, 1897, shows that in the ordinary branch the new annual premium income amounts to 365,996l. Premiums received during the year showed an increase of 231,000l., and the number of policies in force was nearly half a million. In the industrial branch the premiums received had increased to the extent of 214,798l. There is the substantial increase of 3,379,226l. in the assets of the Company. The Directors have set aside a further sum of 50,000l. to be divided among the members of the staff, about 15,000 in number, upon a principle regulated by length of service.

THE Rev. F. Flewelling, a missionary at Dawson City, writing on November 20th last, strongly advises intending Klondike adventurers not to be lured there by hopes of quickly-acquired wealth. He points out that the labour market there is already overcrowded, that prices are very high, and that food is scarce. A paragraph from his letter is as follows: 'If any man reads this who is still determined to come, let him bring a good outfit with him. There are several reasons why provisions are so scarce. The summer is short, and the Yukon navigable only four and a half months in the year. Sandbars in the river are numerous and the current strong. The transportation companies are looking to their own interests, and there is more profit on liquors. Intoxicants are brought in to the neglect of food.'

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WE will tell you. In the first place, it is not in any sense a medicine. As people become more intelligent, they see that they should try and prevent disease. It seems strange when one comes to consider it, that the efforts of medical science are directed to curing, when preventing would seem to be a more rational proceeding. Now it is dawning on the public to try and prevent, or at least to arrest a disease. It is in prevention that Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa plays an important part, acting solely as a first-class nourishing food.

It strengthens the system, to resist, oppose, and overcome the attacks of disease. You'll hear someone say: 'So-and-so has a strong constitution;' follow that up, and you'll find that So-and-so follows the golden rule of being temperate in all things, and pays attention to diet and exercise. Does he or she keep up this strong constitution by taking medicines or swallowing pills? No, indeed! They have discovered that prevention is better than cure.

Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa places a means in the hands of everyone to build up and maintain a sound constitution, which enables its possessor to travel his life's journey without the aches and pains which are in many cases preventable. Thus we come round again to sound common sense based on experience.

Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa is pleasant and palatable, and embodying, as it does, the numerous principles contained in Malt, Hops, Kola, and Cocoa, it imparts nourishment, and builds up strength. As a Food Beverage it is invaluable.

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