

# BELL NEWS

## And Ringers' Record:

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

No 1721. — VOL. XXXIII.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 1915.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

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THE AUTHORITIES WRITE:—

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The old bells were so badly out of tune one with another, that it is a great pleasure to hear a peal of ten so perfectly in tune as ours now are on the Canon Simpson Principle."

We are, dear Sirs,  
 Yours faithfully,

JAS. M. J. FLETCHER, *Vicar.*  
 FRANK BLOUNT, } *Churchwardens.*  
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**ALFRED BOWELL**  
**BELL FOUNDER,**  
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April 23rd, 1913.

DEAR SIR—

You will be glad to hear from me that the restoration of our eight bells has been completed to the satisfaction and gratification of the whole neighborhood. I have expert testimony to the fact that the new steel frame and the work connected with it fully justify the trust we had in you. The tone and tune of the bells are excellent, and we have every reason to believe that many generations will pass before any further work upon them is needed. My Churchwardens agree with me in all I am saying, and we hope that the credit you have so well earned will be the means of securing many other contracts. We never paid a bill with greater pleasure.

Yours faithfully,

W. H. ROBINS, D.D.,  
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Latest Improved  
Principles  
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Published by WILLIAM GORDON,  
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Additions to list 13, General Cata-  
logues, with 19 Bells, viz., G 18  
Also two F sharps and two C sharps  
No. 32A B Home, Sweet Home, three varia-  
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W. and B. hung the Bells upon which the  
longest peal of Double Norwich, 17,024 changes,  
was rung at Kidlington, by eight members of  
the Oxford Diocesan Guild, on May 22nd,  
1899. Actual weight of tenor 23½ cwt.

### J. F. MALLABY & CO. Church Bell Hangers & Musical Handbell Founders, BARNBY DON, DONCASTER.

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# The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 1721.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 1915.

[Vol. XXXIII.]

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

### SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

A quarterly meeting was held at Hornchurch on Saturday, March 20th, which was attended by about forty members and friends. The bells were available from 3.30, and some very excellent ringing was enjoyed—Grandsire Triples to Bristol Surprise being rung.

Tea was served at the Bull Inn at 5 o'clock, and was followed by the business meeting, at which the District Master (Mr. E. J. Butler), presided, assisted by Mr. H. Rumens, the District Secretary.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and three new members were elected—Miss M. M. Jukes, and Mr. J. Wardley, of St. Saviour's, Walthamstow, and Mr. W. Riches, of the Leytonstone company. Epping was selected as the place for the next meeting, but should Epping be unavailable the District Officers to make other arrangements.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar of Hornchurch for the use of the bells, and to Mr. J. Dale for making the arrangements for the meeting.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

### SOUTHERN DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the above was held at Sheffield, when about fifty members were present, representing fourteen towers. The bells of the Cathedral were available, several young aspirants thus being able to have a pull on ten or twelve. During the afternoon a most cordial message was conveyed to those present from the from the genial Vicar, the Ven. Archdeacon Jones, who would certainly had been present had it been possible.

The business meeting was held in the evening at the Wolstenholm Hall, the chair being occupied by Mr. F. Willey. Mr. C. H. Hattersley was unanimously re-elected vice-president. Not being well enough to be present, Mr. Hattersley sent a letter full of inspiration and good counsel. He had, he said, been perusing the report, and there was talent in the southern district which, if properly directed and with unity, could in friendly rivalry with the other districts place it in the premier position.

Mr. A. Hague, the district secretary, is now serving with the forces. The patriotic spirit he showed is worth special mention, seeing that he tried at least four times and could not get through. Not to be denied, he made himself competent to pass into a branch of the R.A.M.C.

No one present seemed anxious to undertake the secretarial duties *pro tem.*, and ultimately it was decided to ask Mr. S. F. Palmer if he would agree to act. The nine committeemen were re-elected, with the exception of Mr. J. T. Eason, of Wakefield, resigned, a successor being found in Mr. T. Hensher. Arrangements were made for the next meeting to be held at Bolstertone in June, and the meeting terminated with a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar of Sheffield for his cordial welcome, and for the use of the bells; also to the local company for their arrangements.

## WHAT IS A LEGITIMATE METHOD?

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

### ROWS AND CHANGES.

It is of the utmost importance that the student of the theory of ringing should realise the essential distinction between "rows" and "changes." That there is a distinction has always been more or less recognised, and probably far more in the early days of the science—in the evolutionary period that ended early in the eighteenth century—than now. But like all the other fundamental things that lie at the root of Change-Ringing, this has never been consciously recognised; it has been treated vaguely, half acknowledged at times, and half denied at times. It is probably because of this that what I and others have written, has been so little understood, and therefore so much contradicted.

A Method or a Peal Composition is not a certain collection of definite Rows. It is the means by which Rows can be produced. It is an abstract truth which exists independently of concrete expression. It does not require any particular set of Rows to express itself by, but you cannot write it down without choosing some set of Rows or other. You are not compelled when you write out Double Norwich to use the Plain Course; you might start from 82654312, or any other Row. But the Method itself would be exactly the same thing. Or again you are not compelled if you write down Holt's Ten-Part to begin from 1234567; you can start from any Row you like. But the composition would be exactly the same. This will be admitted I think by everyone, but the truth carries us much further. Take the simplest of all compositions—three courses joined together by three bobs on the same three bells. There is no Method possible on which this composition will not run, and in an infinite variety of ways, but it is always the same thing, and since it is a perfect microcosm of every composition it is plain that every composition really independent of any particular expression.

In practical ringing a peal does consist of a definite number of pre-arranged Rows, all of which you must ring in their proper order, but a composition in theoretic ringing consists of no such thing. If you ring say Annable's 3-part peal of Bob Major, you ring a great deal more than Annable gave us; for the far greater part consists of the Method which existed before Annable's time. On the other hand you use but one expression of the composition. Annable's composition will run on any Method on any number of bells. You must have of course the bob that suits it, and it will not guarantee that on some Methods you would not have internal falseness. But it will guarantee that you shall have forty-five courses, and that there shall be no repetition at the lead-ends. The same composition that gave you touches of Bob Major, will also give you touches of Stedman Triples. There is no exception whatever. Some of this truth has of course been recognised, and though people cannot or will not understand a Method, or a Peal Composition as an abstract entirely apart from its concrete expressions, they do recognise

what are called laws of variation. But the truth is that many of these so-called variations are actually the same composition. In the C.C. collection of Bob Major peals there is a 13,440 which I took from Mr. Bulwer's 6720 of Duffield, without Mr. Bulwer's knowledge, and I believe after his death. Compare the two; in their expressions they have nothing in common, actually they are the same composition. Or "Groves' variation" of Mr. Parker's 12-part peal of Grandsire Triples is not a variation at all; it is absolutely the same thing. But Reeves' variation of Holt's Ten-Part is a variation, because it does introduce something into the composition which was not there before.

A Method or a Peal Composition does not consist of a certain definite collection of Rows. The first says give me a Row, any Row you like, and I will add to that Row a certain number of other Rows. What is definite is the relationship between the Rows and the way one is produced from the other. And a Peal Composition says: give me a Course, any Course of any Method you like, and I will add to it a certain number of other Courses, or parts of other Courses. What is definite is the relationship between the Courses and the way one is produced from the other.

When speaking of any actual order of bells I use the word "Row" only as advised by the Glossary. The word "Change" I use for the movement between two Rows, which produces a Row from a Row. Thus:—

1234567  
2143657

The Row 2143657 is produced from 1234567 by a Triple Change.

This is, I believe, the original meaning of the term, and although for years (practically all along) "Changes" has usually meant what we now call "Rows," the truer meaning has also persisted and still does persist. The important point that I want to insist on is that all the essentials of a Method lie in the Changes, and not in the Rows. It does not matter what Rows you produce, it does matter very much how you produce them. A plain course of Double Norwich and a plain course of Double Oxford consist of the same Rows, yet they are two distinct Methods, because the changes are not the same. A course of Double Norwich starting from 12435678 has not got a single Row the same as a Course starting from 12345678, yet the Method is the same thing, because the changes are the same.

It follows from this that so far as the theoretic Method or Peal Composition is concerned one Row is of no more value than another; all that matters is the relationship between the rows, and the fact that one Row is distinct from another Row, and that there is a certain number of them. Hence musical considerations cannot enter into the fundamentals of theoretic ringing. A Row like 13572468 is better than another Row only because it is more musical, but it is only more musical when you ring it on a peal of bells perfectly tuned in the Major scale.

But what does a Method or a Peal Composition care about a Major Scale? You can ring Grandsire Triples on handbells tuned to a Minor Scale, the Method and the Composition are absolutely the same thing, but all the old musical standards go by the board. You do not ring often outside the Major Scale, because all, or practically all tower bells are so tuned, yet we have heard of the "plaintive melody" of the middle six at Exeter.

But you cannot get ringers to see these things. They judge a Method or a Peal Composition by one concrete

expression, not realising that there are many more, any one of which would as likely as not upset their judgement. They judge a Method by a Plain Course, not realising that the Plain Course is only the Course starting or ending with rounds.

When we speak of a Method having Bob Major lead-ends they think only of the actual lead-ends of the plain course of Bob Major. That is not what we mean. We mean any set of lead-ends that have the same relationship to each other that these lead-ends have.

STEDMAN TRIPLES.

By THOMAS BLOORE, Sutton Coldfield.

5940.

	VI	S	H	L	V	VI	Q
2314567							
625431			x	x			x
145623			x	x			
643521	-		x				
256143		x	x			-	
316254			x	x			
426315			x	x			
536421			x	x			
146532			x	x			
356412				x			
246351			x	x			
136245			x	x			
526134			x	x			
416523			x	x			
421536				x	-		
342516		x		x	-		
<hr/>							
631542			x	x			x
251634			x	x			
654132	-		x				
532146		x	x				
453126		x		x	-		

Repeat last five courses eight times, calling Q in the third course of the 2nd and 7th repetition. All 6-7s the right way.—February, 1915.

6720 TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By H. PRICE.

23456	M	W	H
26354	2		1
23564		1	2
62345	in	5th	2
63425		1	2
36524	2		2
25634		2	2
32654		1	
<hr/>			
34256	2		1
32546		1	2
43265	in	5th	2
42635		1	2
24536	2		2
35426		2	2
23456		1	

4-5-6 their extent in 6ths place, 4-6 each at five courses

"THE BELL NEWS," post free, 1s. 8d. per quarter, or 6s. 6d. per year

## OBITUARY.

## MR. G. J. CLARKSON.

The many friends of the late Mr. G. J. Clarkson, of Stockton-on-Tees, will be sorry to learn of the demise of that gentleman, at the age of 61, which took place on Sunday, the 14th inst., suddenly. Mr. Clarkson had not done any ringing of late. He was a native of Suffolk, his father being Vicar of the little village of Walsham-le-Willows, where he first learned to ring. He migrated to Stockton-on-Tees in the early seventies, where he built up a flourishing business as a Patent Agent, and had clients in every quarter of the globe. At the church tower he found things not at all to his liking, Stoney ringers, bells, 6, out of tune, the two trebles with no stays, and striking on the wrong side. These two bells, when set, had to be fastened by the ropes to strong wooden brackets bolted to the belfry wall. These still remain, making capital clothes pegs. The tuning and stays were soon corrected, but the striking on the wrong side continued for many years.

This did not affect the local men much, but visitors soon got into difficulties. The Stoney men, some of whom were aged, did not take kindly to method ringing, and dropped out as younger hands came on. Nothing but the very best would suit Mr. Clarkson, he was one of the few that could ring as well by ear as by eye. Progress was fairly rapid, and soon peals followed, and in Jubilee year the first 5040 in seven Surprise methods was rung, being the first of the kind within the century.

Getting to the top on Minor Mr. Clarkson turned his attention to something higher. He initiated a scheme to augment the old peal of six to ten by the addition of four large bells, one of which he presented himself, and is suitably inscribed. This now forms one of the most pleasant rings of ten in the northern counties, and is a fitting and lasting memorial to his memory. He was one of the small company who met at Durham in August, 1877 and set afoot the Durham and Newcastle Association, of which he was the Secretary and guiding star for many years, doing a tremendous amount of spade work. He was also one of the founders of the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association, being President for a number of years. He was quite an authority on all matters appertaining to bells and ringing, and was quite at home even at bell tuning on the "Simpson" Principle. As before mentioned, he had done no ringing of late but his memory will long linger tenderly with many of his old associates.

His mortal remains were laid quietly to rest in the Oxbridge Cemetery on Wednesday amid signs of deep sympathy, the two Associations named being represented at the funeral. His one motto was—"Whatever thy hand findeth to do do it with all thy might." May he rest in peace.

## THE REV. E. KENWORTHY-BROWNE, M.A.

On Saturday week the remains of the Rector of North Stoneham, Hants. (the Rev. E. Kenworthy-Browne, M.A.) were laid to rest in the Churchyard of North Stoneham, close to the tower and near the bells in which he took a great interest, for, when he resigned the living of North Stoneham in 1912 and went to reside at Bournemouth, he was able to hunt the treble in Grandsire.

Owing to the funeral taking place at 9.45 a.m., the ringers could not meet, but a muffled peal was arranged for in the evening. However, two of the ringers failed to put in an appearance and a 720 Kent Treble Bob

Minor was therefore rung by G. Williams, O. Giles, A. Stubbington, C. J. Fray, W. H. George, W. T. Tucker (conductor). The whole pull and stand was also rung 67 times, denoting the rev. gentleman's age.

## MR. H. MARWOOD (HEXTHORPE).

The death occurred on Friday, March 12th, of Mr. H. Marwood, of Denison Road, Hexthorpe, Yorkshire. He had been a ringer at the above church from 1879, and his death is deeply regretted by his fellow-ringers. On Tuesday, March 16th, he was interred in Doncaster Cemetery, and in the evening the bells were rung muffled as a token of respect. The ringers were: H. Fevre, Rev. R. L. B. Oliver, R. Bayles, F. Ashe, G. Halksworth, H. Brock, A. Ashe, H. G. Wilson, W. Howard, and J. Holmes.

## LEITH RINGERS.

Many residents in Leith have missed for some time past the ringing of the fine peal of bells at St. James's Church, and have been wondering in the silence of the bells on Sundays. On inquiry it has been found that the ranks of the Society of Change-Ringers have been so depleted by members responding to their country's call during the war, that only one or two members have been left, and only the tenor bell is rung. The following is a list of the members who have gone forth from the steeple: Private Fred Lawrence, 15th Royal Scots; Gunner Ernest Lawrence, 2nd Battery 1st Lowland Brigade R.F.A.; Private Fred Macfarlane, R.E.; Private Rankine Macfarlane, 7th Royal Scots; Lance-Corporal William Radford, 9th Royal Scots; Private George Radford, 10th Royal Scots; Private Joseph Stannard, R.A.M.C.; Private Charles Batey, R.A.M.C.; and Private James Findlay Mathieson, 16th Royal Scots.

## THE MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

(Acton St. Mary's Guild).

ACTON.—For morning service at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins. T. Smith (first quarter-peal away from the tenor), H. Holloway, R. H. Boddington, W. Phillips, J. W. Fruin, R. Holloway (conductor), V. Holloway, A. E. Smith.

DOVER (Kent).—On Tuesday, March 16th, at St. James's Church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. Lance-Corpl. T. Stroud, 10th Sussex Regt. (conductor), R. Stevens, C. R. Millway, C. Turner, W. H. Hollier, Sergt. J. R. Mackman, 10th East Surreys. On Sunday, March 21st, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 47 mins. (Brook's). H. C. Saywell, R. Stevens, C. R. Millway, A. B. Bennett, Private F. Smith, 5th Royal Fusiliers, Lance-Corpl. T. Stroud, 10th Sussex Regt., C. Turner (conductor), H. J. Saunders. Arranged in honour of the visit to Dover of Mr. A. B. Bennett, of St. Mary Abbots, South Kensington (late General Secretary of the Sussex County Association).

BIRMINGHAM.—At Bishop Ryder's Church on Monday, March 22nd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. \*S. Coley, W. E. Stratford, J. T. Perry, J. B. Collett, G. Taylor, A. T. Scrivens (conductor), J. Porter, S. Price. \*97 h quarter-peal.

Mr. A. J. Perkins, 3, Mellows Road, South Beddington, Wallington, Surrey, would be glad to receive the address of Mr. T. Hensher, formerly of Croydon, Surrey, in his own good time.

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- STANDARD METHODS.** 2s. 6d.; fifth ed.; revised; Diagrams alone 1s. 6d.; 41 pages; Letterpress alone 1s. 6d.; 100 pages.
- STEDMAN.** 2s. 6d.; 275 pages, by the Rev. C. D. P. DAVIES, M.A., with an appendix by Sir ARTHUR HEYWOOD, Bart., etc., etc.
- TREBLE BOB.** Part I. 1s. 6d.; second ed.; with appendix; 108 closely printed pages. Part II., suited for Conductors only; very scarce; 2s. 1½d.; 236 pages.
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Albans, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough, Melbourne  
(Australia), Rochester, Dublin (St. Patrick's), Man-  
chester and Worcester Cathedrals, etc., etc.

## IMPORTANT NOTICES.

Will correspondents please note that all communications insertion in "THE BELL NEWS" should be addressed to "The Editor, 'THE BELL NEWS,' 1, Selborne Road, Walthamstow. In the past some have been addressed to the Publishers, thus being delayed, and not reaching us till too late for insertion in the current issue.

All business communications should be addressed to "Geo. Carter, 1, Selborne Road, Walthamstow."

Notices of any kind, to ensure insertion in the current issue should reach us not later than first post on Thursday morning. Unless this is done we cannot insert them till the following week.

Many correspondents when sending copy write a note asking for insertion. This means that they have to pay 1d. for postage. There is no need for this; if the copy is put in an unsealed envelope, with just the name of the sender, we shall understand, and a ½d. stamp will be sufficient. But the envelope must be endorsed "News copy only."

## The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 1915.

### RE-DEDICATION AT DARLINGTON.

AN ARCHDEACON'S WISH.

The re-dedication of the bells of St. John's Church, Darlington, took place on Monday. The preacher was the Archdeacon of Auckland (the Ven. P. A. Derry, M.A.), and he was assisted in the service by the Rev. A. S. Thompson, the Vicar, and the Revs. W. Hutton, and J. Booth, the curates. Rounds were rung after the dedication, the bells sounding well and clearly.

The Archdeacon in his sermon, said the bells had been connected with religion from the earliest times, and they had had a special meaning and importance attached to them in the Christian Church. They were supposed to have been invented in the fourth century, and they were certainly in use in the sixth, for when St. Hilda was Abbess at Whitby, they heard of reference to them. In earlier days they had done the duty of clocks and watches for the people who with the Angelus bell, were notified of the hours of prayer at morning, noon and night. The curfew bell was rung even to this day at Sedgfield. What they were all longing for now were bells of victory and abiding peace, and he hoped one of the earliest functions of those bells would be to ring in the glad news of peace.

### AGED RINGER'S DEATH.

MR. BENJAMIN SOUTHON.

At Goods Hill Farm, Tenterden, Kent, on Thursday, March 4th, there passed away an old ringer, in the person of Mr Benjamin Southon, at the advanced age of eighty-seven years. The late Mr. Southon was born at Benenden, Kent, and lived in the parish over three-quarters of a century. It was at Benenden Church that he figured in the belfry for many years, but whether he did any method ringing we do not know. However, he lived a life of great activity and usefulness. He was also a chorister at Benenden, and in 1860, when the Volunteer movement was inaugurated, he joined the force, being given the rank of sergeant. Twenty-five years' faithful and devoted service comprises his record, and he became colour-sergeant, finishing up by filling the office of quartermaster-sergeant. In March, 1863, he journeyed to Dover, and was in the guard of honour to Queen Alexandra, when the Queen Mother trod English soil for the first time.

The mortal remains of the deceased were conveyed to Benenden, and reverently laid to rest on Tuesday week. The coffin was draped with the Union Jack, on which deceased's helmet, sword and other accoutrements were placed.

## ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH, SHOREDITCH,

Since the ring of 12 Bells (Tenor 28½ cwt., in the key of C) were dedicated on Monday, November 3rd, 1913, the following peals have been rung:—

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS

On Saturday, November 29th, 1913, in Three Hours and Thirty-seven Minutes.

### PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES

(First peal on the bells after restoration.)

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AND  
THE SPITALFIELDS BELL FOUNDRY GUILD.

On Saturday December 13th, 1913, in Three Hours and Forty-two Minutes

### PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5058 CHANGES

Rung to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the establishment of the firm of John Warner and Sons

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, January 10th, 1914, in Three Hours and Forty-one Minutes

### PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND THE LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD

On Saturday, January 31st, 1914, in Three Hours and Forty-three Minutes.

### PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5005 CHANGES

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 28th, 1914, in Three Hours and Forty-two Minutes.

### PEAL OF BOB MAXIMUS, 5016 CHANGES

(First peal of Bob Maximus by the Kent County Association.)

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 28th, 1914, in Three Hours and Thirty-seven Minutes

### PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5080 CHANGES

An commemoration of the 130th anniversary of the record length of Royal rung on these bells, March 27th, 1784.  
(First peal of Royal since the restoration of the bells.)

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Monday, June 1st, 1914, in Three Hours and Thirty-seven Minutes.

### PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5005 CHANGES

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.  
THE SPITALFIELDS BELL FOUNDRY GUILD

On Saturday, July 11th, 1914 in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes.

### PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES

All the above Bells are fitted with the "WARNER" PATENT SELF-ALIGNING AND SELF-LUBRICATING OIL RING AND OIL BATH DESIGN OF BEARINGS, and the above Peals which have been rung speak volumes for their efficiency.

## JOHN WARNER & SONS, Ltd.,

Bellfounders to His Majesty King George V.,

THE SPITALFIELDS BELL FOUNDRY, LONDON.

Established 1763.

## HORIZONTAL THRUST OF BELLS DURING RINGING.

Mr. E. Alex Young, an architect, who has devoted a deal of study to the subject, has contributed an article on the above subject in a recent number of "The Builder." In it he says that considerable interest has recently been aroused in regard to this question, and also as to the alleged weakness of some bell towers. The thrusts produced by a bell in ringing are therefore of renewed interest.

A test was recently made at the writer's request at the foundry of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, White-chapel, to demonstrate, by the lifting of actual dead weight, the approximate horizontal thrust produced by the revolution of the 280 lb. bell upon which the experiment was made.

The bell (without clapper) was hung in a 6 in. by 2 in. frame, the posts being secured at their bearing on the sill with stub tenons having splayed shoulders. This bearing point was sufficiently loose to allow the frame to move freely within the notches cut for it in the two tie rails, such movement, however, being restricted to a play of 3-8th in. The rails were secured to two heavy hardwood blocks, 4 ft. 6 in. by 8 in., on sleepers which, with the sill of the frame, were sunk in the foundry floor.

The frame and bell being brought home on the inner shoulders of the notches by means of chains, pulleys, cross bar, and about 650 lb. of iron weights. The horizontal effort of the bell was obtained by swinging it up to the vertical position as is done in ordinary ringing. It was then allowed to revolve freely from the balance or rest point, when it was found that the rail shoulders began to lose bearing upon the weight being reduced below 625 lb., or nearly two and a quarter times the weight of the bell itself. The chains were attached a little above the centre of swinging, to compensate for the slight loss due to want of centre bearing at base.

The bell is the lightest or treble of a ring of eight bells, and is 22 in. in diameter at the lip, which was 19 3-8th in. from the centre of swing, the bell being hung tight up to gudgeon bar. The centre of gravity was found by experiment to be about 6 3-8th in. above the lip, and thus about 13 in. from the centre of swing.

The importance of lifting the centre of gravity, as is customary with all larger bells, by their being tuched up into a curved headstock, can be readily appreciated. In the case in point, when the bell was set out 3 in. further by a wood packing piece, the horizontal pull was increased by over 80 lb.

In Sir Arthur Heywood's recent work, "Bell Towers and Bell Hanging," Mr. H. Lewis gives a most valuable chapter dealing with the theory underlying bell thrusts. The horizontal value of these is there taken, for a 1,378 lb. (net) bell, at 2.09 times the weight of the bell. This, as is pointed out by Mr. Lewis, is a moderate statement when applied to a number of bells variously "tucked up." The same applies to the vertical load which is increased by a factor of 3.94.

A confirmation of the above appears in the paper read at the Royal Institute of British Architects by Mr. R. C. Nichols so long ago as 1856. Various formulæ were given, and the statement made that "the amount and direction of the horizontal strain undergo remarkable fluctuations during the motion of the bell. It is at first a thrust which becomes a maximum at an angle with the vertical of 26 deg 44 min, diminishes to nothing at 48 deg 11 min, increases again to its greatest value at 124 deg 3 min, and

again becomes nothing at the lowest position, passing through a series of values equal and opposite to these as the bell ascends on the opposite side. The equation for the horizontal strain indicates one advantage obtained by letting the bell into the stock, namely, the diminishing of the horizontal strain, the importance of which fact will be appreciated by architects."

Mr. Nichols, whose remarks perhaps have reached too limited an audience, also instanced a 5 cwt. bell, giving the greatest direct strain on the crown bolt as 3½ times, and the maximum horizontal strain on the gudgeons as 2.05 times the weight of the bell.

In all cases the above are moving or live loads and thrusts, and as such are well worthy the close attention of the architect who may be designing the tower to contain the bells. It would appear desirable, should there be delay in providing the latter, that a tablet, specifying their limiting weight and position, should be inserted in the wall, as a precautionary measure and for future reference.

Architects designing towers to carry bells will find the above data a useful check and guide.

## UNVEILING A MEMORIAL TABLET.

### A WAR HERO HONOURED.

On October 23rd, 1914, Corporal Henry Barton, of the Shropshire Light Infantry, was killed in an effort, which he with some of his comrades were making to drive a squad of Germans out of a trench near Lille, in Northern France.

To mark the high esteem in which his fellow-ringers held him, they have erected a tablet to his memory in the tower of St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyze, of which company Mr. Barton was a member. The tablet records a muffled peal rung to his memory in the following inscription:

"Erected to the memory of Corporal Ernest Barton, 1st King's Shropshire Light Infantry, who died heroically serving his King and country near Lille, France, October 23rd, 1914.

"Cheery, Reliable, and Brave."—Tribute of Major Payn.

On Thursday, December 3rd, 1914, his fellow-ringers, as a token of respect, rang in 3 hrs. 11 mins., with the bells muffled, a peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040 changes (Holt's Ten-Part). A. Barnes, treble; R. Wimpenny, 2; J. W. Holme, 3; H. Holme, 4; J. Harrison, 5; H. Palmer, 6; W. W. Wolstencroft, 7; D. Wolstencroft, tenor. Conducted by W. W. Wolstencroft. Rev. T. W. Pugh-Morgan, M.A.; Rev. H. C. Prescott, M.A., Clergy.

The Tablet was dedicated at evensong by the Vicar of St. Peter's, the ringers placing it at the chancel steps for the purpose.

On the following day the tablet was placed in the belfry, and afterwards was unveiled in the presence of a numerous gathering of ringers and friends.

All the speakers were unanimous in their praise of Corporal Barton and his work, and their words practically re-echoed those of Major Payn, who writing to his widow said: "It must be some relief to you to know that he died so bravely in the defence of his country. But from my short acquaintance with him, he was always cheery, reliable and brave. If you have lost as good a husband as the army has lost a soldier, you have suffered a great loss." After the unveiling ceremony, touches were rung by local ringers.

OLDSWINFORD.—On Tuesday, March 16th, at St. Mary's Church, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung after the Confirmation Service. W. Whitehouse, C. W. Cooper, T. Heathcock, R. Moors, W. A. Pugh, A. W. Dodd (conductor), T. Whitehouse, F. Pope.

STOURBRIDGE.—On Sunday, March 14th, at St. Thomas's Church, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples was rung for evening service in 45 mins. C. W. Cooper, W. A. Pugh, G. H. Pagett, A. Whatmore, J. Smith, A. W. Dodd, R. Matthews (conductor), W. Hand.



## THE BELLS OF BARNSTAPLE.

(Continued).

I feel sure in bringing the good work done by such societies (with which this association has so much in common) before you, you will wish them "very many happy returns of their Jubilee. It is a recognised fact that Devonshire ringers have for centuries distinguished themselves in the art of, and in their love of bell-ringing. One of our 17th century Devonshire poets, William Brown of Tavistock, described "as having a great mind in a little body," was moved to write a satire on the jangling of the bells he heard on the Continent.

Honest John Helms (a good ringer).

"Now by my troth I wish that thou wer't here with speed,  
To teach their bells some rhyme or time in swinging,  
For sure, they have no reason in their ringing."

It is only in England bell-ringing has been raised to a science, although bells were introduced abroad long before they were in England. The first mention we have of bells being used in the Christian Church was at Nola, in Campania, introduced by Paulinus, the Bishop, in year A.D. 400. At Rome, by Bishop Sabinian, successor to Pope Gregory, the great church musician, in year A.D. 604; whilst the first mention of bells in England is by the Venerable Bede, the Anglo-Saxon historian, in year A.D. 680.

The early British Christians used large wooden rattles, such as farmers now use to keep the birds from the fruit and corn, to summon the faithful to worship. It seems somewhat strange that in the Jewish Church, with all its elaborate ritual and ceremony, the use of the bell to call people together for worship is never mentioned, silver trumpets being used for the purpose. It is also strange that only three references to bells are made in the Old and New Testaments, twice in connection with the robe ordered by God to be made for Aaron, the High Priest, on which golden bells (72 tradition says) were to be hung, "that the sound should be heard by the people when he went into the Holy Place" (Ex. 28), and again in the book of the Prophet Zechariah allusion is made to bells being worn by horses.

The justification for the use of small bells in the Christian Church in pre-reformation days seems to have been from their use on the Jewish High Priest's Robes. These small bells were known as Sacring, Saunce, or Sanctus bells. At the dissolution of the Monasteries the King's Commissioners were sent to all the churches to seize all such bells, and from our own Parish Church they took away three, and also the lyche bell. "John Parker, Esq., Richard Fortescue, Esq., and Lewis Haithe, Esq., took out of the church one bell called the lache bell, three sacring bells, and a canapye of silk." The Sanctus bell was rung to arouse people's attention to the more important parts of the Holy Communion service, at the Three-fold Hobbies, and at the Elevation of the Host. One of such bells were dug up in the Rackfield on the site of the cemetery of the old Cluniac Monastery of St. Mary Magdalene's in the year 1919, when they were building the first tan yard there. It had evidently been buried with the Prior of the Priory, who had used it. The "lyche bell" was carried and rung before the corpse on its way to the church. The lyche gate of the Parish Church was under the shelter of the old Guildhall of St. George, and here it was that the bearers rested with their burden while the minister read the first part of the service for the dead. The lyche bell is still rung before the dead body of any university official at Oxford, and on the Bayeux tapestry is represented the funeral of Edward the Confessor, A.D. 975, showing two

boys preceding the body ringing the "lyche bells." Those bells, however, only apply to those used within the church or in connection with burials, of which, I suppose, the tolling of the cemetery bell is a survival. If we examine our Prayer Books we only find one solitary mention of a bell, and that is in connection with the daily offices, "that the curate shall cause a bell to be tolled thereunto a convenient time before, that the people may come to hear God's word, and to pray with him." It is, therefore the rule that every place of worship within the realm shall have at least one bell, and in all churches in connection with the Church of England there are not more than half a dozen parishes where the rule is ignored."

From one bell it came to three, the morning, noonday, and evening bells, at the sound of which the people were ordered to say a memorial of the Incarnation (Ave Maria). Charles Wesley caught the idea, and used it in the Christmas hymn, "Hark the herald-angels sing"—

"Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,  
Hail the Incarnate Deity."

The noonday bell disappeared at the reformation with the sacring bells, but the morning and evening bells remained.

In the churchwardens' accounts 1564, of Barnstaple, we find David Palmer, the bedeman, paid 3s. 4d. for ringing the morning bell; and at Philton, as you know, the old custom of ringing the evening bell is carried out, and before the year 1870 it was done in our own Parish Church of Barnstaple. There are three recognised uses of the Church Bells.

"To call the folk to church—we chime.  
When joy and mirth are on the wing—we ring.  
When we mourn a departed soul—we toll."

When bells are merely chimed (as they should be for calling people to church) they are not raised, but the rope is pulled each time sufficiently to allow one stroke of the clapper. Separate payments are made to the chimers in connection with Sunday services in the churchwardens' accounts of Barnstaple. We have at the Parish Church an ingenious apparatus invented by the late Canon Ellacombe, by which one man can chime the eight bells. I should like to mention that from the 16th century Barnstaple Parish Church had "sets of chimes," or arrangements for playing tunes on the bells, known on the Continent, especially in Belgium, as Carillons. In an old diary kept by Philip Wyot, Town Clerk of Barnstaple, for the year 1593, he writes: "The chaymes now going, which cost, beside the bell that was had before £25." Adding a sarcastic remark: "A great charge to small effect."

These chimes were restored in the year 1709, when Joseph Winstanley, Watchmaker, of Barnstaple, covenanted to make a good and sufficient new set of chimes, which shall go to the same tune the chimes lately did for the sum of £19, and all the old materials belonging to the old set of chimes. (Here was shown the original document, and also an agreement with John Coles to keep the clock and chimes in order for £3 a year, from 1746 to 1770.) These chimes ceased to exist in 1803. No information is obtainable as to the tunes these chimes played, which would have been of great interest to us now at the present time, when we have again added to our bells the Westminster chimes.

(To be continued).

BELBROUGHTON (Worcestershire).—On Wednesday, March 17th, at the Parish Church, 720 Bob Minor. Rev. Soden, H. Martin, J. Parton, G. Popnell, W. Boughton, W. Short (conductor).

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

**BRAINTREE.**—On Sunday, March 21st, for Matins, 713 Grand-sire Triples. H. Coote, H. E. Hammond, F. Webb, C. H. Howard, W. H. Dyson; Quarter Master Sregt. W. A. Cave (conductor), G. Lindridge, W. H. Hammond. For Evensong, 896 Kent Treble Bob Major. F. Webb, H. E. Hammond, W. H. Hammond, C. H. Howard (conductor), W. H. Dyson, Quarter Master Sergt. W. A. Cave, G. Lindridge, H. J. Collins.

## SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

**WOMBOURN.**—On Saturday, March 13th, eight members of the above society rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 43 mins., with the bells half-muffled, as a last tribute of respect to the late Mr. W. Rogers, who for many years was a member of the local band, and who was that day interred in Wombourn. H. Sadler, J. Corns, T. Thorpe, J. Apse, W. Fisher (conductor), G. H. Sadler, E. Bowyer, A. Piper. On Sunday evening, March 14th, before Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. J. Corns, W. Mills, G. H. Sadler, J. Apse, H. Sadler, B. Gough, E. Bowyer (conductor), B. Fullwood.

"THE BELL NEWS" will be sent to any address in the United Kingdom for 1s. 8d. per quarter, or 6s. 6d. per year.

## PEAL CARDS.

You want to keep a record of the peals in which you ring. You can get them nicely printed on tinted bordered card from this Office at 1s. 1d. per doz., post free, if the order is sent accompanied by Postal Order when the peal is sent for insertion; otherwise the price is 1s. 6d. Send for specimens of new selection, which surpasses any others yet sent out. A Ringer writes:—"I and the rest of the band are very pleased with such nice cards as you supply."

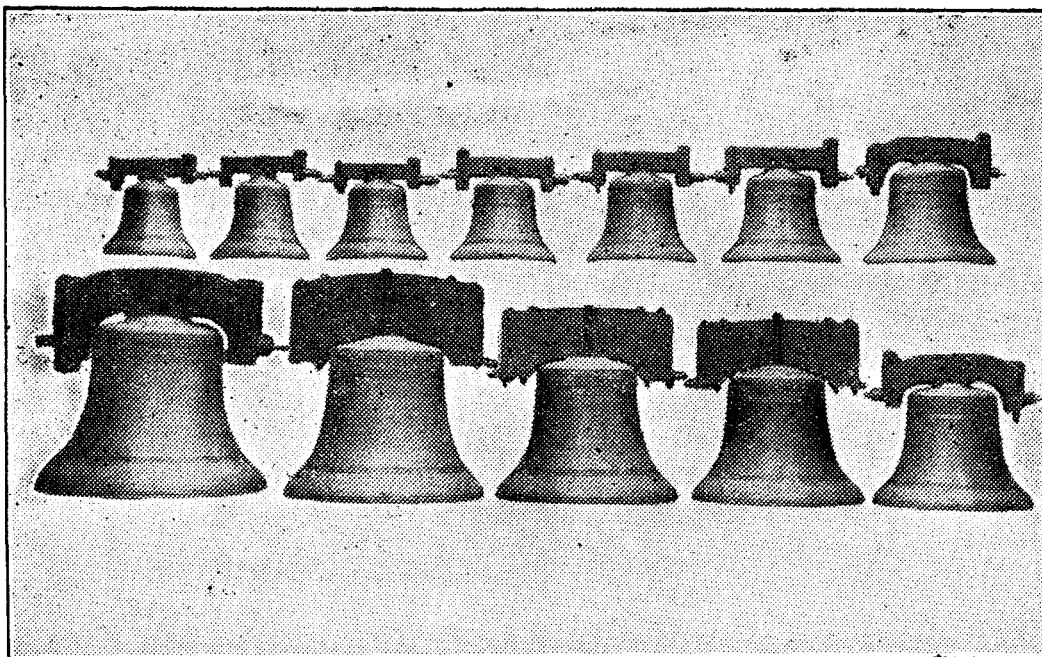
We can also supply Records of Peals printed on large Cards, tinted and with grandly illuminated borders, suitable for framing and hanging in your Ringing Chamber, at 3s. 6d. each.

A customer writes:—"I must thank you for the beautifully printed peal-board of 'Newton peal.' It was indeed past my expectations, and we are delighted with it."

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WEIGHT OF TENOR—39 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb:

DEDICATED 27 MAY, 1914,

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**Notices.**

The charge for the insertion of Notices under this heading Sixpence for 36 words, for the first insertion; repetitions at half that price. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on April 8th and 22nd; and for business on the 13th and 27th, all at 8 p.m. Also at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, for practice, on Saturdays, at 7.30. p.m.

William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec.

32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths.—Ringing for Divine Service at St. Martin-in-the-Fields the first Sunday in the month, and at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, the third Sunday, both at 10 o'clock. Meetings for practice at Shoreditch every third Monday at 8 p.m.

H. J. Bradley, Sec.

Parish Church, Shoreditch.

The Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Saviour's, Walthamstow (by kind permission of the Vicar, Rev. G. H. Siddans), on Saturday, March 27th. Bells available from 3.30. Short service at 5.30. Tea at 6 o'clock, 6d. each. Members are reminded that subscriptions for 1915 are now due.

49, Wood Street, Walthamstow. C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec.

The Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild.—The 17th Annual General Meeting will be held at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch (by kind permission of the Rev. F. E. Birch), on Saturday, April 10th. Service at 5 p.m., with an address by the Rev. A. G. Langdon, M.A., Rector of Great Munden, Herts. Tea at 6 p.m., 7d. each to those who inform either of the undersigned not later than April 7th of their intention of being present. Business meeting to follow, for election of Officers, Central Council Representatives, etc. The following towers will be open for ringing: St. Leonard's from 3 to 5, and after the meeting; St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, from 7.30 to 9.

49, Wood Street, Walthamstow. C. T. Coles, } Hon. Secs.  
Church Road, Heston. H. C. Chandler, }

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—Inter-Affiliation.—Will the Secretaries of those Associations and Guilds in favour of Inter-Affiliation kindly communicate with me, as the Committee of this Association wish, with their co-operation, to put this into operation, if possible. J. R. Newman, Hon. Sec. Sheepteote, Severn Stoke, Worcester.

Kent County Association.—Rochester District.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Cobham, on Saturday, March 27th. Tower open from 3.30 till 9. Half rail fares will be paid. Subscriptions are due, and should be paid on or before that date. Members on active service need not subscribe this year.

77, Bill Street Road, Edward A. G. Allen, Hon. Sec.  
Frindsbury, Rochester.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Middleton on Saturday, March 27th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Business meeting at 6.30.

135, Salts Street, Shaw. Joseph Ogden, Sec.

The Lancashire Association.—Blackburn Branch.—A meeting of the above Branch will be held at St. Peter's Church, Burnley, on Saturday, March 27th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6.30 p.m.

33, Langham Road, Blackburn. J. Watson, Branch Sec.

The Midland Counties Association.—Alteration of arrangement for the Annual Meeting at Derby on Easter Monday, April 5th.—The Committee will meet in St. Andrew's Church Schools at 3.45. General Meeting at 4.30 at the same schools for the election of officers, representatives to the Central Council, and other business. The arrangements for the tea are cancelled, and there will be no Church bell-ringing.

W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

The Hertford County Association.—The annual meeting will

be held at St. Albans on Easter Monday, April 5th, when the towers of the Cathedral, St. Peter's, St. Stephen's, and St. Michael's will be open for ringing at 2 p.m. Choral Evensong at Cathedral, 5 p.m., with address by the new Dean of St. Albans. 5.50, tea in Abbey Institute, followed by annual business meeting. To assist catering arrangements kindly send me a post card on April 3rd, stating your intention to be present.

St. Albans. G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec.

The Bedfordshire Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Bedford on Easter Monday. Dinner at St. Mary's Schoolroom at 1.0. Meeting after dinner. The bells at St. Paul's and St. Peter's will be available.

A. Rust, Hon. Sec.

The Kent County Association.—Maidstone District.—The annual meeting will be held at Aylesford on Saturday, April 17th. Bells available for ringing at 3 o'clock. Short service at 5.30. Tea at 6 o'clock at the George Inn. Business to follow. Association ringers are invited.

Stephen Hayzelden, Dis. Sec.

Lower Street, East Farleigh.

The Surrey Association.—Central District.—The Easter meeting of the Central District will be held on Easter Monday, April 5th, at the parish church, Banstead. Bells (8), available from 3.30. Service at 5.0. Tea (Members 3d, Visitors 9d.), and short Business Meeting at 5.45 at the Church Institute. Members of the Southern District and visitors will be welcome. Please notify intention to be present before Thursday, April 1st, to

Cb. Reading, Asst. Hon. Sec.

Union Bank Chambers, Croydon.

The Warwickshire Guild.—Previous Notice cancelled.—The eighth Annual General Meeting will be held at Warwick on Easter Monday, April 5th, at 2.15 p.m. Dinner will be arranged at 1s. 6d. per head at the Globe Hotel for all members who let me know of their intention to be present not later than April 2nd. Tea will be provided free at Emscote Vicarage at 4 o'clock to all those who let me know of their intention to be present by March 30th. Further particulars next week.

H. Kettle, Hon. Sec.

Rectory Cottage, Allesley, Coventry.

THE LANGHAM REFRESHMENT ROOMS, THORLEY, BISHOPS STORTFORD.—Accommodation for Cyclists and others. Clubs and Parties catered for.—Charges moderate.—Proprietor: HENRY J. TUCKER.

HAMMERSMITH.—On Sunday, March 21st, for Divine Service at St. Paul's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. F. Skinner, H. Barrett, M. Jacobs, H. Cook, R. Mackrill, C. Hunt (conductor), F. Skevington, W. Brooks.

**THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.**

**LIST OF PUBLICATIONS**

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"    "    Local Company ... ..	3	
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Collection of Peals—Sec. I... ..	1	0
"    "    Sec. II ... ..	9	
"    "    Sec. III ... ..	1	0

# MEARS & STAINBANK, WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY,

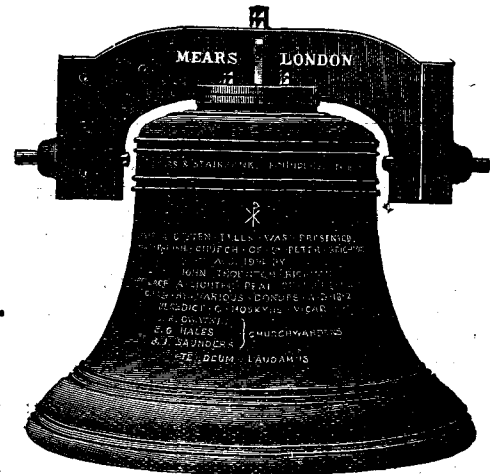
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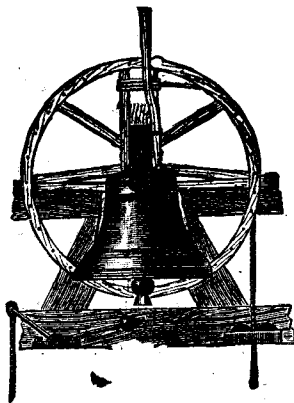
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