

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

A Weekly Journal of the Ringing Exercise; and Compendium of Information for the Clergy and Churchwardens.

No. 479.—VOL. X.

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 1891.

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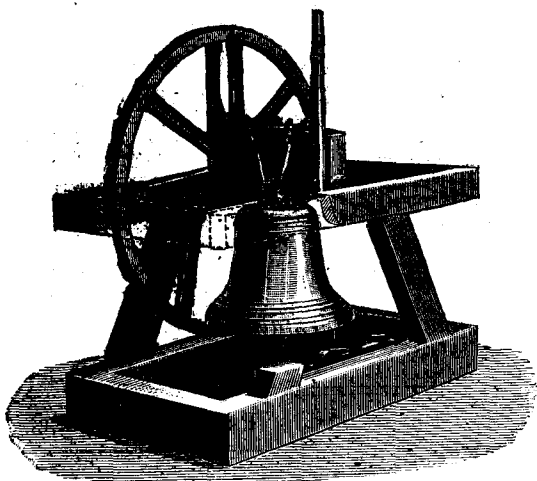
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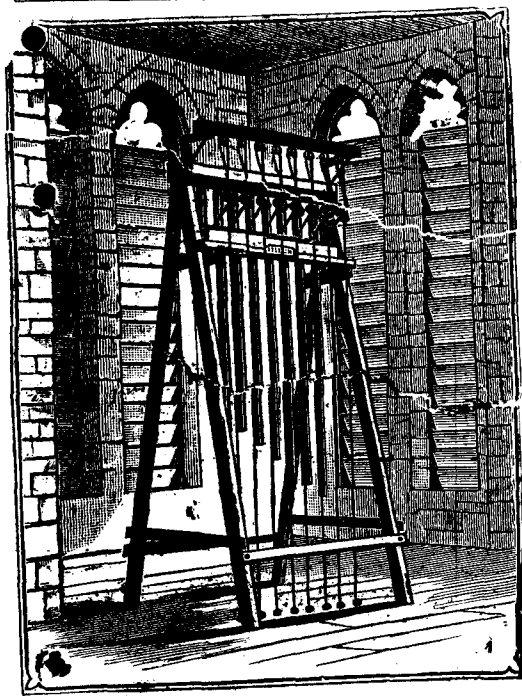
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31st March, 1886

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No. 237.—"The Soldier's Chorus," from Gounod's "Faust," for 8 ringers, large peal
No. 238.—"The Marvellous Work," from Haydn's "Creation," for 8 ringers, large peal
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No. 241.—"Hail Smiling Morn." Medium peal, 6 ringers, or large peal 7 ringers
No. 242.—"The Marseillaise Hymn," medium peal 6 ringers, or large peal 7 ringers
No. 243.—"Where there's Love at Home," and "Silver Threads among the Gold," for 12 bells, thus, C D E F G A B C D E F G, 6 ringers
No. 244.—"Chime again Beautiful Bells," for 12 bells, &c., as No. 243

William Gordon, 64, Lower Hillgate, Stockport.

MR. WILLIAM ROCK SMALL, OF TIPTON.

[Vide Portrait.]

MR. SMALL was born at Wednesbury, in Staffordshire, on November 12th, 1839, his ringing career commencing at the same place, the bells at that time being a peal of eight, but have since been recast and made into a peal of ten. They were opened by various ringing bands from the neighbourhood in March, 1855; and it was while the bells were being put in the tower that he entertained a desire to become a ringer. Opportunities for learning to ring in those days were however not as frequent as they are now. After a time he ventured up into the tower and soon became a helper in the chiming for service on Sundays. The natural result to all such genuine enthusiasm followed: in time he became a member of the band, which, though a good one, was of the old school, whose custom from time immemorial entailed the penalty of what was known as "foot-ale" when the novice had rung his first course. These customs have however been greatly jeopardised, if not altogether abolished, through the formation of the various ringing Associations, and about the neighbourhood wherein Mr. SMALL is best known, the improvement effected is manifest. His first peal was a 5000 of Kent Treble Bob Royal, rang on April 29th, 1866, at his native place, he ringing the 5th; followed by peals of Plain Bob Major and Royal in the same tower. He rang his first peal of Stedman Caters also on November 19th, 1870, and there has been but little peal-ringing in the tower since.

Mr. SMALL's *physique* would appear to be admirably adapted for long lengths, for we find him in a seven hours' attempt for a 13,000 of Grandsire Caters at Aston; and in successful attempts of 9020 Grandsire Cinques rang at St. Martin's, Birmingham, in 6 hrs. 17 mins., and 8064 Grandsire Caters at Bromsgrove, in 4 hrs. 59 mins. If good ringers generally are a race of men whose *bonhomie* and good nature is proverbial, then the subject of this memoir is a praiseworthy example, for very few more gregarious or sociable ringers than he has it been the privilege of the present writer to find. The duties of his post of steeple-keeper at the church of St. Martin, Tipton, are discharged to the satisfaction of all, both church authorities and ringers. He has always been found most willing to impart instruction to young beginners, and frequently expresses himself as very glad not only to meet old friends but to make new ones, particularly at the meetings of the various ringing Associations to which he belongs. He is a member of the Birmingham St. Martin's Guild, Christ Church Society (West Bromwich), Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, the Ancient Society of College Youths, Worcestershire and Adjoining Districts Association, St. Martin's Society, Tipton, the Yorkshire Association, and the St. Peter's Guild, Wolverhampton.

Mr. SMALL's list of performances comprise the following, his 100th peal—Stedman Triples—being rung at Tipton; and one in the same method was at Peel, Isle of Man: Stedman Cinques, 10; Stedman Caters, 9; Stedman Triples, 23; Grandsire Cinques, 3; Grandsire Caters, 18; Grandsire Major, 4; Grandsire Triples, 33; New Grandsire Triples, 1; Kent Treble Bob Maximus, 1; Kent Treble Bob Royal, 2; Kent Treble Bob Major, 6; Plain Bob Royal, 3; Plain Bob Major, 7; Plain Bob Triples, 1; in four different methods, 1; total 122. That part of the Midland Counties where his field of operations lies is, as most readers of "THE BELL NEWS" know, very prolific in talented composers and conductors. Perhaps it is owing to this fact that he has never sought distinction in either of these branches of the art.

FOR SALE.—A Splendid peal of 42 Handbells, Chromatic, from G 26 to C 1; by J. Warner and Sons, London; together with tables, box, music, and all fittings. Will sell at a sacrifice; reason ill-health. Apply—William Kenney, 5, Townley Street, Macclesfield, Cheshire.

THE MELBOURNE BELLRINGERS' ASSOCIATION.

At the Vienna Cafe, Collins Street, Melbourne, on Easter Monday, a banquet was given by the members of the above Association in honour of Mr. John Guest, their Master ringer. About 60 guests sat down, and did ample justice to the splendid "spread" set out for their delectation. After the tables had been cleared, the real business of the evening began, namely, the presentation to Mr. Guest of a beautifully-framed photographic group of the members and patrons of the Association, and an artistically-finished illuminated address expressive of the great estimation in which he is held by his brother-ringers. Among the photos in the frame was one of his Excellency the Governor, the Earl of Hopetoun, one of the patrons of the Association, who not only gave permission for his likeness to be included among the other patrons, but sent the photo for the purpose.

The address was a perfect masterpiece of the art of illumination, and contained the following legend:—

"THE MELBOURNE BELLRINGERS' ASSOCIATION
TO

JOHN MOTTRAM GUEST, ESQ.

"DEAR SIR,

"The accompanying testimonial is presented to mark the high esteem in which you are held by the members of the above Association. The untiring energy you have displayed in all matters appertaining to bell-ringing in Victoria during the last nine years is an example worthy of emulation.

"We also desire to thank you for the uniform courtesy you have shown in your capacity of Master ringer, particularly towards the younger members, for which they express themselves deeply gratified.

"Further, we would congratulate you on successfully conducting the first peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040 changes, ever rung in Victoria.

"Trusting you may be long spared to take an active part in the ancient and noble art of campanology.

"We remain, etc."

Then follow the signatures, headed by his Excellency the Governor's, who, by thus honouring Mr. Guest, testifies to the high esteem in which he holds him. Texts, *apropos* of bell-ringing, from the various poets, are artistically arranged about the address, and there is a painting of a belfry with eight ringers hard at work, whilst the bells in the bell-loft, which is shown above, seem to move in response to the action of the men below.

In the left-hand corner is seen a drawing of St. Mary's Church, Stafford, Mr. Guest's native place. In the opposite corner is a view of the new Melbourne Cathedral, whilst between the two is the old St. James's Cathedral, the nursery of Australian campanology. Taken as a whole, it is a beautiful picture, and one Mr. Guest may well be proud of.

Invitations to the banquet had been sent over to the ringers of Sydney, New South Wales, and to those of Hobart, Tasmania; also to the Ballarat and Geelong men in Victoria, and a right merry evening was spent in speechifying, singing, and selections on the hand-bells.

The chairman, the Rev. C. T. Perks, incumbent of St. Stephen's, Richmond, in opening his address, apologised for the absence of the Bishop and Dean, who were unable to attend. He then expressed the pleasure he felt at being present on that interesting occasion, the more so as he saw from the view of St. Mary's, Stafford, given in the address, that Mr. Guest was almost a "towny" of his own. He gave a short history of the thirteen bells in the new cathedral, and spoke of their sweetness and the masterly manner in which they were rung by the members of the Association. After a short and highly complimentary speech, he formally presented the two frames to Mr. Guest, and called upon all present to drink his health in bumpers, which was done with enthusiasm and musical honours. Mr. Guest replied in a short and appropriate speech, thanking the Association and the company for the honour they had done him, and promised that his endeavours in the cause of bell-ringing should be as devoted in the future as they had been in the past. On resuming his seat, he was greeted with a loud clapping of hands and other signs of approbation. Mr. Woollard, the toastmaster, then called upon one of the guests for a song, when "Rocked in the cradle of the deep" was given in splendid style, Mr. Ernest Wood, the organist of the new cathedral, presiding at the piano. Mr. Kilburn, the Master of the Ballarat ringers, now rose, and returned thanks on behalf of himself and comrades for the kind invitation; and, having orated on things campanological, he



MR WILLIAM ROCK SMALL.
(OF TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.)

SUPPLEMENT TO "THE BELL NEWS."

concluded by proposing the health of Mr. John Heather, the honorary and energetic secretary to the Association, which was cordially responded to. A selection on the hand-bells was now given by Messrs. Guest, Heather, Woollard, Blakely, and C. and I. M'Ewan. Speeches from the other visitors followed, alternating with songs and selections on the hand-bells. A very enjoyable evening was spent, and when the party broke up it was with a general *au revoir*.

THE LIVERSEDGE PRIZE-RINGING.

(By our Extra-Special Peripatetic Correspondent.)

Having given you last week a circumstantial report of this affair, so far as it came under my own personal observation, I now proceed to finish my task by telling you what are the impressions which that visit to Liversedge made upon me. In the first place, although I have always been opposed on principle to what I consider to be a wrongful use of our Church's bells by these ringing matches, yet I went to this contest with a mind open to conviction, and prepared, if need be, to acknowledge my previous predilections more or less erroneous. But I tell you honestly, that my objections to this sort of thing, instead of being diminished, are stronger now than ever. I am even still more at a loss to understand how any Vicar can consistently with his office, calling and responsibilities, sanction the use of his church and bells for these money competitions. Were the bells purely secular instruments like handbells, brass bands, and other things of a similar nature, then, of course, no objection could possibly be taken on that score; but considering that they are in our Church towers—placed there as instruments of the Church for a definite purpose in connection with its public services, that their use is most egregiously perverted by these ringing matches seems to me incontrovertible.

One impression which I formed while at Liversedge is, however, much in favour of those who attend these contests—that is, if what I saw was to be taken as an indication of others—namely, the orderly and respectable conduct which characterised the whole proceedings. I have attended a considerable number of ringers' gatherings in various parts of the country, and certainly on the score of respectability, this Liversedge contest would bear comparison with any of them. But for all that, had any radical teetotaler been desirous of making out a practical case in support of the old charge regarding the close affinity between Church and "pub," he might have found material here.

Another impression which I formed regarding this ringing match system is its artificiality. We are constantly told by advocates of these contests that they afford the best means of improving ringing—that is to say the *striking* part of it. I have come to a different conclusion. There will be, I think, at a moderate computation, considerably over a thousand ringers in Yorkshire. At this contest ten bands took part, which included of course, eighty men. These eighty men, for some weeks past, had been practising the set piece for this competition and nothing else; they, so to speak, were engaged simply in "coaching up" for a special exam. It was not a general all-round effort in the way of proficiency, but a high-pressure—I might almost say spasmodic—struggle within very narrow limits. What real beneficial effect, therefore, can be said to follow to ringing generally from such a proceeding? Were a few market gardeners to force the growth of a peck or so of new potatoes, so as to get them out a week or two sooner than usual, under natural conditions, we should smile if they asserted that the crop was earlier that year, on this account. But their assertions would be just as reasonable as to say that because a mere fraction of the general body of ringers in a county have worked up the performance of a special hour-and-a-half's touch to a high state of efficiency, that therefore the ringing of the county is benefitted. General improvement, not to say proficiency, is scarcely likely to be brought about by such irregular, infrequent, and artificial modes as are afforded by these money contests. That, is my opinion.

Another feature in connection with these affairs came under my notice, which I should hardly have credited, had I not every

reason for being satisfied with the veracity of my informant. For some weeks before the "final event," bands intending to compete, travel about, not on week-evenings only, but Sundays also, to places where there is a similar ring, to that of the place of contest, for the purpose of practice. Their own legitimate work as ringers of the Church is totally lost sight of; the only object for the time being is "getting into form," and striking the half-peal with as few faults as possible. Were this sort of thing to be done in any other description of contesting—brass bands for instance—the charge of Sabbath-breaking would quickly be brought against those guilty of such conduct. I was told, even, that it is no unusual thing for bands to leave their own bells silent on Sunday, while they are off somewhere else practising for the match. If so, I fear, the Church officials in Yorkshire must be either very easy-going, indulgent personages, or else they care so little for the sound of their bells that they are indifferent to them being silent occasionally. But, apart from that, this dereliction of duty, and these mis-spent Sabbaths caused by prize-rings are much regrettable, and form in themselves a powerful argument against the continuance of these contests.

I come now to the *modus operandi* of the events in question; and we will see whether, from a strictly scientific point of view only, these contests are any more satisfactory. We will take, for illustration's sake, the one under consideration. At Liversedge, three members of the local band itself were appointed the judges. Thus the very constitution itself of this tribunal was open to very grave objections. No matter how competent these men might have been as ringers to fill such an office, they would not be likely to so far succeed in totally abnegating their own personality, as to act with that strict impartiality which is so absolutely essential to the position of a censor. And even supposing they did act honestly thus, should any contention arise respecting their decisions, these would not be regarded by the objectors as having the weight which would be attached to the decisions of competent men who had no local prejudices or personal sympathies to warp or even interfere with their judgment. Passing from that; the Liversedge contests occupied some nineteen consecutive hours, during the whole of which time these judges were supposed to be incessantly engaged in their duties. Now, will any reasonably-minded person dare to assert that these men could keep themselves "in condition" (excuse the phrase) for this lengthened period, and maintain one uniform status of censorship from beginning to finish? It is contrary to human nature: and thus from a purely secular and contestant point of view, this "judging" lays itself open to very well-grounded objections. Particularly so does this make itself manifested when, as at Liversedge, the decisions of these judges is so much at variance with the opinion of the great bulk of outside listeners.

As I remarked at the outset, although I went to the Liversedge contest with a mind honestly open to conviction, I left it with objections more firmly rooted in my mind against this misuse of our bells. I have endeavoured merely to give you a brief outline of the main features and circumstances which caused this. Others I could advance, were it necessary. From the standpoint of a Christian, these contests are objectionable if only through the abuse of the Lord's day which they cause. To a Churchman, accustomed to regard everything in connection with his Church as consecrated alike, *ad majorem Dei gloriam*, the abuse of her edifices and bells for such a purpose cannot fail to be painful. As a ringer, I altogether fail to see any real benefit accruing to the Exercise through this contesting; and were I inclined to become a competitor at one myself, the many objectionable features in connection with the giving of awards would certainly act as a powerful deterrent to the carrying out of any such intentions.

These prize-ringing matches are said to have almost disappeared—even in their greatest stronghold—during recent years; and I am not at all surprised at it. The growth of a deeper spiritual life which has characterised our Church for a generation or so back has most likely been the main cause of this. Thus in future, as greater consistency in life and conduct on the part of Churchmen becomes more and more general, there can be no doubt whatever that such exhibitions as these ringing matches for money prizes, with their apparently inseparable objectionable concomitants, will no longer be permitted, but the bells be reserved for those pious uses for which they have been placed in the towers.

NEW BELLS AT MIDDLETON, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, May 23rd, the two new bells which have been added to the peal of six in the belfry of the Middleton Parish Church, were formally dedicated. One of the bells has been given by Mr. H. H. Mellallieu, J.P., of Stanniccliffe House, Middleton, and the other subscribed for by the public. The peal now consists of eight bells, and forms a complete octave. At half-past two a dedicatory service was held in the church, after which 350 of Grandsire Triples was rung by the following: J. Millett (Heywood), 1; George Hoyle (Rochdale), 2; E. B. Shaw (Lees), 3; Fred Morris (Radcliffe, formerly of Middleton), 4; Samuel Stott (Oldham), 5; J. Priestley (Oldham), 6; F. Birtwistle (Rochdale, conductor), 7; John Harrison (Heywood), 8. The clergy present at the service were the Revs. T. E. Cleworth (rector), W. D. Heelas, C. E. Renshaw, and J. Bamber (curates), W. Burgess (vicar of Parkfield), Charles Lowe (rector of St. John's, Cheetham), and H. J. Elsee (St. Andrew's, Ancoats). The Rev. H. J. Elsee intoned the service, and the choir sang the anthem known as the "Bell anthem," by Purcell, "Rejoice in the Lord, O my soul," Messrs. J. Holt, J. Slater, and E. Jackson rendering the trio. A brief address was given by the Rev. C. Lowe, who selected as his text Numbers x., 2, 10: "Make ye trumpets of silver; of a whole piece shalt thou make them, that thou mayest use them for the calling of the assembly, and for the journeying of the camps. Also in the days of your gladness, and in your solemn days, and in the beginnings of your months, ye shall blow with the trumpets over your burnt offerings; that they may be to you for a memorial before your God. I am the Lord your God."

After the service, about 60 members of the Rochdale branch of the Lancashire Association partook of tea in the National School. After tea the Rector (the Rev. T. E. Cleworth), occupied the chair, and there were also present the Revs. H. J. Elsee (president of the Lancashire Association of Ringers), W. D. Heelas, C. E. Renshaw, and J. Bamber, and Mr. H. H. Mellallieu, J.P.

The Chairman said he must first of all say that they were very thankful to the members of the Lancashire Association of Ringers for the valuable assistance they gave them towards getting these two new bells by the kind words which several of them uttered at the meeting which the ringers held in Middleton some time ago. Then they must also express their gratitude to the ringers of Middleton for having worked so hard in order to get the subscriptions necessary for one of the bells; and he was sure they owed their very best thanks to Mr. Mellallieu for having given them the largest of the two new bells. That gave them a splendid start towards raising sufficient money towards another bell, and the result they had seen that day by the dedication of the two new bells. He trusted that Mr. Mellallieu, and also those who had subscribed towards the other bell, would be amply rewarded for the kindness they had done.

The ordinary business of the Association was then proceeded with. It was decided to hold the next monthly meeting at Moor-side, near Oldham. Five of the Middleton ringers expressed their willingness to become members of the association, thus increasing the number of members from Middleton to thirteen. The Rev. J. Bamber and Mr. H. H. Mellallieu announced, amidst loud cheers, that they had decided to become life members of the association.

The Chairman said he should like to hear an expression of opinion from some of the ringers as to the quality and tone of the new bells. Many people had an idea that the two new bells would spoil the tone of the old bells, and he should like to hear an expression of opinion on that point. He must say that they were very much indebted to Mr. Arrowsmith, whom he might call one of the fathers of bellringers in Middleton, for the efforts he had put forth to secure these additional bells. Mr. Arrowsmith had waited for many, many years to hear eight bells in the Middleton belfry, and at last he had got his wish gratified.

The Rev. H. J. Elsee said he had pleasure in moving that a vote of thanks be given to the rector for his kindness in presiding, for his invitation to the ringers to be present that day, and for the use of that school in which to hold their meeting. It had been a great pleasure to him (Mr. Elsee) to be present at the opening of these two new bells in Middleton. He was glad to see such a good number of ringers at the service in church. The service was held at a rather early hour, otherwise there would

very likely have been more ringers present. He might say that this was the first time he had been present at a dedication service of new bells, but he certainly thought it right and proper that new bells should be opened by a dedication service. With regard to the Middleton bells, he had had the pleasure of hearing them that afternoon, and he was very well satisfied with the tone of them. He thought all the ringers present were also well pleased with the bells. His own conviction was that the two new trebles had been very well spliced indeed. Now they had got a peal of eight-bells, he hoped that the ringing of them would be more interesting and pleasing to the people of Middleton than the ringing of the six bells had been.

Mr. George Hoyle (Rochdale), in seconding the vote of thanks, said his opinion was that the bells were very good ones, and that they were spliced as good as it was possible to do them.

Mr. Frank Birtwistle (Rochdale), supported the resolution, and said he thought the splicing of the bells was perfect. The motion was then put and carried, and the Chairman suitably replied.

The meeting then terminated. A touch of Treble Bob Major, and one of Stedman Triples were afterwards rung.

COSELEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Whit-Sunday the ringers of the Parish Church (but now on strike, owing to the Vicar and Churchwardens insisting on us being voluntary ringers), by the kind invitation of Mr. H. Roden, visited the Parish Church of St. Bartholomew, Penn, near Wolverhampton, and rang several touches during the day. For Matins, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (32 bobs and 22 singles) was attempted, but unfortunately it came to grief after ringing over 600 changes. H. Roden (Penn), 1; B. Gough (conductor), 2; F. G. Horton, 3; W. Cheshire, 4; A. Jones, 5; W. Pardoe, 6. The ringers afterwards attended Divine Service, the sermon being preached by the Rev. C. H. Cole-Webb, vicar. After service, several 6-scores of Grandsire and touches of Grandsire Minor were brought round by the following:—Messrs. H. Priest and H. Roden (Penn), W. Pardoe, G. J. Fellows, F. F. G. Horton, A. E. Law, B. Gough, W. Cheshire, and A. Jones, conducted by Messrs. A. Jones and W. Pardoe.

The company then adjourned to the "Old Stag's Head" inn to partake of dinner (which each made the course-ends come up), got up in an excellent style by the host and hostess, to whom much praise is due.

In the afternoon, time not allowing for a 720, a 360 of Grandsire Minor was rung. H. Roden, 1; W. Cheshire, 2; G. J. Fellows, 3; B. Gough, 4; A. Jones, 5; W. Pardoe (conductor), 6.

All the members of the late Coseley band belong to the Worcester and Adjoining Districts Association, several to the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, also to St. Peter's Guild, Wolverhampton.

As there are a great number of churches with peals of ten, eight, and six bells close at hand, the strikers will probably attend the above churches on practice-nights, and also for Sunday ringing, where no doubt they will be treated as brothers in the noble art.

They wish through this paper to thank the Vicar and ringers for granting them the use of the bells, and especially to Mr. H. Roden for getting the bells in readiness and superintending to the dinner, which he did in a most worthy style. G.

LLANDAFF.—On Saturday, May 30th, at the Cathedral, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with 7-8 covering. J. Clutterbuck, 1; J. Belcher (conductor), 2; C. Lloyd, 3; W. Biss, 4; W. Coombes, 5; W. Freeman, 6; H. White, 7; E. Nelms, 8. This is the first 720 of Minor ever rung in South Wales by local men, and the first by all except the conductor. Time 34 mins. Also 336 Grandsire Triples. J. Clutterbuck, 1; W. Freeman, 2; C. Lloyd, 3; W. Biss, 4; J. Belcher (conductor), 5; W. Coombes, 6; E. Nelms, 7; H. White, 8. Tenor 23 cwt.

THE UNEMPLOYED IN EAST LONDON.—At a time when much thought is being given to this matter, a practical suggestion may be of service. Last year more than £300,000 worth of foreign matches were purchased by inconsiderate consumers in this country, to the great injury of our own working people, so true is it that "evil is wrought by want of thought, as well as want of heart." If all consumers would purchase Bryant and May's matches, that firm would be enabled to pay £1000 a week more in wages.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"What a capital teacher is travel."

I am pleased to see that we have received the acquisition of a most versatile writer for the "THE BELL NEWS" in the person of "Our Extra Special Peripatetic," whose descriptive account of the doings at Liversedge last Whitsuntide I read with much interest. Not being in the secrets of the Editor's sanctum, of course, I am unable to compliment him personally, but at the same time I hope we shall have further contributions from his pen. Whether change-ringing contests be right or wrong in principle and practice, it will be by no means time ill spent to learn how such affairs are conducted. This, I opine, he has well succeeded in telling us.

* * * * *

Our Editor has "come down upon" correspondents who "have any real or supposed grievance, or strong opinions of any sort," who "resort to fictitious initials or even a *nom de plume* when sending letters." He considers that such a "correspondent should have the courage of his opinions by signing his proper name" to his letter. I hope his brief remarks, and particularly the intimation conveyed in them, will receive special attention. When writing generally, or upon abstract principles, there can be no objection to the assumption of a *nom de plume* by a correspondent. In fact, many of the finest contributions to our monthly and quarterly magazines bear some adopted signature. But when a man comes down to personalities, where such and not any principle is involved, it is, to say the least of it, very un-English on his part to make these personal charges without declaring his identity. There is a ugly name in our vocabulary for that sort of business—one which I won't repeat, as some one might possibly be fitting a cap on which was not intended for them—a habit which some of our brother-strings seem to be much addicted to.

* * * * *

But, after all, as I remarked only the other week, would it not be even better still if these personal squabbles were not allowed to occupy any room in "THE BELL NEWS" at all? Or at any rate, not until evidence had been given that every reasonable effort had been made to settle the same in private between the two or more disagreeing persons or bands? Look at the epistles which have many a time made me (and doubtless many others) feel strongly desirous of pitching something much heavier than the paper itself at the head of the writer. The fact is, that our Editor has been much too indulgent in this respect; but now that he has "got his foot down," I do hope he will severely keep it there.

* * * * *

I am glad to learn that Bro. John Holden succeeded in getting his peal at Salisbury during the A.M.C. week, particularly so because of unsuccessful endeavours on his part in previous years. The genial features of the Saddleworth district's C.S. are well known amongst Oddfellows, and several of them have expressed to me their pleasure at learning of his success on this occasion.

* * * * *

It is likewise with much pleasure that I mention the high honour paid to one of our brother-strings by our largest Friendly Society, namely, the Ancient Order of Foresters. This is the election of our friend Mr. William L. Catchpole, of Ipswich, as

a member of the Executive Council of that Order for 1892, in the office of High Court Junior Beadle. In referring to this event, the current month's *Foresters' Miscellany* adds—"Bro. Catchpole is also well-known as a member of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society of Change-Ringers, and at the Annual Meeting of the Diocesan Association last October was elected one of its four representatives to the Central Council of Ringers. He has also been a member of the Tower choir for upwards of twenty-six years." Well done, Brother Catchpole!

* * * * *

Our Editor tells me he expects our friend "Scrutator" putting in an appearance next week. I take that as a gentle hint that I may take a back seat for a week or two, should nothing unexpected turn up. Probably in the meantime, I may take a trip somewhere, and if I do, will—like "Peripatetic"—tell you about it when I come back. So for a brief space Adieu!

FREE LANCE.

EASTMEON, HAMPSHIRE.

On Whit-Monday, May 18th, by the kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. E. M. Tomlinson, eight members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild met at the fine old Norman church of All Saints for the purpose of ringing the first peal on the lately augmented ring of eight bells in this tower. All having arrived at about 9.40 a.m., a move was at once made to the church, where they found everything in readiness, and after a few rounds just by way of trying the length of ropes, etc., "go" was called at 10.15., and without any hitch at 1.25 the first peal (a 5088 of Treble Bob Major) on the bells was accomplished. This peal is noteworthy; being conducted by Mr. G. Williams, a native of Eastmeon, it being also his 100th peal, of which number he has conducted sixty-three, and were rung in forty different towers in the following methods:

5040's on six bells 12, conducted 9; Plain Bob Triples 5, conducted 4; Plain Bob Major 2, conducted 2; Union Triples, 1; conducted 1; Grandsire Triples 37, conducted 29; Grandsire Caters, 1; Stedman Triples 20, conducted 10; Stedman Caters, 1; Stedman Cinques, 1; Treble Bob Major, 8, conducted 6; Treble Bob Royal 1; Treble Bob Maximus 1; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 5, conducted 2; Superlative Surprise Major 4; Cambridge Surprise Major, 1. Total 100; conducted 65.

After the peal the ringers were invited to dinner at the "George" inn by the vicar, to which ample justice was done, and for which they wish to thank him, also for granting them the use of the bells, hoping to repeat their visit at no distant date. During the afternoon some Stedman Triples were rung, and at four o'clock they left for Petersfield station en route for Havant, where a peal of Bob Major was to be attempted at 6 p.m.

On arrival at Havant they were all invited to tea at the residence of Mr. Staples (a member of the local band here, who had been in the peal in the morning) before starting for the peal. This invitation it need hardly be said was accepted, and a most excellent tea was the result, and was thoroughly enjoyed by all; thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Staples. A move was then made to the parish church of St. Faith, and at 6.15 a start was made for 5024 Bob Major. All went well till 7.45, nearly two courses over the half-peal being rung, when one of the band "of some Stedman fame" set his bell, saying he was afraid they should not have time to finish the peal so as to catch his train at 9.28. The feelings of the remaining seven can be imagined; however he was sorry for his mistake, and provided all necessary refreshments while having to wait (instead of finishing the peal) for the train. The band separated just after 9 p.m., hoping to bring the peal off at Havant at some future time. Messrs. Grove, Bennett, Jones, Colburn, and Rees hail from Guildford; Williams from Brighton; Warren from Swanmore; and Staples from Havant.

THE RINGERS' GUIDE TO THE CHURCH BELLS OF DEVON. By C. PEARSON, M.A. Price One Shilling, or bound cloth, 1s. 6d. Postage Threepence.

Notices.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is One Penny per line (six words may be reckoned to a line). Repetitions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

Oxford Diocesan Guild.—Until the Annual Meeting of this Guild, the acting Secretary and Treasurer is **R. H. HART-DAVIS**, *Dunsden Vicarage, Reading.*

Yorkshire Association.—The next General Meeting will be held at Ripon, to-day, Saturday, June 6th. The local Secretary is **Mr. Thomas Clark**, *Keldale Villa, Ripon.*
B. T. COPLEY, *Hon. Sec.*
3, Jude's Square, Bradford.

The East Derbyshire Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Ashover, to-day, Saturday, June 6th, 1891, at 5.30 p.m.
JNO. JAS. COOK, *Hon. Sec.*

Lancashire Association.—**Liverpool Diocesan Branch.**—The next meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Huyton, to-day, Saturday, June 6th. Ringing from 4 p.m. Meeting in School-room at 6 p.m.,
RICHD. HILL, *Branch Sec.*
21, Chestnut Street, Southport.

Lancashire Association.—**Manchester Branch.**—The next meeting will be held at St. John's, Deansgate, Manchester, to-day, Saturday, June 6th. Tower open at 4 p.m.
W. BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

Norwich Diocesan Association.—**Saxmundham District.**—The first annual district meeting will be held at Aldeburgh, to-day, Saturday, June 6th. The tower will be open for ringing from 4 till 9. Business meeting at 7. All members and friends cordially invited.
WILLIAM TAYLOR,
Leiston. Hon. District Sec.

St. Peter's Guild, Wolverhampton.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Wolverhampton, to-day, Saturday, June 6th. Tower open at 2.30. All members are requested to attend.

Kent County Association.—**Rochester District.**—There will be a meeting held at Milton-Next-Gravesend, to-day, Saturday, June 6th; Belfry open at 5.30 p.m.
W. A. COOKE, *District Sec.*

Kent County Association.—**Annual Meeting.** Change of date. The Annual Meeting will be held at Folkestone, on Monday, July 13th. Further particulars will appear in due course.
E. W. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

The Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The next Committee and Quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Pershore on Saturday, June 13th, in the National School-room, at 6 p.m. prompt, by the kind permission of the Ven. the Archdeacon of Worcester, Canon Walters, who will preside. The tower will be open for ringing at the Abbey Church. Members are requested to meet at the "Ship Inn," Mr. J. Mealing's.

JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*
37, Simms Lane,
Nethepton, Dudley.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next monthly meeting of this Association will be held at Biddulph, to-day, Saturday, June 6th. Members intending to be present are requested to give notice to Mr. W. Carter, Biddulph.

REV. R. B. TONGE, } *Hon. Secs.*
W. TWIGG, }

The Old East Derby Association.—The next meeting will be held at Chesterfield, on Saturday, June 20th. Peal of ten open for ringing during the day; meeting at 5 p.m.
EDWIN JAMES, *Hon. Sec.*
9, Pipworth Terrace, Eekington.

The St. Mary's Society, Bow, Middlesex.—In future this Society will hold its meetings at the "Bow Bells," Bow Road, E., our next practice being Monday next, June 8th, and every alternate Monday.
R. J. TURNER, *Hon. Sec.*

Quidenham Church Bells.—Thetford, Norfolk.—The peal of bells in this parish will be opened on Saturday, the 13th inst., being augmented from three to six, by the addition of two new trebles, and a new tenor. The bells are put up in memory of the late George Thomas, 6th Earl of Albemarle. The 13th being the birthday of the late Earl, is the day fixed for the opening, the bells will be rung muffled before service—and opened afterwards. The peal is hung in a new wrought iron bell-frame, all hung on one level (the tower, which is a round one) being only 12-ft. 6-in. diam., the tenor bell being 3-ft. 9-in. and weighing 16 cwt., bears the following inscription:—"In Memory of George Thomas, 6th Earl of Albemarle."

Midland Counties' Association.—**Nottingham District.**—The next monthly meeting of this district will be held at Ratcliff-on-Trent, on Saturday, June 13th. Belfry open at 3 o'clock.
ALBERT LAMBERT,
6, Osmaston Street, New Lenton, Nottingham.

RINGERS' OUTING.

On Whit-Tuesday, the Sheffield Junior Amalgamated Society held their Annual out at Nottingham. They were met at the station, and received a most hearty welcome from the Nottingham ringers. After having refreshed the inner man, they proceeded to All Saints' Church; everything being in readiness, touches of Kent Treble Bob and Stedman Triples were successfully brought round. An adjournment was then made to the "Arboretum" for dinner; after which they proceeded to St. Peter's, where touches of Kent Treble Bob, Bob Major and Stedman Triples were rung. St. Mary's tower was next visited, and touches of Kent Treble Bob Royal, Grandsire Caters and Stedman Caters were here rung on the fine peal of ten. With tunes and courses on the hand-bells, they finished up the day at the meeting-house of the Nottingham ringers. A really most enjoyable day was spent, and the visitors, through the medium of this paper, wish to most sincerely thank the Vicars, Wardens, and ringers of the various churches, for their kindness and hospitality throughout the day.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. J. FISHER.—All in good time.

NINE ELMS.—Your name must appear.

The 720 by Charles Howard of Braintree, published in our last issue, is false.

Compositions.

All compositions sent for insertion must be accompanied by a fee of Sixpence. If proof of a touch or peal is desired One Shilling additional must accompany such request.

A DATE TOUCH OF UNION TRIPLES.

By **JAMES GEORGE**, *Rugby.*

1891.

2 3 4 5 6 7

5 3 2 4 6 7 5
3 6 5 7 2 4 4
6 2 3 4 5 7 4
7 4 6 5 2 3 1
5 4 7 6 2 3 5
7 3 5 4 6 2 2
6 5 7 4 2 3 3
2 7 6 4 3 5 3

Four times repeated; single instead of bob at last call in the fifth-part produces 1324567; round next change at hand.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By **WILLIAM JAMES FISHER**, *London.*

5600.

2 3 4 5 6 1 4 6

6 5 3 2 4 - -
2 3 5 6 4 - -
3 5 2 6 4 - -
6 2 5 3 4 - -
2 5 6 3 4 - -
5 3 6 2 4 - -
3 2 6 5 4 - -
5 6 2 3 4 - -
6 3 2 5 4 - -
5 2 3 6 4 - -

Four times repeated.

NOTE TO THE 5000 AT CHURCHDOWN.—This is supposed to be the first 5040 of Doubles ever rung on these bells, the local ringers always indulge in ringing 24's. Likewise this is the first 5040 by all the band upon five bells, and was rung for a curiosity more than a display of science. This Church is situate upon the top of a hill (known as Chosen Hill) which is about 300 feet above the level of the village, and according to history, some portion of the nave was built about the 12th century, but the tower and other portions are more modern. The bells are a very inferior peal and sadly out of tune; the tenor is dated 1693.

NOTE TO THE WIGAN PEAL.—This is the first peal of Major in any method rang on the bells, which were placed in the tower in 1732. It was rang in honour of Her Majesty, Queen Victoria's, 72nd Birthday. The ringers wish, through "THE BELL NEWS," to thank the Honourable and Rev. Canon Bridgeman, M.A. (Rector), for the use of the bells; also Mr. Halliwell, for having everything ready.

A CAUTION.—Some of our correspondents are getting into the habit of practical joking when writing their reports. The present mania is to add fictitious titles to the names of ringers, the publication of which would look very foolish. We hope this practice will at once be discontinued.

JASPER W. SNOWDON'S WORKS.

ROPE-SIGHT : 1s. 6d. FOURTH EDITION.
Commences by explaining how to manage a bell; deals with Change-Ringing on three, four, five, six, seven and eight bells in the PLAIN BOB METHOD, giving touches and peals in each case; and closes with instructions for conducting, etc., etc. (143 pages).

STANDARD METHODS: 2s. 6d. SECOND EDITION.
Contains full explanations and rules for ringing all the best methods, from five to eight bells, with plain-course diagrams of each printed in full, with coloured lines. (40 pages of diagrams and 87 of descriptive letterpress).

GRANDSIRE; 2s. 0d. THE METHOD, ITS PEALS, AND HISTORY. WITH PORTRAIT AND MEMOIR. EDITED BY HIS BROTHER, WM. SNOWDON. COMPLETE WITH AN APPENDIX BY THE REV. CHARLES D. P. DAVIES, M.A. OXON. Commences with ringing on five, six, and seven bells, for the benefit of a learner; gives instructions on composing, proving, varying, and reversing, conducting and calling round; and ends with a general survey of the practical and scientific aspect of the composition of triples—thus forming a complete reference book for all Grandsire ringers. (210 pages).

TREBLE BOB. 3s. 2½d. PARTS I. AND II. COMPLETE.
Part I. contains instructions for pricking, transposing, proving, composing, and conducting peals; an essay on the *In and Out-of-course* of the changes; and a history of the various compositions and performances. Part II. contains classified peals of Minor, Major, Royal, and Maximus, with their reverse variations; remarks on the different qualities; particulars of first performances, composers' names, &c., &c. (236 closely printed pages. Part II. (136 closely printed pages) may be had separately, 2s. 1½d.).

DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR. 1s. 0d.
Contains rules and instructions for pricking and ringing the method; a linear diagram of the plain course; a collection of touches and peals; instructions for proving, and a history of the earlier performances, with a list of peals down to 1884 (78 pages).

A few copies are still left of "An Account of the Society of Union Scholars." (49 pages). Post free, 8½d.

Forwarded, Post Free, on receipt of remittance, by WM. SNOWDON, Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

MR. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD'S WORK.

"DUFFIELD:" A MUSICAL METHOD FOR 8, 10, AND 12 BELLS, containing full directions for ringing, pricking, and proving the method; together with a collection of Peals of Major, Royal, and Maximus. also an Explanatory Appendix. By ARTHUR PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, M.A. Post free on receipt of 1s., from BEMROSE & SONS, 23, OLD BAILEY, LONDON, AND IRONGATE, DERBY. Also, gratis on application, from A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, DUFFIELD BANK near Derby, a Broadsheet, containing diagrams and directions for ringing the method.

SHIPWAY'S ART OF CHANGE-RINGING.—
A REPRINT. The largest work ever published on ringing. The three parts complete in one Volume, handsomely bound in Cloth. Price 6s. 6d.
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" 6 "	4s.
" 3 "	2s.

All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher E. W. ALLEN, Ave Maria Lane, London.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication arriving later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "THE BELL NEWS," Walthamstow, London.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 1891.

THE obituary records are this week again fuller than we desire. The great leveller has attacked several who bore names well-known to the Exercise at large, and many of us have to mourn the loss for ever of familiar faces. The death of the Waterloo steeple-keeper removes one who was a prominent character in the west of London twenty years ago. He was a man of very strong character, and though not in the highest grade among ringers, he possessed a fund of sterling common sense not sometimes met with in those of greater talent. Let this be our tribute—brief though it may be—to the memory of one with whom, at the period referred to, we were closely associated in ringing society's affairs.

The Metropolis.

OLD BATTERSEA, SURREY.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, May 30, 1891, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

GEORGE NEWSON Treble.	WILLIAM SHORT 5.
ARTHUR JACOB 2.	FREDERICK PITTS 6.
CHARLES E. MALIM 3.	JOHN BARBER 7.
HENRY SWAIN 4.	WILLIAM F. MEADS .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

*First peal in the method. This peal was rung in honour of the birthday of Messrs. Swain and Pitts, their brother-ringers wishing them many happy returns. This is the first peal in the method on the bells since 1874. The ringers thank Mr. H. S. Thomas for the use of the bells for this special occasion.

THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Saturday, May 30, 1891, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

HENRY G. FRUIN Treble.	JAMES WILLSHIRE 5.
FREDK. G. NEWMAN 2.	WILLIAM E. GARRARD .. 6.
WILLIAM J. NEVARD 3.	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL .. 7.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 4.	WILLIAM LAMB Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

W. Nevard hails from Great Bentley, Essex. It was intended to start for Treble Bob, but being one short Mr. Lamb kindly rang the tenor.

THE ALL SAINTS' ASSOCIATION, FULHAM.

On Saturday, May 30, 1891, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES.

Tenor 21 cwt.

WILLIAM H. ROWLAND* .. Treble.	ARTHUR HUBBARD 6.
JAMES NICHOLLS 2.	HARRY KENTEN 7.
JOHN G. GREEN 3.	CORNELIUS CHARGE 8.
EDWARD H. ADAMS 4.	JAMES W. DRIVER 9.
HENRY S. ELLIS 5.	SAMUEL HOW Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR HUBBARD, and Conducted by JAS. W. DRIVER.

The composition of this peal appeared in "THE BELL NEWS," April 12th, 1890, and is now rung for the first time. This is the first short-course peal of Caters by the Fulham Association, and was rung at the first attempt.

*First peal.

MORTLAKE, SURREY.—ST. JAMES' SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Monday, June 1, 1891, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 16 cwt.

WILLIAM E. GARRARD .. Treble.	GEORGE WOODISS 5.
EDWARD ADAMS 2.	JOHN WRIGHT 6.
FREDERICK GODDARD 3.	HARRY KENTEN 7.
GEORGE A. FISH 4.	*WILLIAM SMITH Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WOODISS.

*First peal. It is also the first peal on the bells since being thoroughly overhauled and fitted with new wheels, ropes, etc., and they now go splendidly, especially the tenor. G. Woodiss, who is a native of Mortlake, hails from Shepperton; Wright and Fish from Kingston; Goddard from Isleworth; Smith from Twickenham; the rest from London.

The Provinces.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 2, 1891, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

S. ROWBOTHAM Treble.	J. CRABTREE 5.
T. JAKEMAN 2.	H. HEAP 6.
J. H. BRIERLEY* 3.	C. WILLOCKS 7.
W. JAKEMAN 4.	E. BROWN Tenor.

Conducted by W. JAKEMAN.

*First peal, and hails from Haughton. T. Jakeman was proposed a member of the Association previous to starting for the peal.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, May 18, 1891, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

THURSTANS' ORIGINAL. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

SYDNEY GOODCHILD .. Treble.	WILLIAM WHIFFIN 5.
HARRY STRATFORD 2.	RALPH BIGGS 6.
FRED BIGGS 3.	JOHN EVANS 7.
WALTER ERNEST YATES .. 4.	JOSEPH EVANS Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN EVANS.

This is the first peal of Stedman Triples conducted by Mr. EVANS, and first peal in the method by W. WHIFFIN, who belongs to the junior band of High Wycombe ringers. W. E. YATES hails from Great Marlow; the others are local men.

SALISBURY, WILTS.—SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 23, 1891, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' (REVERSED.)

JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. Treble.	ROBERTO W. J. GOLLOP .. 5.
HENRY D. ADAMS 2.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. 6.
ALFRED P. GODDARD 3.	WALTER S. WISE 7.
THOMAS BLACKBOURN .. 4.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

STANSTEAD, SUFFOLK.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, May 24, 1891, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES IN THREE DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being 720 of Kent Treble Bob, One of Oxford Treble Bob, and Five of Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

ROBERT GOWERS Treble.	GEORGE SMITH 4.
ARTHUR PAPWORTH 2.	ROBERT BRETT 5.
RICHARD THEOBALD 3.	*ALBERT CLARKE Tenor.

Conducted by ALBERT CLARKE.

*First 5040 as conductor.

SALISBURY, WILTS.—THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, May 25th, 1891, in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 27 cwt. in C.

WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. Treble.	HENRY D. ADAMS 6.
ALFRED P. GODDARD 2.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK* .. 7.
WILLIAM J. PRINCE 3.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. Tenor.
THOMAS BLACKBOURN .. 4.	CHARLES H. WATTS 5.
FRANCIS RIGDEN 5.	

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

SALISBURY, WILTS.—SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, May 26, 1891, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. W. GIFFORD, DEVIZES ROAD,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5075 CHANGES.

ROBERTO W. J. GOLLOP 1-2.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD 5-6.
WALTER S. WISE 3-4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK 7-8.
HENRY D. ADAMS 9-10.	

Composed and Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

MIDHURST, SUSSEX.—SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 27, 1891, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN METHODS UPON SIX BELLS.

Being 720 each of the following:

Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, College Single, Oxford Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, and Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

CALEB SOANE* Treble.	ARTHUR B. BENNETT† .. 4.
THOMAS E. ELLIS 2.	WILLIAM SELBY 5.
WILLIAM H. GEORGE† .. 3.	JAMES LEE Tenor.

Conducted by W. H. GEORGE.

First 5040 by all in seven methods. *First 5040. †First as conductor. ‡First with a bob bell.

HOME CURE FOR DEAFNESS.—A book by a noted Aural Surgeon, describing a System of Curing Deafness and Noises in the Head, by which a self-cure is effected at home. The Rev. D. H. W. Harlock, of the Parsonage, Milton-under-Wychwood, writes: "Try the System by all means: it is first rate, and has been of the utmost service to me." Post free 4d. De Vere and Co., Publishers, 22, Warwick Lane, London, E.C.

CHURCHDOWN, GLOUCESTERSHIRE. GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, May 31, 1891, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,
FORTY-TWO SIX-SCORES IN TWO DIFFERENT
METHODS UPON FIVE BELLS:

Each called differently.

Ten 6-scores of Grandsire, and Thirty-two of St. Dunstan's.
Tenor 15 cwt.

ERNEST E. BEWICK Treble.	HENRY MITCHELL 4.
ALFRED A. WAITE 2.	JAMES E. GROVES Tenor.
JOSEPH YEATES 3.	

Conducted by E. E. BEWICK.

A note to this peal will be found on another page.

SPELDHURST, KENT.—KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 30, 1891, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 12½ cwt.

WILLIAM H. CARD* Treble.	GEORGE A. CARD 5.
JAMES BAKER 2.	GEORGE TURLEY 6.
RICHARD PELLING 3.	THOMAS CARD 7.
JAMES MAYNARD 4.	*WILLIAM WELSH Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS CARD.

*First peal.

WIGAN, LANCASHIRE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(LIVERPOOL BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 30, 1891, in Three Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 28 cwt.

RICHARD HILL Treble.	HENRY COLEY 5.
WILLIAM JAMES 2.	THOMAS HAMMOND 6.
WILLIAM WOODHEAD 3.	WILLIAM DAVIES 7.
CHARLES WILLIAMS 4.	ROBERT WILLIAMS Tenor.

Conducted by ROBERT WILLIAMS.

A note to this peal will be found on another page.

Date Touches.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

GLOSSOP.—On Monday, May 25th, at All Saints' church, a date touch, 1891 changes, in 1 hr. 6 mins. J. Shaw, 1; R. Pritchard, 2; T. Bradley, 3; J. Sellars, 4; R. Woolley, 5; S. Bradley, 6; T. Wilde, 7; J. S. Wilde (conductor), 8. Composed by F. Prince, of Brighouse.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH (Leicestershire).—On Monday, May 25th, at St. Helen's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1891 changes, in 1 hr. 7 mins. G. Hatton, 1; E. W. Beadsmore, 2; J. H. Dunmore, 3; T. Jacques, 4; W. Liggins, 5; A. Hitchcock, 6; W. Canner (conductor), 7; J. Curtis, 8. Longest touch by Messrs. Hatton and Beadsmore. Rung in honour of Her Majesty's 72nd birthday.

SELBY (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, May 24th, at the abbey church, 1891 Bob Triples, in 1 hr. 14 mins. Tenor 20 cwt. W. Welldrake, 1; W. Connell, 2; F. Cryer (conductor), 3; S. James, 4; A. Cryer, 5; W. Winders, 6; A. Dobson, 7; W. Welburn, 8.

TITCHMARSH (Northants).—On Tuesday, May 19th, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1891 changes, in 1 hr. 3 mins. T. Ealey, 1; J. S. White (conductor), 2; W. Thompson, 3; S. Hall, 4; E. H. Haxley, 5; J. Mackay, 6; J. B. Martin, 7; G. Jeffs, 8. Composed by J. George, of Rugby. All the above belong to the Midland Counties' Association with the exception of the tenor-man who hails from Titchmarsh.

Miscellaneous.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

PANGBOURNE (Berks).—On Friday evening, May 15th, at the parish

church, 720 Bob Minor (Annable's composition). J. Alexander (Goring), 1; W. Lawrence (conductor), 2; J. Wedge (Goring), 3; C. Pocock, 4; J. Bower (Goring), 5; E. Bushnell, 6. Tenor 11½ cwt.

OXFORD.—On the birthday of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, Sunday, May 24th, at the cathedral church of Christ, the first 518 of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, tenor 42 cwt. A. Dubber, 1; J. Howes, 2; C. Hounslow, 3; W. Jeffrey, 4; C. Hester, 5; W. Lawrence (conductor), 6; W. C. Baston, 7; A. Barney, 8. The ten at Magdalen College were rung in honour of the event.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday evening, April 26th, for evening service, 672 Grandsire Triples. H. Bridgman, 1; T. Newman, 2; H. Simmonds, 3; J. Hands, 4; G. Essex, 5; A. W. Pike, 6; W. Menday (conductor), 7; E. Heathorn, 8. After service 1008 Bob Major. H. Simmonds, 1; G. Essex, 2; E. W. Menday, 3; E. C. Foxell, 4; A. W. Pike, 5; T. Newman, 6; J. Hands, 7; R. T. Hibbert (conductor), 8. And on Sunday, May 3rd, for evening service, 1008 Double Norwich. H. Simmonds, 1; G. Essex, 2; J. Hands, 3; A. W. Pike, 4; E. W. Menday, 5; R. T. Hibbert, 6; H. Smith, 7; T. Newman (conductor), 8. Also a 560 Bob Major. A. W. Pike, 1; R. T. Hibbert, 2; H. Simmonds, 3; J. F. Tarrant, 4; J. Hands, 5; E. W. Menday, 6; G. Essex, 7; T. Newman (conductor), 8. On Thursday, May 7th, a 504 of Stedman Triples. Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 1; T. Newman, 2; J. Hands, 3; H. Smith, 4; E. W. Menday, 5; G. Essex, 6; E. W. Pike, 7; H. Simmonds, 8. And on Sunday, May 10th, 720 Duffield Major. Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 1; G. Essex, 2; J. Hands, 3; A. W. Pike, 4; F. W. Menday, 5; T. Hibbert, 6; H. Smith, 7; T. Newman (conductor), 8. First touch of Duffield by all the band. After service 560 Double Norwich; also a 504 Grandsire Triples. H. Dibley, 1; E. C. Foxell, 2; H. Simmonds, 3; E. W. Menday, 4; A. W. Pike (conductor), 5; E. Humphries (Abingdon), 6; H. Humphries (Abingdon), 7; E. Heathorn, 8.

STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

BUCKNALL.—On Thursday, May 21st, at the parish church, 720 College Single. W. Wheelodon, 1; *R. W. Twigg, 2; J. E. Wheelodon, 3; G. Hobbs, 4; J. Warren, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method with a bob bell. Also 720 Canterbury Pleasure. And on Sunday evening, May 24th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. Also after service in honour of the Queen's birthday, 720 College Single standing as above.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHOVER (Lewes).—On Sunday, May 17th, for evening service, 504 Bob Triples. C. W. Sandles, 1; W. Trusler, 2; G. Turner, 3; A. Turner, 4; F. Baker, 5; A. Langridge, 6; R. J. Dawe (conductor), 7; H. Shoesmith, 8. And on Monday, May 18th, 720 Bob Minor. W. Trusler, 1; A. Turner, 2; A. Langridge, 4; F. Baker, 5; R. W. Hoather, 6; R. J. Dawe (composer and conductor), 7; C. W. Sandles, 8. The above band then visited Buxted and Uckfield, and rang a 504 Bob Triples at each place. And on Sunday, May 24th, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor. C. W. Sandles, 1; W. Trusler, 3; A. Turner, 4; G. Turner, 5; A. Langridge, 6; R. J. Dawe, 7; H. Shoesmith, 8. And recently on handbells, 720 Bob Minor and 720 Yorkshire Court. C. W. Sandles, 1; A. Turner, 2; G. Turner, 3; C. Stehelin, 4; A. Langridge, 5; R. J. Dawe, 6. R. W. Hoather hails from London; F. Baker from Brighton.

STEYNING (Sussex).—On Tuesday, 5th May, eight members of the Steyning branch attempted to ring Holt's Original but came to grief through a change-course, after ringing about three-quarters of an hour. This was followed by a 576 of Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Matthews, 1; J. Smart, 2; W. N. Holt, 3; W. B. Hills, 4; G. Gatland, 5; J. Woolgar, 6; G. Smart, 7; C. Tyler (conductor), 8. And on Monday, 11th May, the same band made another attempt to ring Holt's Original, but with less success, as a change-course occurred within fifteen minutes of the start, and again they found consolation in Kent Treble Bob Major, a 640 of which was brought round. J. Matthews, 1; J. Smart, 2; W. N. Holt, 3; W. B. Hills, 4; G. Smart, 5; G. Gatland, 6; J. Woolgar, 7; C. Tyler (conductor), 8.

ASHSTEAD (Surrey).—On Monday, May 18th, at the parish church, 1120 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Short, 1; A. Mills, 2; J. Akehurst, 3; T. Andrews, 4; J. Taylor, 5; F. Rice, 6; H. H. Chandler, 7; F. Wickens (conductor), 8. Also 358 Court Bob Triples. J. Akehurst, 1; W. Short, 2; J. Taylor, 3; H. H. Chandler, 4; T. Andrews, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; F. Rice, 7; A. Mills, 8.

MILLAND.—On Monday, May 18th, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob and touches of Oxford Treble Bob and Canterbury Pleasure. C. Soane, 1; T. Ellis, 2; W. H. George (conductor), 3; *W. Wady, 4; W. Selby, 5; J. Lee, 6. *First 720 of Woodbine.

HASLEMERE.—On the same date, 720 Woodbine, 720 Oxford, and 720 Kent Treble Bob by the above band. 720 Plain Bob by B. Hawkins, 1; G. Hawkins, 2; W. H. George (conductor), 3; T. Ellis, 4; C.

Soane, 5; W. Selby, 6. Also 360, with T. Mack, 1; T. Ellis, 2; G. Hawkins, 3; C. Soane, 4; W. Selby (conductor), 5; J. Lee, 6.

PETERSFIELD.—In the evening, on the front six, 720 Plain Bob Minor. Rev. Cyril Edwards, 1; T. Ellis, 2; W. H. George (conductor), 3; C. Soane, 4; W. Selby, 5; J. Lee, 6; — Hendy, 7; — Petswich, 8; and several courses of Grandsire Triples. Wady hails from Billinghurst; B. and S. Hawkins from Hawley; and Mack from Haslemere; the Rev. Cyril Edwards, Messrs. Hendy and Petwith belong to the Petersfield band. The ringers wish through the medium of this paper to thank the Vicars for the use of the bells, and steeplekeepers for having all things ready.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

STEBBING (Essex).—On Monday, May 25th, at St. Mary's church, in honour of the Queen's birthday, 720 changes in six different methods, viz.: New Doubles, St. Simon's, Stedman Slow Course, St. Dunstan's, Canterbury Pleasure, and Grandsire. A. Barker, 1; H. Emery, 2; J. T. Barker, 3; E. Hynds, 4; E. Claydon (conductor), 5;

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

KIDDERMINSTER.—On Wednesday, May 27th, at the parish church, 640 of Superlative Surprise Major. G. Salter, 1; H. Williams, 2; T. J. Salter, 3; W. Wakeman, 4; W. H. Smith, 5; J. Bennett, 6; J. Crane, 7; R. E. Grove (conductor), 8.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Sunday morning, May 24th, for Divine Service at St. Andrew's church, 720 Plain Bob in 26½ mins. *A. Spittle, 1; J. Townsend, 2; F. Hill, 3; W. Prestidge, 4; R. Round, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. *Hails from Dudley, and this is his first 720, and the first attempt that ever he made to ring one.

THE ALLHALLOWS (TOTTENHAM) SOCIETY.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, May 24th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. C. A. Button, 1; J. Waghorn, jun. (conductor), 2; T. C. Grove, 3; J. Waghorn, 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; H. A. Barnett, 6; W. P. English, 7; W. Martin, 8.

THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS.

LEWISHAM (Kent).—On Sunday evening, May 2nd, after Divine Service, 784 Bob Major. H. Warnett, 1; F. Rumens, 2; J. Rose, 3; J. E. Davis, 4; W. Bedwell, 5; H. P. Harman, 6; H. Fruin, 7; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 8. Also at the same place on Monday evening, the 25th May, for practice, 518 Grandsire Triples. H. Peters, 1; H. Warnett, 2; *G. Daynes, 3; F. Rumens (conductor), 4; *T. Chandler, 5; J. E. Davis, 6; W. Bedwell, 7; H. Barrett, 8. *Longest touch with a bob bell.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

ROMSEY (Hants).—On Sunday, May 17th, at the abbey, for early choral service, 120 Bob Doubles. F. Russen, 1; J. Ellcomb, 2; G. Newman, 3; C. Tribe, 4; T. Cole, 5; J. C. Wheeler, 6; J. Walker, 7; G. Saint, 8. Also for morning service an 120. And for afternoon service a 240. Also on Monday, May 18th, a 360. F. Russen, 1; R. White, 2; G. Newman, 3; C. Tribe (conductor), 4; T. Cole, 5; J. Ellcomb, 6; J. Walker, 7; G. Saint, 8. And in the evening, another 360 by the same band. Also on Sunday evening, May 24th, for Divine Service, two six-scores of Bob Doubles. J. Ellcomb, 1; R. White, 2; G. Newman, 3; C. Tribe (conductor), 4; T. Cole, 5; A. Newman, 6; J. Walker, 7; G. Saint, 8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BLACKBURN BRANCH.

BLACKBURN.—On Sunday evening, May 17th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. J. Smith, jun., 1; J. Walker, 2; J. Vogwell, 3; T. Hindle, 4; W. E. Wilson, 5; J. Watson, 6; J. Walker (conductor), 7; J. Smith, sen., 8. J. Vogwell hails from Houghton; the rest belong to the local company. Tenor about 17 cwt.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

LEISTON (Suffolk).—On Saturday, May 9th, for practice at the parish church, 1008 Bob Major. J. Flegg, 1; W. Taylor, 2; J. Button, 3; G. Wilson, 4; H. J. Button, 5; C. Lincoln, 6; F. Argent, 7; A. J. Lincoln (conductor), 8. And on the following Saturday, 720 Bob Minor. F. Argent, 1; G. Wilson, 2; W. Taylor, 3; F. Cooper, 4; H. J. Button (conductor), 5; J. Button, 6.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

REIGATE (Surrey).—On Whit-Sunday, for Divine Service in the morning at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples (1260 changes), from H. Johnson's peal, in 46 mins. J. Howard, 1; F. Hoad, 2; F. Linter, 3; G. Croucher, 4; E. Moses (conductor), 5; E. Kenward, 6; W. Argent, 7; A. Mcoley, 8. And before evening

service, 420 of Oxford Bob Triples, conducted by F. Hoad, and 504 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by W. Argent. Touches of Grandsire Triples were also rung after the evening service, in which visitors from Tenbridge and Walthamstow took part.

BEDFORD.—On Monday, May 14th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). W. Shimmans (first 720), 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; W. Hall, 3; I. Hills, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; S. Constant (conductor), 6. Also on Thursday, May 21st, at St. Paul's church on handbells, 672 Grandsire Triples, containing all the 5-7-6's and 5-6-7's. I. Hills, 1; E. Coleman, 2; C. Johnson, 3; W. Shimmans, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5-6; H. Sharp, 7-8.

BISHOP AUCKLAND (Durham).—On Sunday evening, May 24th, for Divine Service, 720 of Bob Minor. *T. Hall, 1; J. G. Pratt, 2; F. Charlton, 3; W. Charlton, 4; J. Pallister, 5; T. Bozzard (conductor), 6. *First 720; and hails from St. Peter's, Jarrow.

BLOXWICH (Staffordshire).—On Wednesday, May 20th, at the parish church, with the bells muffled, after the funeral of the vicar, the Rev. J. B. Barrow, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans') in 45 mins. W. Griffin, 1; F. Hallsworth, 2; J. Astbury, sen., 3; W. Walker, 4; D. Westley, 5; J. Lawton, 6; J. Astbury, jun. (conductor), 7; E. Taylor, 8. All the above are members of the St. Matthew's society, Walsall.

BROMLEY (Kent).—On Sunday evening, May 24th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 700 Grandsire Triples, being the latter end of Holt's Original, in 24 mins. F. Sanders, 1; P. F. Harman, 2; E. Dunn, 3; W. Fright, 4; H. G. Fruin, 5; G. Simpson, 6; H. P. Harman (conductor), 7; G. Huxley, 8.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Sunday, May 24th, being the Queen's birthday, six 120's of Grandsire Doubles in 25 mins. A. Crook, 1; J. J. Parker, 2; G. Basden, 3; T. Collings, 4; C. Clarke, 5; E. Alderfield, 6. Also another 720 of the same with J. Bovington, 5. And on Saturday, May 30th, 720 Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. G. Basden, 1; S. Quinton, 2; J. J. Parker (conductor), 3; R. Collings, 4; R. Flaxman, 5; C. Clarke, 6. Also another 360 with J. Bovington.

GREAT BADDOW (Essex).—On Tuesday, May 19th, at the parish church for practice, 720 Bob Minor. F. Newman (first 720), 1; J. Newman, 2; W. Newman, 3; A. Richell, 4; A. Edwards, 5; G. Green (first 720 as conductor), 6.

HUGHENDEN (Bucks).—On Monday, May 18th, at the church of St. Michael, an attempt was made to ring Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, which came to grief after ringing 3024 changes. B. Page, 1; H. Stratford, 2; F. Biggs, 3; S. Goodchild, 4; W. Whiffin, 5; J. Evans (conductor), 6. In the afternoon of the same day a peal of Stedman Triples was rung (the first in the tower without the assistance of the Rev. F. E. Robinson and Mr. Washbrook). A report of this peal will be found in its proper place.

OLD WINDSOR (Berks).—On Thursday, May 14th, at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. H. Meads, 1; J. J. Parker, 2; T. Shanks, 3; W. Wilder, 4; J. Guttridge, 5; R. Flaxman, 6. Also 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Williams, 1; G. Stanbrook, 2; J. J. Parker, 3; F. Tindall, 4; T. Gosling, 5; R. Flaxman, 6; W. Wilder, 7; J. Guttridge, 8. And on Monday, May 21st, 720 Kent Treble Bob in 26 mins. A. H. Taber, 1; J. J. Parker (conductor), 2; G. Stanbrook, 3; J. Basden, 4; S. Quinton, 5; R. Flaxman, 6.

OLD HILL (Staffs.).—On Friday, May 15th, at Holy Trinity church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. T. H. Smith, 1; Rev. C. W. Bassano, 2; A. H. Bassano, 3; H. Cartwright, 4; H. Mason, 5; A. E. Parsons (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, May 20th, 720 Plain Bob. W. Priest, 1; A. H. Bassano (conductor), 2; T. H. Smith, 3; H. Cartwright, 4; H. Mason, 5; A. E. Parsons, 6. Also 720 Grandsire. W. Priest, 1; T. H. Smith, 2; A. H. Bassano, 3; H. Cartwright, 4; H. Mason (conductor), 5; A. E. Parsons, 6. And on Sunday evening, May 24th, three courses of Bob Major, and one of Grandsire, R. and W. Bird and A. W. Green, three members of the old band, taking part.

OSSETT (Yorks).—On Sunday morning, May 24th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. A. Yelland, 1; G. Hunt, 2; W. H. Giggie, 3; H. Rowley (conductor), 4; G. F. Pickles, 5; A. Thickett, 6. First 720 by W. H. Giggie. And for evening service 360 of Oxford and 360 of Violet. A. Yelland, 1; W. H. Giggie, 2; G. Hunt, 3; H. Rowley (conductor), 4; G. F. Pickles, 5; R. Thickett, 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

SELBY (Yorks).—On Sunday, May 17th, for Divine Service at the abbey church, a 1000 Bob Triples. W. Weldrake, 1; W. Connell, 2; F. Cryer (conductor), 3; S. James, 4; A. Cryer, 5; W. Winders, 6; A. Dobson, 7; W. Welburn, 8.

TITCHMARSH (Northants).—On Tuesday, May 19th, at the parish church, 336 Grandsire Triples. J. B. Martin, 1; J. S. White, 2; T. Ealey, 3; J. Mackay, 4; F. Gilbert, 5; S. Hall, 6; A. H. Martin

(conductor), 7; H. Digby, 8. Messrs. J. B. and A. H. Martin were elected members of the Midland Counties' Association previous to the ringing, and hail from Higham Ferrers. Also a course of Bob Major. S. Hall, 1; T. Ealey, 2; E. H. Haxley, 3; W. Thompson, 4; J. Mackay, 5; J. S. White, 6; J. B. Martin, 7; A. H. Martin, 8.

WALLASEY (Cheshire).—On Monday, May 18th, at St. Hilary's church, 720 Grandsire Minor in 24 mins. Tenor 11½ cwt. J. R. Pritchard (conductor), 1; J. Booth, 2; J. Pilkington, 3; J. Woods, 4; J. Rogers, 5; G. Prescott, 6.

WOLLASTON.—At St. James's church, on Monday, April 27th, a 720 of Superlative Surprise. C. Barrett, 1; G. H. Pagett, 2; H. Harris, 3; H. Dakin, 4; W. Fryer, 5; W. F. Hartshorne (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, May 5th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Stinton, 1; J. Lewis, 2; H. Dakin (conductor), 3; W. Fryer, 4; G. H. Pagett, 5; J. Buffery (St. Martin's, Birmingham), 6. On Sunday for service, 720 Grandsire. W. Stinton, 1; G. H. Pagett, 2; J. H. Parsons, 3; C. Baggott, 4; W. Fryer, 5; H. Dakin (conductor), 6. On Sunday, May 24th, for service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. W. Stinton, 1; J. H. Parsons, 2; H. Dakin, 3; W. F. Hartshorne, 4; W. Fryer, 5; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, May 26th, 720 Kent Treble Bob, 15 bobs, taken from the *Clavis*. W. Stinton, 1; J. H. Parsons, 2; G. H. Pagett, 3; J. Lewis, 4; W. Fryer, 5; H. Dakin (conductor), 6.

WOMBURN (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, May 24th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor in 28 mins. G. Little, 1; G. Deans, 2; H. Deans, 3; J. E. Claridge, 4; A. Tipton (first 720), 5; R. Cartwright, 6. Tenor 10 cwt. 12 lbs. Rung in honour of the Queen's birthday.

Review.

THE CHURCH BELLS OF SUFFOLK.—By J. J. Raven, D.D., Author of "Church Bells of Cambridgeshire."—(London: Jarrold and Sons).—It is not easy to criticise such a book as this, embodying as it does the researches of forty-two years in a special and somewhat obscure department of antiquarian lore; the completeness and correctness of which could only be tested by an antiquarian campanologist equal in patience, perseverance, and accumulated stock of knowledge, to its learned author. The book is a perfect store-house of facts about the dates, dimensions, and history as shewn from inscriptions upon the bells themselves and from parish records, of every church bell in the county of Suffolk. Some idea of the patient labour involved in its preparation may be inferred from the fact that the list of "Inscriptions upon the Church Bells of Suffolk," which occupies the last 100 pages, contains the inscriptions upon 1864 church bells in 557 parishes, besides the smaller "clock-bells," Sanctus-bells," etc., which here and there survive. This list appears to us by far the most practically useful part of the book: the earlier chapters which deal with the lettering, foundry marks, etc., upon bells of various ages and by different founders, being of a purely antiquarian character—very valuable to a few enthusiasts, but not of much interest to the general, or even to the ringing public. As a specimen of the information given under the head of each parish, we may quote that which refers to St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich:

"Tenor Db, 32 cwt. Diam. 58 in. 12 bells.

1. †Cantate Domino Cantico Novo† 1866.
2. John Taylor and Sons, Loughborough, Founders, July 15th, 1845.
3. George Taylor Joselyn and Edwin Brook, Churchwardens, 1844.
4. Christopher Hodson made me 1688. R.M.T.S.
5. †Laudate Dominum in Cymbalis Resonantibus—1866.
- 6, 8, 10. John Darbie made me 1671.
7. Miles Graye made me 1607.
- 9.—En Resono Reparata Maria Decora Vocata— Cast by John Warner and Sons, London, 1866.
11. Miles Graye made me 1610.
- 12.—Triplex Persona Trinitas nunc Gaudia Dona— Cast by John Warner and Sons, 1861.

No return of bells in certif. of 1547. 5 and a Sanctus bell in 1553. Davy 2 Aug., 1810, notes 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 (the present 4, 6, 8, 10, and 11) as here. The old 2nd (present 5th.) was like the old treble, and Warner in 1866 repeated the inscription on the old 6th (present 9th), dated 1707. The recasting saved any tuning."

Or that, again, of another well-known peal at Lavenham, the tenor of which is considered the masterpiece of Miles Graye:

- "LAVENHAM SS Peter & Paul. Tenor C. 23 cwt. 8 bells.
- 1, 2. William Dobson, Founder, 1811.
3. Henry Pleasant made me 1702.
4. Ricardus Bowler me fecit 1603.
- Jacobus Fuller et Antonius Honnesly Guardiani Ecclesiae de Lavenham.

5. Henry Pleasant made me 1703.

6. Ricardus Bowler me fecit 1603. Hic meus usus erit populum vocare (four dwarfs and other devices).

7. C. and G. Mears, Founders, London. Here follow names of Rector, Curate, and Churchwardens, and "Thomas Turner, Woolstapler; Charles King, Shoemaker," presumably the donors of the bell.

8. Miles Graye made me 1605.

Davy, Aug. 14 and 15, 1826, aucts "Hic. etc." on 6. al. sim (? "others likewise.") The old 7th "Henry Pleasant made me 1702." The Whitechapel mea were justly proud of their new seventh. She had to be flattened however. The tenor is a very noted bell. John Carr, when he first heard her said, "She came in with such a noble sound that she vibrated a perfect octave." Others have observed the absence of overtures. Some consider that she varies with the weather. In the vertical section of this bell the peculiarity seems to be thinness, especially at the crown. "Great bells v. Sanctus bells"; "return in 1553."

These entries give the history of two famous peals; but they are fair specimens of the whole. The inscription and history of the bells in obscure country towers with only one, two, or three bells is recorded with just as much care; and many curious items of information turn up. As the Archdeacon of Worcester said the other day in his charge (see "BELL NEWS," May 23, 1891, p. 99), it is in the quiet country belfries that you find the mediæval bells, where no requirements of change-ringing have led to the recasting or augmentation of peals. But such "calm decay," if it has left some relics of antiquity undisturbed, has deprived us of many more through neglect, or by the careless sale of bells by needy parishes or grasping squires. Dr. Raven's pages contain only too many such entries as the following:—"all ornaments, playnt and belles belonging to our Cherche ar fore to sell" (1687): "one belle selde for xxxs., which is and shall be aplyed to the reparcn of church roffe and the palyng of the churchyerd" (1547): "The clerk informed me that there were some years ago 3 bells, but that two were sold for repairs" (1823): "a fine bell, cast in 1556, was sold by the parish in 1775 for £82 7s. 6d." In one parish now possessing one bell the return of 1553 gives great bells iii; and a set of ringers' rules dated 1707 shows that there was at that time a ring of bells. In another we find what Dr. Raven calls "a very suggestive case of depredation," a squire having in the reign of Henry VIII. sold two bells and two vestments belonging to his parish church, the loss of which to the parish was reported as £20; but when called to account by the commission of enquiry in 1553, he brought in a certificate that the bells were not worth £5 and that he had taken them "supposing the sayd church to be hys oune chapell." Contrary however to the common opinion, Dr. Raven does not seem to consider that, in Suffolk at any rate, there was any general robbery of bells either at the Reformation or during the Puritan regime of the 17th century. Church plate, as being easily portable, suffered far more.

Suffolk appears to retain a good many specimens of the "Sanctus" or "Sance" bell, a small bell rung at the *Ter Sanctus* (Holy, Holy, Holy) in the service of the mass; which was hung first on the rood-screen, and afterwards outside the church in a small cot on the nave gable. It also has two examples (at Southwold and Blythburgh) of a "Jack o' th' clock," or figure striking the hours on a bell; whose name Dr. Raven thinks is derived from one Jacquemart, a famous clock-maker at Lille in the 15th century. Some visitors to the Stour valley may have seen the curious bell house (or *Clochard*) in the churchyard of East Bergholt, in which the bells hang in a frame upon the ground. This Dr. Raven explains to have been intended as a temporary receptacle till the building of a tower, whose foundations may be seen; illustrating it by the figure of a similar bell-house which 200 years ago stood in the quadrangle of King's College, Cambridge, containing five large bells waiting for a tower—the tenor about 46 cwt. When this bell-house decayed about 1740, the bells were moved to the ante-chapel and thence before long to the Whitechapel foundry to be melted down—a melancholy instance of indifference and neglect which great collegiate foundations have too often shewn in regard to their bells. It is strange that after 150 years the site of the old bell-house should still be marked in dry weather by "a peculiarly arid spot" upon the College lawn.

The oldest existing bell in Suffolk is, according to Dr. Raven, the tenor at Worlington, from the Kings Lynn foundry, date about 1300. Dr. Raven thinks that the idea of casting large tower bells came from the East, and may have reached England about the sixth century; but the earliest instructions for making bells that he has been able to discover are in a treatise by a monk of Evesham in the reign of Henry III. (1216-1273). A "core" or central block seems to have been covered with a wax "model" of the intended thickness of the bell. Over this a "cope" or outer covering of earth was tightly pressed; and a fire lighted underneath melted the wax, which ran out, leaving

its place to be filled with molten metal—one fifth or sixth part tin, purified from lead, and the rest copper. The relative dimensions of a peal of bells were determined by a rule of thumb calculation; the "model" for each bell, starting from the lightest, being eight-ninths of the one before it. Finally, "contemplating the abominable noise which would be sure to arise from these handiworks," the worthy monk adds "If you fail in any point, it can be set right with a whetstone or a file." And Dr. Raven may be right in attributing the almost total disappearance of bells of the Saxon or Norman periods to the free use of such instruments that must have been necessary to get bells so cast into anything like decent tune.

We shall not attempt to criticise the learned discussion of the marks, lettering, etc., found on bells from the early foundries of Lynn, Norwich, Bury, Thetford, etc., and the classification by the help of these marks of the church bells of Suffolk. This part of Dr. Raven's work shews extraordinary patience and minuteness; and the only complaint we have to make is that (perhaps inevitably) the mass of material collected in his note-books has not been so digested and arranged as to make it very easy of reference. There it is, however; a store-house of facts, a quarry in which you may dig anywhere and always find something. The last chapter contains some interesting jottings anent the work of some of the leading foundries of the present century at Whitechapel, Cripplegate, Loughborough, Redenhall, etc.; between which Dr. Raven judiciously avoids comparison.

Of change-ringing and its history this book has little to say, being concerned with the antiquarian rather than the practical side of campanology; and we should say, from external evidence, that its author, enthusiastic as he is about the bells themselves, has never been a ringer. But he has a good word to say for the art of change-ringing—and many of us know only too well the truth of the following remarks (ch. viii):—

"There are very few common subjects on which there are such wild ideas as on bell-ringing. Every Christmas in the illustrated papers you see the most grotesque views of ringers plentifully exerting themselves in a way which would ensure their own destruction and the ruin of the bell-gear. People think that ringing is a vulgar, low kind of thing, only practised by bores and a few partially-deranged gentlemen, who ought to be in a private lunatic asylum. Did they know anything of the history of the Art, they would find that among its votaries have been a nobleman, Lord Brereton; a great judge, Sir Matthew Hale; senators, as Sir Symonds d'Ewes; scholars, as Dawes, and many others, of whose company no honest man need be ashamed." Could he have added "The clergy in charge of good ringing peals," much of the neglect and misconception of which he speaks would have been obviated.

We have only to remark in conclusion that the style both of letter-press and illustration in this handsome volume does great credit to its publishers.

We have received from Messrs. S. W. Partridge and Co. (9, Paternoster-row), a copy each of their illustrated monthly magazines for June. They comprise *The British Workman*, *The Band of Hope Review*, *The Children's Friend*, *The Family Friend*, *The Mothers' Companion*, *The Infants' Magazine*, and *The Friendly Visitor*. These pleasant serials are got up with great care, and the illustrations are in admirable taste.

Obituary.

HENRY HUBBARD.

It is our painful duty to announce this week the decease of more than one ringer bearing an historical name. Henry Hubbard, the only son of the late talented author of "Hubbard's Elements of Campanologia," departed this life on Wednesday, May 13th, in the 58th year of his age. He was born in the parish of St. Giles, Norwich, on the 14th of February, 1834, at an hour when the bells were ringing merrily in changes for a peal, his father being one of the band. At the age of nine he could ring a bell, and commenced to ring under his father's tuition, being connected with the Exercise up to June, 1854. At this time he was looked upon as a very promising youth, and it was therefore to the immense grief of his devoted parents, and the dismay of his friends, that he enlisted into the 5th Northumbrian Fusiliers, then stationed at Norwich. He served with his regiment at the Mauritius, and through the Indian mutiny, being present at the capture of Lucknow on March 19th, 1858, and received the medal and clasp. On his return from active service he was for a time stationed at the Tower of London, then at the Curragh, in Ireland, where he completed his term of service, a good conduct badge accompanying his discharge. He rung his first peal during his military career (Holt's ten-part) at St. Leonard's church, Hythe, Kent. He joined his parents after his discharge, and became a member of the Leeds St. Peter's society, of

which his father was a member. Not long afterwards he left to form a new band at Hunslet, and remained there until 1884, when he again joined the Leeds society. He belonged to the Yorkshire Association from its commencement, being a member of its first committee. He also belonged to the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Leeds and District Amalgamated Society. In all he rung ninety-four peals: Bob Triples 3, Bob Major 9, Bob Royal 1, Grandsire Triples 8, Yorkshire Court 1; Oxford Treble Bob Major 8, Kent Treble Bob Major 60, Kent Treble Bob Royal 3, Stedman Caters 1. Of these he conducted two. The interment took place at Woodhouse Hill Cemetery on Saturday, May 16th, the funeral being attended by relatives and ringing friends from Leeds, Wakefield, Hull, Holbeck, Rothwell, Hunslet, Headingley, Birstall, and Pudsey. A course of Grandsire Caters was rung over his grave by J. Hutchinson, 1-2; C. Jackson, 3-4; H. W. Needham, 5-6; T. Lockwood, 7-8; G. Barraclough, 9-10. And at the parish church in the evening the bells were rung muffled as a mark of esteem. He leaves a widow, three sisters, and an aged mother to mourn his loss. He was always one of the first to oblige for a peal, to assist young bands, or do anything to forward that art he loved so well. These lines will no doubt be read by many who will recall to memory many happy hours spent in his society. He was a true friend, and one whose place at Leeds will not easily be filled.

JAMES LOCKWOOD.

It is also with the deepest regret that we have to record the death, on May 7th, of this well-known and distinguished ringer, in the 74th year of his age. Deceased was born at Louth, in Lincolnshire, November 17th, 1817, and commenced to ring at Winterton in the same county. He joined the Leeds St. Peter's Company as a probationer, on September 1st, 1842, and was made a full member on December 30th, 1844. There is no record of the peals he has rung, but his first was at Pudsey. In 1848 he composed and conducted a peal of Stedman Triples. In 1849 he removed to Otley, where he resided until 1862, when he again removed to Leeds and joined the Leeds St. Peter's Company. He was one of the founders of the Yorkshire Association, in which he rung thirty-seven peals. Though a good ringer and conductor, he was most noted for his compositions, having composed peals of Stedman Triples, Grandsire Triples, Treble Bob Triples, Major, Royal, Maximus, and various other methods; amongst his peals of Treble Bob Major was an 8000 in five parts, and an 11,200. With a combination of the Oxford and Kent methods, he succeeded in getting the full extent 40,320 in Treble Bob Major. (See Sottanstill's book). On the revival of change-ringing in the county of Yorkshire, he for many years took a leading part, and was always ready to lend a helping hand, or give advice to young ringers. The gentleness of his disposition, his unselfishness and genuine simplicity of character, endeared him to a host of friends, who will long cherish his memory with affection. The funeral took place at Burmantofts Cemetery, Leeds, on May 10th, and was well attended by several ringers from different places. At the close of the solemn service, a course of Grandsire Caters on the hand-bells, was rung by the Leeds St. Peter Society over the deceased, and half-muffled touches were rung for Sunday service, as a tribute of respect to his memory.

JOHN BEEZLEY.

This good old tenor-man died on May 10th, at the village of Bishopstone, Wilts. He was born at Aldbourne (six miles from the last-mentioned place), in the year 1844, being thus in his 77th year. He well remembered several peals being cast at Aldbourne, at the foundry of the Wells family, and he rang the tenor there on March 27th, 1837, to a peal of Grandsire Triples, in 3 hrs. 16 mins. In 1838 he went to London, and enlisted into the Grenadier Guards, and the regiment being shortly afterwards sent to Winchester, he paid visits to most of the towers in and around that city. On returning to London, he became a member of the St. James's Society and the College Youths, and rang the tenor to several peals in the metropolis and neighbourhood, viz.: seven of Grandsire Triples and Caters; and three of Stedman Triples and Caters. Although in latter years becoming very feeble, it always delighted him to hear of ringing news generally, and our correspondent has frequently visited the old ringer, and spent some time with him whenever in the locality.

On the eve of going to press we are sorry to be apprised of the death of a very old friend—W. Coppage, steeplekeeper for many years at St. John's, Waterloo-road, London, which sad event took place on the evening of Tuesday last, in his 64th year. We shall refer to the event again next week; meanwhile it may be announced that the funeral will take place about 3 o'clock this day (Saturday) at Nunhead cemetery, the first part of the burial service being performed at St. John's church about 2 o'clock. A muffled peal will be attempted at St. John's after the funeral, by members of the Waterloo Society, and it is believed that the Vicar of St. John's will allude to the event in his sermon on the following day.

STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

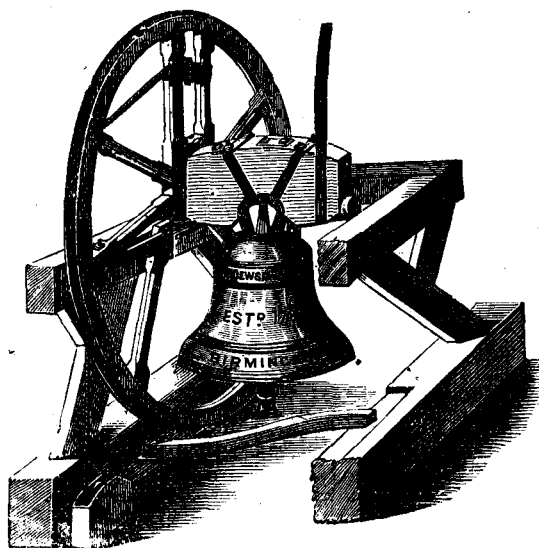
A very successful meeting of the above Association was held at Cheadle on Whit-Monday, ringers attending from Bucknall and Uttoxeter. The bells having been raised, a start was made for a peal of Bob Minor, but through the noisy intrusion of some young persons in the belfry while the peal was in progress, it came to an abrupt conclusion. The Rector, the Rev. E. S. Carlos, having entered the belfry during the cessation of ringing, cordially greeted the ringers present, and invited them to the rectory for refreshments. In order that some of the younger ringers who were present—and whose knowledge of the science as yet only extends as far as Doubles—might have a share in the day's proceedings, two 120's of Bob Doubles were rung. Another attempt for the peal was then made, but unfortunately met with the same fate as its predecessor. An adjournment was then made to the rectory, where an inviting repast was found awaiting attention, the genial Rector presiding, and ever watchful for the well-being of his guests. It is needless to add that ample justice was done to the good things provided. The wants of the inner man having been attended to, the lay secretary, Mr. W. Twigg, rose to apologise for the absence of the clerical secretary, the Rev. R. B. Tonge, who had unavoidably been detained to minister to sick parishioners, and begged to offer on behalf of himself and fellow-ringers heartiest thanks to the Rev. E. S. Carlos for his great kindness in so handsomely entertaining all present, and reluctantly observed that such instances of the clergy's interest in the ringing community in this district were few and far between. The Rector, in responding, returned thanks for kind wishes expressed, and intimated that on future occasions he should only be too happy to again entertain them. A move was then made to the tower, but unfortunately all attempts came to grief. The bells were then lowered, and a move made to St. Giles' Catholic Church, to attempt a 720 of Oxford Bob, but when 600 changes—which

had been exceedingly well struck—had been rung, a mishap spoiled the attempt. This brought an enjoyable day's ringing to an end, everyone being well pleased with the day's change.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A district meeting of this Association was held at Balcombe on Saturday, May 2nd, but owing to the inclemency of the weather only a small muster of members attended: from Brighton, Balcombe, Crawley, Reigate, and Burgess Hill. The rector of Balcombe presided at the luncheon and business meeting which followed. A new branch at Waldron was formed, and altogether thirty-three active members were elected, including additional members to the following branches: East Grinstead, Angmering, Crawley, St. Albans, Balcombe and Arundel. It was decided that the annual general meeting be held in Brighton, the date fixed being July 4th, and that the report as usual be printed and distributed to the members desiring copies on the same terms as last year. Ditchling was selected as the centre for the next six-bell East Sussex District Meeting. Votes of thanks to the vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells and to the vicar for presiding were passed. The bells, a peal of six, with tenor 11 cwt., were kept going during the afternoon and evening to the tune of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Plain Bob, College Exercise, and various other Minor methods.

TROWBRIDGE (Wilts).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Saturday, May 9th, 421 Grandsire Caters. A. P. Goddard, 1-2; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 3-4; W. W. Gifford, 5-6; T. Blackburn, 7-8; W. Greenleaf, 9-10. This was rung on an old peal of bells which was presented to the Trowbridge company of ringers by James Wells, of Aldbourne, bell founder, in the year 1800, when he put up the ring of eight in St. James' church.



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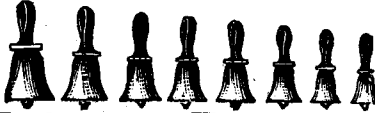
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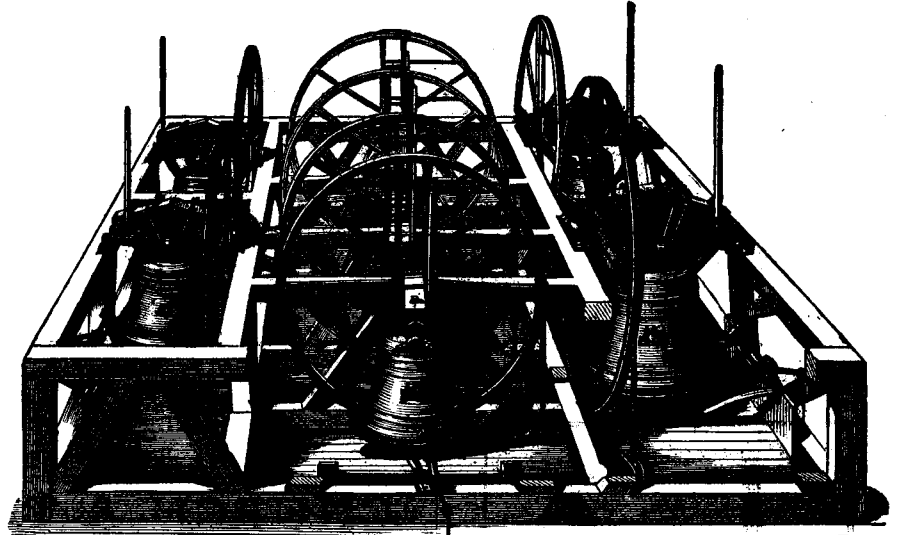
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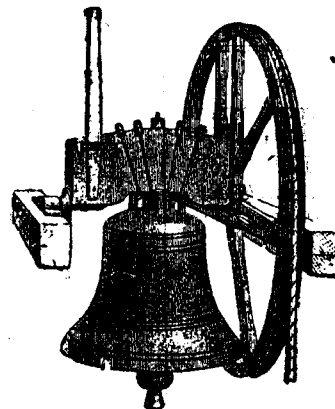
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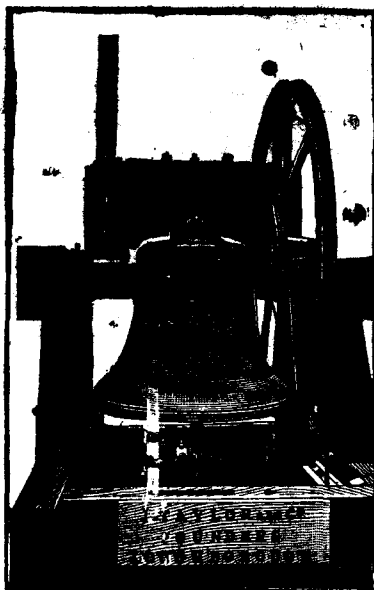
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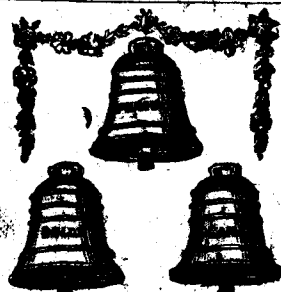
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