

Bells and Bell-ringing.

Meetings for Practice.

The Ancient Society of College Youths: at St. Dunstan's, Stepney, on July 2nd; at St. Mary Abbot's, Kensington, on July 3rd; at St. Mary Matfelon, Whitechapel, on July 4th; at St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, and St. Magdalen's, Lower Thames Street, on July 5th; at St. Stephen's, Westminster, on July 6th; at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, on July 7th, at 7.30 p.m.

The St. Luke's Society: at St. Luke's, Chelsea, on July 4th.

The Waterloo Society: at St. John-the-Divine, Kennington, on July 2nd, and St. John's, Waterloo Road, on July 4th.

The St. John's Society: at St. John's, Wilton Road, on July 5th.

The St. Alfege's Society: at St. Alfege's, Greenwich, on July 6th.

The Towcester and District Bell-ringers' Association.

THE seventh annual festival of this Association was successfully held at Eydon by kind invitation of the Rector, the Rev. W. H. Chapman. The Association comprises nineteen parish belfries, and with one exception—Stoke Bruerne—all these were represented. The day's proceedings commenced with a service in the church, conducted by the Rector, the lessons being read by the Rev. F. H. Curgerven and the Rev. R. A. Kennaway. An appropriate sermon was preached by the Ven. J. E. Stocks, archdeacon of Leicester, on the words, 'Lord, I have loved the habitation of Thy house' (Ps. xvi. 8). A short business meeting was afterwards held, and this was succeeded by a dinner in the schools. The representatives from the various parishes took turns in ringing during the afternoon, and also availed themselves of the opportunity of inspecting the pretty grounds of Eydon Hall, which had been thrown open by Mr. and Mrs. Holland, who also provided tea for the visitors. Their thoughtful kindness was highly appreciated.

The Bells of St. Augustine's, Kilburn.

At the recent patronal festival of St. Augustine's, Kilburn, the new bells were dedicated by Bishop Barry, in the unavoidable absence of the Bishop of London. A special form of service was used after the first part of evening service had been sung, consisting of appropriate versicles, psalms, and collects. During the singing of the hymn, 'When morning gilds the skies,' the Bishop, clergy, churchwardens, and ringers proceeded to the belfry, and after the Bishop had dedicated the bells, a course of STEDMAN TRIPLES was rung. The Bishop and clergy having returned to their places, Psalm cxvii. was sung, and a short address given by the Bishop on Psalm xix. 4, 'Their sound is gone out into all lands.' He referred to St. Augustine as the founder of the great continuous line of English Christianity which had existed up to the present day, and said that that continuity had been illustrated by the dedication service which had just been said, part of it being identical with a similar service in the Sacramentary of Gregory the Great. He showed how the various functions of the bells symbolised the chief aspects of Christian and social life. At the close of the service 504 STEDMAN TRIPLES was rung, and later in the evening Thurstan's Four-part peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES was successfully brought round, a record of which has appeared in these columns.

The bells are from Van Arschoot's Belgian foundry, and range from a treble of 1 cwt. 2 qrs. to a tenor of 9 cwt. 10 lbs. Many have been the difficulties in securing and putting into a satisfactory condition for ringing this light peal, and it is a great pity that the incumbent, the Rev. R. C. Kirkpatrick, was advised to go abroad for a ring of bells.

When the bells arrived, they were hung by the Belgian workmen in a way which they no doubt thought would do for ringing. On being examined by some London ringers, it was found that the treble was not present; the eight bells were 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, and another, a semitone, between the 4th and 5th. This bell has been retained for chiming tunes, and, after a long delay, the above treble of 1½ cwt. arrived. In hanging, the bells had not been arranged in any order, but were dotted about all over the tower. Some of our well-known bell-hangers made inspections. One would have nothing to do

with them, another suggested taking away the five smaller bells and adding four behind the present tenor. As the bells had cost in the first case as much as an English ring with 15 cwt. tenor would have done, this was thought a too costly undertaking. At last, however, the difficulties have been surmounted by much painstaking skill and ingenuity on the part of Mr. E. P. O'Meara. The bells have been hung so as to form a good circle; wheels, stays, and sliders have been adjusted to do their respective duties, and to an experienced band the bells are in a pealable condition.

St. Augustine's possesses a fine tower and well-appointed ringing-room, the only matter for regret being in the light weights, and the consequent high, shrill tones of the bells.

An Appeal.

THE ringers of England will have read with regret of the lamented death of Mr. John M. Hayes. At a meeting of the Ancient Society of College Youths, held on Tuesday, May 1st, it was resolved that a subscription list be opened on behalf of Mrs. Hayes. The following elected Committee will be pleased to receive contributions in aid of the widow of one whose name has been prominent in the exercise for the last thirty-eight years: C. T. P. Brice, 41 Ranelagh Road, Pimlico, S.W.; W. T. Cockerill, 37 Tradescant Road, South Lambeth, S.W.; W. E. Garrard, 21 Peel Street, Kensington, W.; E. Horrex, 55 Ashbury Road, Shaftesbury Park, S.W.; G. Muskett, 55 Sewardstone Road, Victoria, Park, E.; H. R. Newton, 43 Lillington Street, Pimlico, S.W.; E. P. O'Meara, 39 Goring Road, Bowes Park, N.; J. Pettit, 3 St. Thomas's Cottages, Hackney, N.E.; W. D. Smith, 70 Median Road, Clapton, N.E.; H. Springall, 35 Huddleston Road, Forest Gate, E.; C. F. Winney, 13 Harbledown Road, Parsons Green, S.W.; M. A. Wood, 41 Church Row, Bethnal Green, E.

It is earnestly requested that all intending subscribers will forward their donations on or before Monday, July 9th. The following is a list of peals rung by Mr. J. M. Hayes:—

	Tower Bells.		Handbells.	
	Rung.	Conductd.	Rung.	Conductd.
GRANDSIRE Triples	70	15	6	1
" Major	1			
" Caters	23	6	3	3
STEDMAN Triples	47	14	1	
" Caters	32	6		
" Cinques	21	2		
KENT TREBLE BOB Major ..	51	18		
" " " Royal	24	9		
" " " Maximus	7	2		
OXFORD TREBLE BOB Major ..	1	1		
" " " Royal	4	3		
BOB MAJOR	2			
DOUBLE NORWICH MAJOR ..	12	8		
SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR	2			
	297	84	10	4

Total: Rung, 307; Conducted, 83.

CHANGE-RINGING.

The Durham and Newcastle Association.

At St. Stephen's, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on June 19th, a peal of BOB MAJOR, 5056 changes, in 3 hrs. 35 mins. Tenor, 30 cwt.

James Cliff	1	J. E. R. Keen	5
John W. Robinson	2	Hugh Dall	6
George R. Holmes	3	Robert S. Story	7
S. O. Ferry	4	E. E. Ferry	8

Composed by F. Hopgood, conducted by E. E. Ferry. Rung in honour of the visit of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

The Midland Counties Association.

At St. Peter's, Mountsorrel, on June 16th, seven 720's of BOB MINOR, each called differently, in 2 hrs. 58 mins.

Samuel Wesley	1	James Hutchby	4
John Grundy	2	Israel Lovett	5
Josiah Morris	3	Wm. H. Inglesant (condr.)	6

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