

Chapter 3

Bell Founders and Bell Hangers

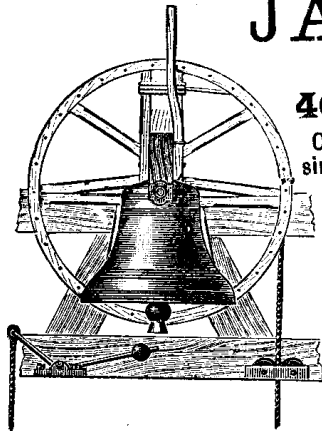
While bells originally tended to be cast in situ to minimise transport difficulties, the Industrial Revolution in the 18th century saw the centralisation of production into a smaller number of foundry centres. While some bell foundries cast bells as well as made the fittings and hung bells for ringing, others concentrated on either casting or bell hanging alone. This section looks at both aspects, separately identifying those firms who specialised in bell hanging alone.

The use of broadsheets and newspaper adverts to promote foundries emerged at the same time especially during the following century. The following examples are not comprehensive given the numerous foundries that have existed, but have been chosen as a summary of the style and contents of the advertising used.

Bell Founders

(i) James Barwell (Birmingham)

A business established in 1784 making candlesticks and other articles in brass was purchased by James Barwell in 1870. He developed the business and started to cast bells from 1884. Initially he produced small bells for domestic use but then moved on to cast church bells. He died in 1898 and was succeeded in the business by his two sons Edward and Arthur H Barwell. The business continued to cast church bells until around 1916 and thereafter small domestic bells until around 1960.

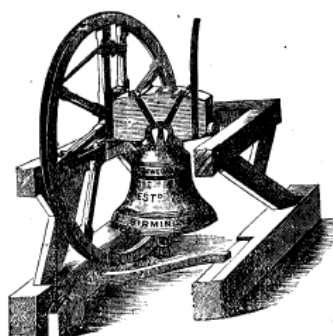


JAMES BARWELL
Bell Founder,
40, Great Hampton St., Birmingham.
CHURCH BELLS, with all requisite Fittings and Framework singly or in Peals. GLOCK and CHIME BELLS to any size and note.
SCHOOL BELLS with ringing arrangements, suitable for any position.
Existing Peals economically and efficiently restored.
CRACKED BELLS recast, and ANCIENT INSCRIPTIONS reproduced in fac-simile when required.
Men who are ringers sent to inspect Towers and report upon the tune and condition of Bells and Fittings.
MUSICAL HANDBELLS tuned in Diatonic and Chromatic Scales in sets of any numbers.

Bell News and Ringers' Record: advert from 21 February 1903

(ii) *William Blews & Sons (Birmingham)*

Again, Blews and Sons were brass workers in Birmingham, who diversified into casting church bells between 1850 and 1891. The firm started in 1732 and closed about 1900. They had showrooms in London and exhibited candlesticks, bells and weights at The Great Exhibition in London in 1851.



**WILLIAM BLEWS & SONS,
BELL FOUNDERS,
BIRMINGHAM.**

CHURCH BELLS

WITH FITTINGS & FRAMES. BELLS ADDED
TO EXISTING PEALS.

OLD BELLS RECAST.

BELLS REHUNG ON THE MOST APPROVED PRINCIPLES.

FOUNDERS OF PEALS AT

Clyst S. George's Rectory,
Topsham, Devon, for the
Rev. H. T. Ellacombe
St. Peter's, Leamington
Ripponden

Tass, N. S. W.
Middlesmoor
Bishop Ryder's Church,
Birmingham
Llangefni, N. W.

Woodbury
Trowbridge
Llanfrechfa
St. Anne's, Blackburn
Accrington, etc., etc.

Musical Handbells in Sets of any number, Diatonic and Chromatic.

CLOCK BELLS. BELLS RETUNED. Estimates on application.

Bell News and Ringers' Record: advert from 29 March 1890

(iii) *John Briant (Hartford)*

He was born in 1749 and operated as a bell founder and clockmaker between 1782 and 1825. He died four years later in 1829.

JOHN BRIANT, BELL-FOUNDER BELL-HANGER, HARTFORD,

HAS CAST THE FOLLOWING PEALS OF BELLS.

	No. of Bells	Wt. of Tenor		No. of Bells	Wt. of Tenor		No. of Bells	Wt. of Tenor
Codicote, Herts	5	10	Saffron Walden, Essex	8	24	Conlover, Shropshire	8	13
Hartford, St. Andrew's, Herts	8	16	Ashow, Warwick	4	7	Hadingham, Bucks	8	18
Rushden, Herts	5	7	Newbold, Warwick	6	12	Prestwold, Leicestershire	5	12
Hatfield, Herts	8	26	Great Waldingfield, Suffolk	6	13	Southill, Beds	6	13
Hanwell, Oxon	5	9	Barkway, Herts	6	16	Woolverton, Bucks	6	13
Adderbury, Oxon	8	25	Cottenham, Cambridgeshire	6	16	Halton, Bucks	4	8
Oxford, St. Ebbe	8	5	Barnstaple, Devonshire	6	22	Mursley, Bucks	6	10
Wheatley, Oxon	5	10	Sheephead, Leicestershire	6	15	Branston, Northampton	6	17
Wallington, Herts	5	10	Padbury, Bucks	6	10	Ravensthorp, Northampton	5	7
Sravatham, Cambridgeshire	6	11	Waltham Abbey, Essex	8	18	Bierton, Bucks	6	13
Chesterford, Essex	6	10	North Minnis Herts	6	13			
Styved, Essex	6	10	Shrewsbury, St. Alkmund's	8	13			

BELLS RE-CAST AND ADDED TO OLD PEALS.

	No. of Bells	Wt. of Tenor		No. of Bells	Wt. of Tenor		No. of Bells	Wt. of Tenor	
London, St. Giles, Cripplegate, 1, 2, 3, in 1	12	36	Winchington, Bucks	1	5	10	Ashby de la Zouch Leicest	1, 2, 4, 7, 8	22
Hartford, All Saints	1, 2	10	Wick, Warwick	2	5	16	High Ercal, Shrop	1, 2	8
St. Albans, St. Peters, Herts	1, 2, 4, 7	10	Coventry, Warwick	10	32	32	Belvoir Castle, Lincoln	1, 2, 3, 3	8
High Wycomb, Bucks	1, 2	10	Whitechurch, Bucks	2	5	14	Soham, Cambridgeshire	1, 2, 3, 4	10
Sutton Regis, Northamptonshire	1, 2, 3	8	Newtonlongvile	2	5	16	Banbury, Oxon	1, 2	8
Sutton, Lincolnshire	1, 2	8	Ardleigh, Essex	4	5	14	Eydon, Northampton	2	5
Bishop Stortford, Herts	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 10	18	Olley, Herts	5	5	16	Easton	1, 5	8
Great Tey, Essex	4, 5, 6	8	Kislingbury, Northamptonshire	1	5	13	Hinxworth, Herts	1, 5	8
Barking	5	8	Northampton, St. Sepulchre's	5	6	18	Great Boutley, Essex	1	5
Ware, Herts	3, 5	8	Stondon, Herts	4	5	15	Calverton, Bucks	2, 3	5
Watford, Herts	7	8	Hedington, Oxon	1	6	10	Passingham	5	16
Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire	1, 2	8	Cuddesdon	1	6	16	Ashby, Leicestershire	3	4
St. Alban's Abbey, Herts	1	8	Biggleswade, Beds	5	5	12	Risely, Beds	3	5
Sawbridgeworth, Herts	6	6	Radwinter	5	5	13	Clifton, Derbyshire	2	5
Witleford, Cambridgeshire	5	5	Cottered, Herts	1, 2	5	11	Mepershall, Beds	2	5
Ashwell Herts	1, 4, 5, 6	6	Claypole, Lincolnshire	1	5	11	Munden, Herts	3	5
Eaton Bray Beds	5	5	Hallingbury, Essex	5	5	11	Houghton Regis, Beds	1, 2, 4	6
Stevenage, Herts	1, 4, 5, 6	6	Eatington, Warwickshire	4	4	11	Lengbughy, Northampton	1	5
Little Bury, Essex	1, 4	6	Bennington, Herts	1	5	12	Wavendon, Bucks	4	5
Melbourn, Cambridgeshire	4	5	Kelvedon, Essex	1, 3	5	22	Countithorp, Leicestersh	4	4
Great Thurlow, Suffolk	5	5	Moulton, Lincolnshire	5	5	17	Norton, Herts	4	8
Watton, Herts	1, 4	6	Stickney	3	5	10	Montgomery	3	6
Waddington, Northamptonsh	2, 4	6	Sibley	3, 4	6	16	Hanslope, Bucks	1, 5	20
Clacomb	5	6	Horbliug	3	5	10	Lattersworth, Leicestershire	1, 6	17
Byfield	5	6	Frampton	1	5	13	St. Paul's Walden, Herts	4	5
Melbington	2	3	Cunby	1	6	11	Knebworth, Herts	5	12
Erton, Beds	1	5	Wigston, Leicestershire	3	5	12	Shrewsbury Abbey Church	4	8
Bayford, Herts	2	3	Chrishall, Essex	1	4	9	Hartlebury, Worcestershire	1	20
Dellingham, Cambridgeshire	1	5	Shasby, Leicestershire	2	4	8	Warmington, Northampton	1	3
Croydon	1	3	Braunton, Devonshire	5	6	18	Bottesford, Leicestershire	6	24
Hanson, Herts	3	5	Tawstock, Devonshire	3	6	18	Sapcote, Leicestershire		
Kelsall	3	5	Tuam Cathedral, Ireland	1	18	18	Nuneaton, Warwickshire	2	6
Ferneux Pelham, Herts	5	5	Eden Derry	2	15	15	Abbot's Langley, Herts	5	11
Beant Pelham	2	4	Lisbourn	1, 2	3	16	Packington, Warwick	1	16
Stonley, Warwick	2	5	Maid's Morton Bucks	5	5	12	Gazely, Suffolk	1	6
Dunchurch	6	6	Soulgrave Northamptonshire	6	5	13	Cowling, Suffolk	3, 4	10
Watton Leek	1, 2	5	Thenford	5	5	9	Sackwool, Oxon	1	5
Killingworth	1	5	Culworth	3	5	16			
Kirtan, Lincolnshire	4	6	Syresham	5	5	10			
Notton	4	5	Thirlow Little, Suffolk	5	5	12			
Potterbury, Northamptonsh	3	5	Borough Green, Cambridgeshire	4	5	8			
			Coggeshall, Essex	1	6	18			
			Lockington	1	4	17			
			Stanbridge, Beds	2	3	12			

Broadsheet from *Osborn Manuscript* (British Library, Add. 19369)
(size unclear as cut to fit manuscript page)

(iv) Charles Carr (Smethwick, Birmingham)

Another Birmingham based manufacturer of church bells and general bell fittings. The firm was established in 1852 and are known to have cast bells from 1885 until around 1923.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.

SMETHWICK,
BIRMINGHAM



**FOUNDERS OF
MAIDEN PEALS.**

**Twelve Gold Medals
Awarded.**

TESTIMONIAL.

John O. Sager, Todmorden,
Solicitor, December 10, 1910.
Messrs. Charles Carr, Ltd.,
Bell and Brassfounders,
Smethwick.

Dear Sirs,—As a Church Officer of St. Paul's, Cross Stone, Todmorden, and one who has taken a great interest in the Peal of 8 Bells which you recently hung in the Church Tower, I am pleased to be able to tell you that the bells are giving the utmost satisfaction, in fact I hear nothing but the highest praise and recommendation on all sides.

The day after you completed the work, a peal of 5940 changes was rung on the bells. This of course was a creditable performance on the part of the Ringers, but it also proves how well balanced and how accurately the bells must be. I am sure the tone and the workmanship leave nothing to be desired. All our people and neighbouring ringers too have a good word for them.

I understand you will be over here when the bells are consecrated and you will have the satisfaction of hearing this letter verified.—
Yours faithfully,
(Signed) JOHN O. SAGER.

BELLS

FOR CHURCHES,
SINGLY,
OR IN PEALS.

CHIMES FOR CLOCKS,

PEALS AUGMENTED.
CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

FRAMES

IN BEST SEASONED OAK,
STEEL OR IRON.

Chiming Machines.

Best Workmanship and
Satisfaction Guaranteed.

FITTINGS

OF ALL KINDS.
ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRON
BRACKETS.

MALLEABLE IRON BRACKETS.
BEST BELL ROPES.
REPAIRS AND REHANGING
IN ALL BRANCHES.

BELHANGERS sent to inspect
and report on Bells and Towers.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

Ringing World: 16 June 1911

PATENTEES AND CONTRACTORS TO
H.M. ROYAL ORDNANCE STORES FOR BELLS.

CHARLES CARR, Ltd.,

**BELL FOUNDERS,
SMETHWICK, BIRMINGHAM**



BELLS for Schools, Churches,
etc., singly or in Peals.

CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.

FRAMES in Best Oak, Iron or
Steel.

CHIMING MACHINES.

FITTINGS of all kinds.

Bell Ropes.

REPAIRS and REHANGING.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE. Bell Hangers sent to inspect and Report
on Bells and Towers.

Bell News and Ringers' Record: advert from 7 March 1914

(v) William Dobson (Downham, Norfolk)

Dobson was a well-known Norfolk bell founder who cast bells between 1806 and 1833.

A LIST
OF THE
PEALS OF BELLS,
THAT HAVE BEEN CAST AT THE FOUNDRY OF
WILLIAM DOBSON,
CHURCH-BELL-FOUNDER AND HANGER,
AT DOWNHAM, IN NORFOLK,
Since the Year 1779.

	No. of	Wt. of	Bells.	Tenor.		No. of	Wt. of	Bells.	Tenor.
St. NICHOLAS, LIVERPOOL,	12	41			Brandon, Suffolk,	5	9		
Hale, Lancashire,	6	9			Liversedge, Yorkshire,	8	15		
Runcton Holme, Norfolk,	3	6			Buckenham, Norfolk,	6	12		
Hilgay, Norfolk,	8	17			Farnsfield, Nottinghamshire,	5	11		
Downham, Norfolk,	8	12			Swineshead, Lincolnshire,	8	18		
Outwell, Norfolk,	6	12			Gedney, Lincolnshire,	5	13		
Stoke by Clare, Suffolk,	6	13			Blow Norton, Suffolk,	5	8		
Finchingfield, Essex,	8	18			Godmanchester, Huntingdonshire,	8	21		
St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, London,	8	21			Wineswold, Leicestershire,	6	13		
Hatfield Broad Oak, Essex,	8	20			Walsoken, Norfolk,	6	15		
Bury, Suffolk, St. James's Church,	10	30			Seaford, Lincolnshire,	8	21		
Borough of Thetford, Norfolk,	8	19			Navenby, Lincolnshire,	6	13		
Tibbenham, Norfolk,	6	20			Heveningham, Suffolk,	5	9		
Soham, Cambridgeshire,	8	21			Crimplisham, Norfolk,	5	7		
West Dereham, Norfolk,	5	7			Morbham, Norfolk,	6	12		
Waterbeach, Cambridgeshire,	5	7			Woodbridge, Suffolk,	8	27		
Great Saxham, Suffolk,	3	6			Glinton, Northamptonshire,	6	16		
Brant Broughton, Lincolnshire,	6	15			March, Cambridgeshire,	6	16		
Timberland, Lincolnshire,	6	13			Wisbech St. Mary's, Cambridgeshire,	5	11		
Elston, Nottinghamshire,	5	10			Coulby, Lincolnshire,	5	10		
St. John's, Marshland, Norfolk,	6	12			Billinghay, Lincolnshire,	3	7		
Tid St. Mary's, Cambridgeshire,	5	13			Gedney Hill, Lincolnshire,	5	10		
Newton, Cambridgeshire,	6	12			Harmston, Lincolnshire,	8	12		
Parson Drove, Cambridgeshire,	5	10			Emneth, Norfolk,	5	12		
City of Peterboro,	8	29			Wiverton, Norfolk,	6	12		
Ashburn, Derbyshire,	8	15			Grimston, Norfolk,	6	9		
Newton, near Manchester,	8	16			Horringer, Suffolk,	6	10		
The new General Post Office, in the City of Dublin	5	43			Llandegai, Carnarvonshire,	6	10		
Northwold, Norfolk,	6	12			Bristell, Yorkshire,	8	19		
Beaumaris, Isle of Anglesey	6	12							
<i>East Aurdham Norfolk - 3-7</i>					<i>Wilton & Wincoburgh - 3-12</i>				
<i>N. B. Ship, Plantation, and Turret-Clock Bells; also Musical Hand Bells, on the shortest Notice</i>					<i>and most reasonable terms.</i>				
<i>Hoole Dorsetshire - 8-20</i>					<i>Birkenhead & Pool - 6-12</i>				
					<i>Liverpool</i>				

THOROGOOD, JUN. PRINTER, DOWNHAM.

Broadsheet: Osborn Manuscript (British Library, Add.19369) (18.5cm by 31.0cm)

(vi) Gillett & Johnston (Croydon)

The firm Gillett & Johnston was a clockmaker and bell foundry between 1844 and 1957. Between 1844 and 1950 over 14,000 tower clocks were made at the works. The company's most successful and prominent period of activity as a bell founder was in the 1920s and 1930s, when it was responsible for supplying many important bells and carillons for sites across Britain and around the world. A successor company continues to operate at Bletchingley in Surrey, under the Gillett & Johnston name, but are now only engaged in clock making, clock and carillon repair.

The clock making business was established by William Gillett in Hadlow, Kent in the early 19th century. In 1837, Gillett moved his business to Clerkenwell, London; and in 1844 to the site in what later became known as Union Road, Thornton Heath, Croydon, which would remain its home for the next 113 years. Charles Bland became a partner in 1854, and the company subsequently traded as Gillett & Bland. In 1877, Arthur A. Johnston bought into the partnership, and shortly afterwards extended the company's output by establishing a bell foundry. The business became known as Gillett, Bland & Co until Bland's death around 1884, when the name was changed to Gillett & Co. The name Gillett & Johnston seems to have been used from around 1887.

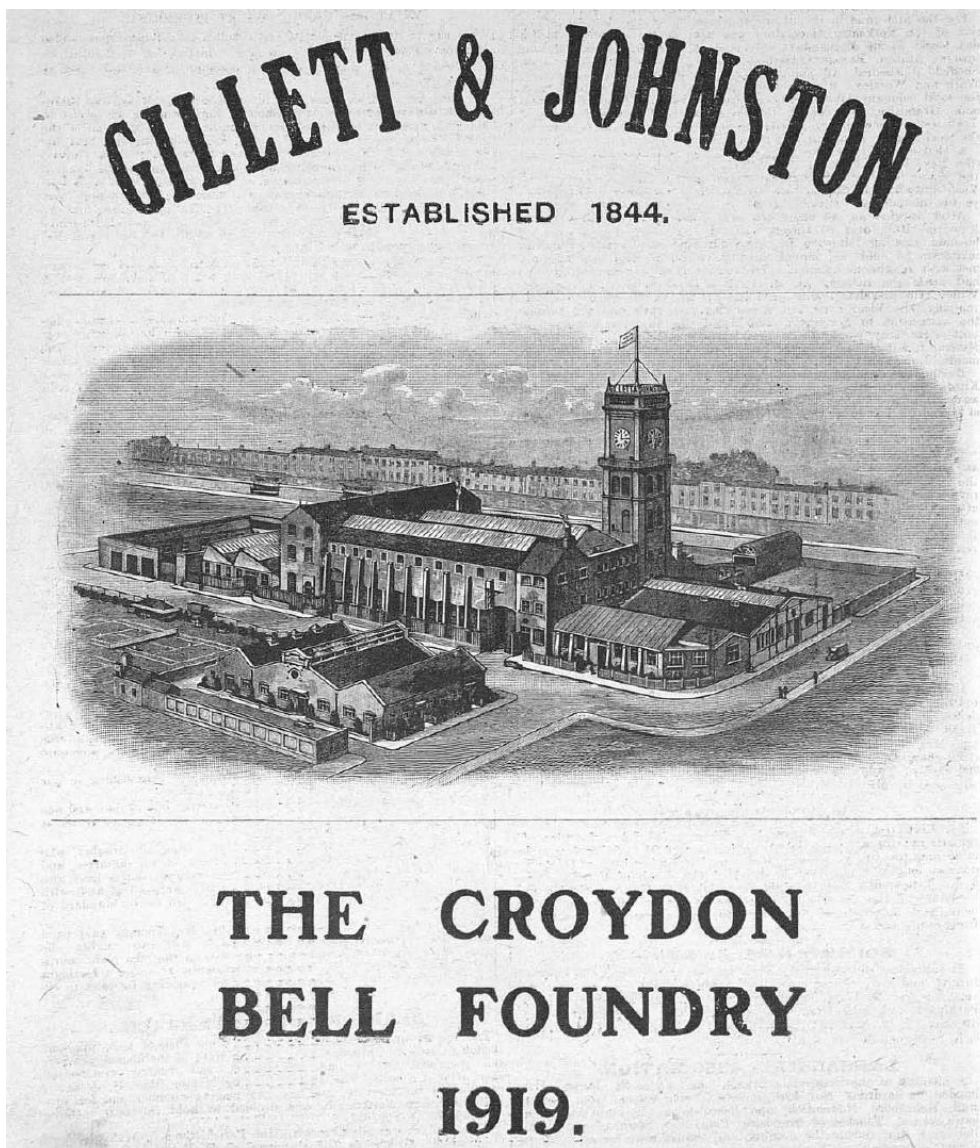
Arthur Johnston's son, Cyril Frederick Johnston (1884–1950), joined the company in 1902, became a partner in 1907, and took over the firm following his father's death in 1916. He developed an interest in the theory of bell tuning, and greatly expanded the bell founding side of the business. In 1905 he re-developed the works, and installed a large vertical tuning lathe. He was particularly interested in the manufacture of carillons, which presented special problems of tuning distinct from those of church bells.

During the First World War, the factory suspended its regular business and became involved in the manufacture of munitions, employing over 1,250 men and women. The firm became a limited liability company in 1925, initially trading as the Croydon Bell Foundry Ltd (although the name 'Gillett and Johnston' still appeared on bells). It reverted to the name Gillett & Johnston Ltd in 1930.

Cyril Johnston resigned as managing director in 1948, following disagreements over company policy, and died suddenly two years later in 1950. Following his departure, Henry Michael Howard took over, and some bells were cast in his name. The business also now diversified into other engineering activities, and new subsidiaries (Microcastings Ltd and Bourdon Tools Ltd) were established. However, it experienced financial difficulties, caused in part by changing architectural tastes, and a falling-off in demand for traditional tower clocks and cast bells. In 1957 the business was taken into receivership and the works were closed down.

The business was sold in 1958 to the Bath Portland Group, which already owned Synchronome, a rival office clock making company. For a few years, the tower clock side was established in Wembley as Gillett-Johnston Clocks Ltd. In 1962 it was bought by Cecil Hector Coombes who had previously worked for Gillett & Johnston in Croydon. He returned the firm to Croydon in 1963 as Gillett and Johnston (Croydon) Ltd, basing it first in Clarendon Road (1963–1970), and then in Sanderstead Road (1970–2012). In 2012 the company moved to new premises in Bletchingley. It remains in the Coombes family.

Surviving records of the foundry include a register of bells cast, 1877–1919; notes relating to work on bells, 1879–1907; and 17 volumes of bell tuning books, 1907–1951. They are now held at the Museum of Croydon (ref. AR 1).



Ringing World: advert from 26 Dec 1919

**GILLETT & JOHNSTON,
CROYDON, Surrey.
CLOCKS — BELLS — CARILLONS.**



WIMBORNE MINSTER TENOR (30 cwt.)
OF THE NEW RING OF 10.

Bell News and Ringers' Record: advert from 7 March 1914

THE AUTHORITIES WRITE:—

Wimborne, Nov. 1911.

"Our expert friends tell us that we have a grand 'ring,' of which the town of Wimborne may well be proud.

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.*
TOM GOMER, }

(vii) *Llewellyns & James Ltd (Bristol)*

The company were originally only involved in bell hanging until about 1874, often getting other foundries in the UK to cast bells on their behalf but with the name Llewellyns & James on them. But by 1874 they appear to have accumulated sufficient expertise to take on bell founding. At the end of the 19th century they were one of around seven bell founders in the UK and in their heyday, between 1875 to 1925, approximately a quarter of the company's turnover was based on their bell founding and bell hanging work.

**LLEWELLINS AND JAMES,
BELL-FOUNDERS, BRISTOL.**

CHURCH BELLS CAST ON
SCIENTIFIC PRINCIPLES.

THEORETICAL LAWS
Now applied to successful
Practice.

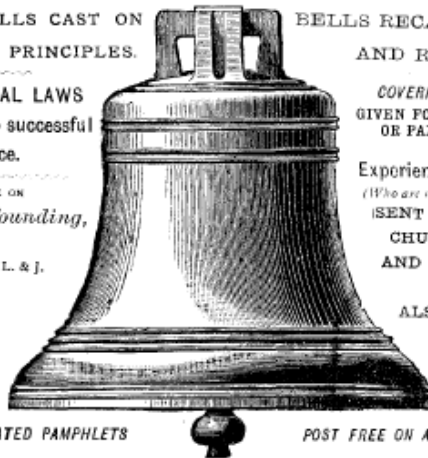
SEE WORK ON
Bells & Bellfounding,
By X.Y.Z.,

To be obtained of L. & J.

Price
Five Shillings
Single Copies.



ILLUSTRATED PAMPHLETS



BELLS RECAST TO NOTE
AND REHUNG.

COVERING ESTIMATES
GIVEN FOR WHOLE RINGS
OR PARTS OF RINGS.

Experienced Bellhangers

(Who are also practical ringers),

SENT TO INSPECT

CHURCH TOWERS,

AND REPORT UPON

BELLS;

ALSO TO TAKE

REQUIRED

NOTES



POST FREE ON APPLICATION

Bell News and Ringers' Record: advert from 4 April 1885

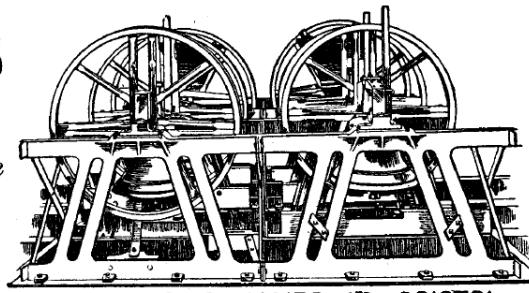
LLEWELLINS & JAMES, LTD. CASTLE GREEN, BRISTOL.

Church Bells

Singly & in Rings.

*Bells recast to Note
and Rehung.*

**INSCRIPTIONS
FAITHFULLY
REPRODUCED.**



LLEWELLINS & JAMES LTD BRISTOL.

EXPERIENCED BELLHANGERS, who are also accomplished CHANGE RINGERS, sent to examine Bells and Fittings, and report thereon.

Bell Frames

IN

STEEL,

IRON,

or OAK.

Bell News and Ringers' Record: advert from 11 December 1909

LLEWELLINS & JAMES, Ltd.,

CASTLE GREEN, BRISTOL.

CHURCH BELLS

Singly or in Rings.

BELL FRAMES

IN

Cast Iron, Steel, and

Oak.



Bells Tuned on the

Latest Improved

Principles

Initiated by the late

Canon Simpson.

Bell News and Ringers' Record: advert from 4 December 1915

(viii) Maneely Foundries (New York, USA)

There were two Maneely bell foundries - based on either side of the Hudson River in New York, USA. The first foundry was established in 1826 in West Troy (now Watervliet), New York, by Andrew Maneely, a former apprentice in the foundry of Benjamin Hanks. Two of Andrew's sons continued to operate the foundry after his death, and it remained a family operation until its closure. The second Maneely bell foundry was established in 1870 by a third son, Clinton H. Maneely, across the river in Troy, New York. Initially he was in partnership with George H. Kimberly, under the name Maneely & Kimberly. This second foundry was re-organised in 1879 as the Clinton H. Maneely Bell Company, then later as the Maneely Bell Company. Like its related competitor, it remained a family operation until its closure. The two foundries competed vigorously (and sometimes bitterly) with each other. Together, they produced about 65,000 bells before they both closed in 1952.

CHURCH, CHAPEL, SCHOOL, FIRE-ALARM
AND OTHER **BELLS** ALSO CHIMES
and PEALS.
Established 1830. **MENEELY & CO.,**
WEST TROY, N. Y.

Moderate prices for Bells of the very best quality
Write or call and obtain quotations and illustrated
catalogues. B-25-26aw

BLACKSMITHING.

POWBITON manufactures dock-plates and bolt
sloosly approximating cost. Also machinery
forking and welding heavy shafting. Hitching-poss
via
578 RIVER STREET.

Leading Drug House

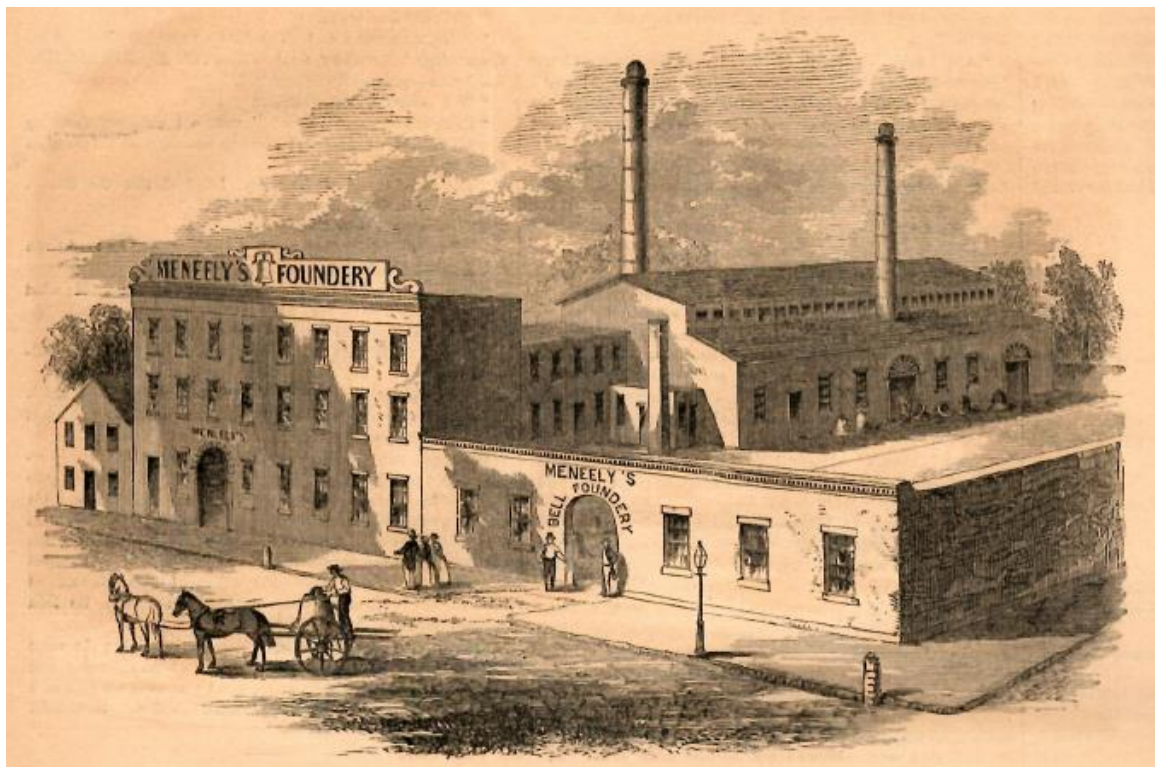
Iⁿ
LANSINGBURGH,
325 Second avenue, Adams Building. Physicians
prescriptions accurately compounded at all hours by
a thoroughly competent pharmacist.
JAMES H. ADAMS.
B-4-21aw

Edward Carter,
22 TO 40 SPRING AVENUE. Plaster, me-
chanics' tools

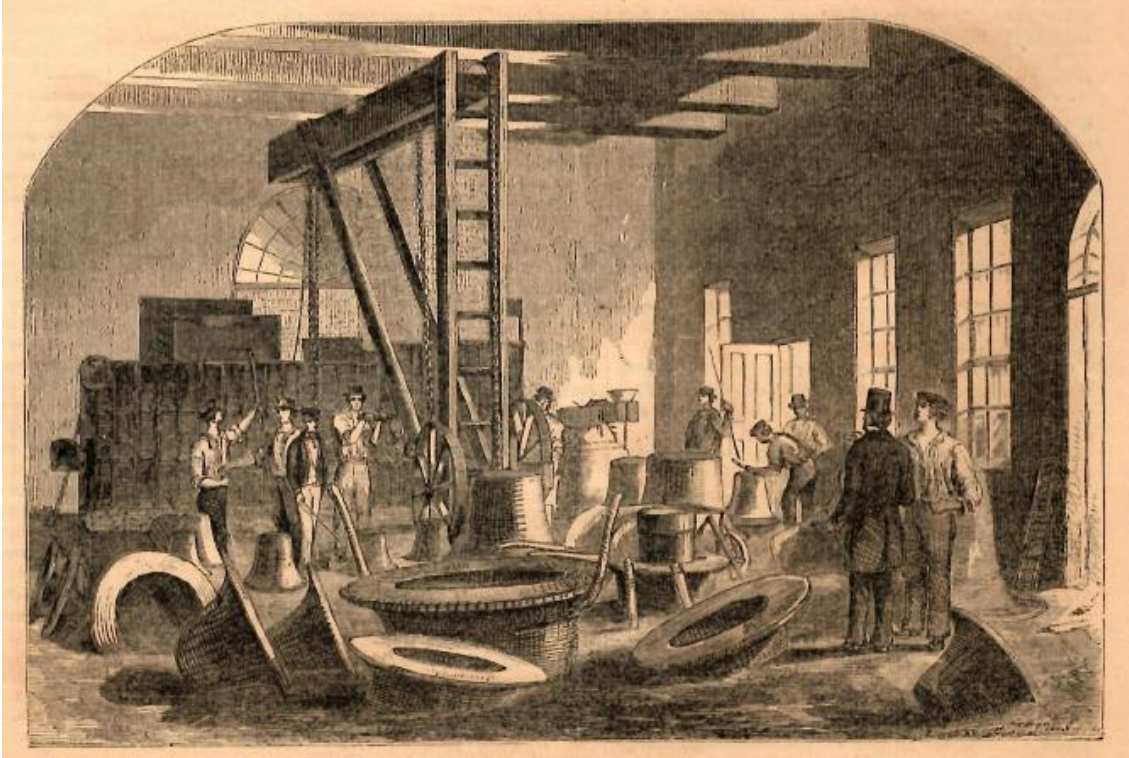
Elevating Clothes Dryers
And washing machines, mouldings, saws, hand-
falls, balusters, etc. Salesroom 508 River street.

Clinton H. Meneely Bell Company,
TROY, N. Y., manufacture superior
CHURCH, CHIME
and PEAL BELLS.

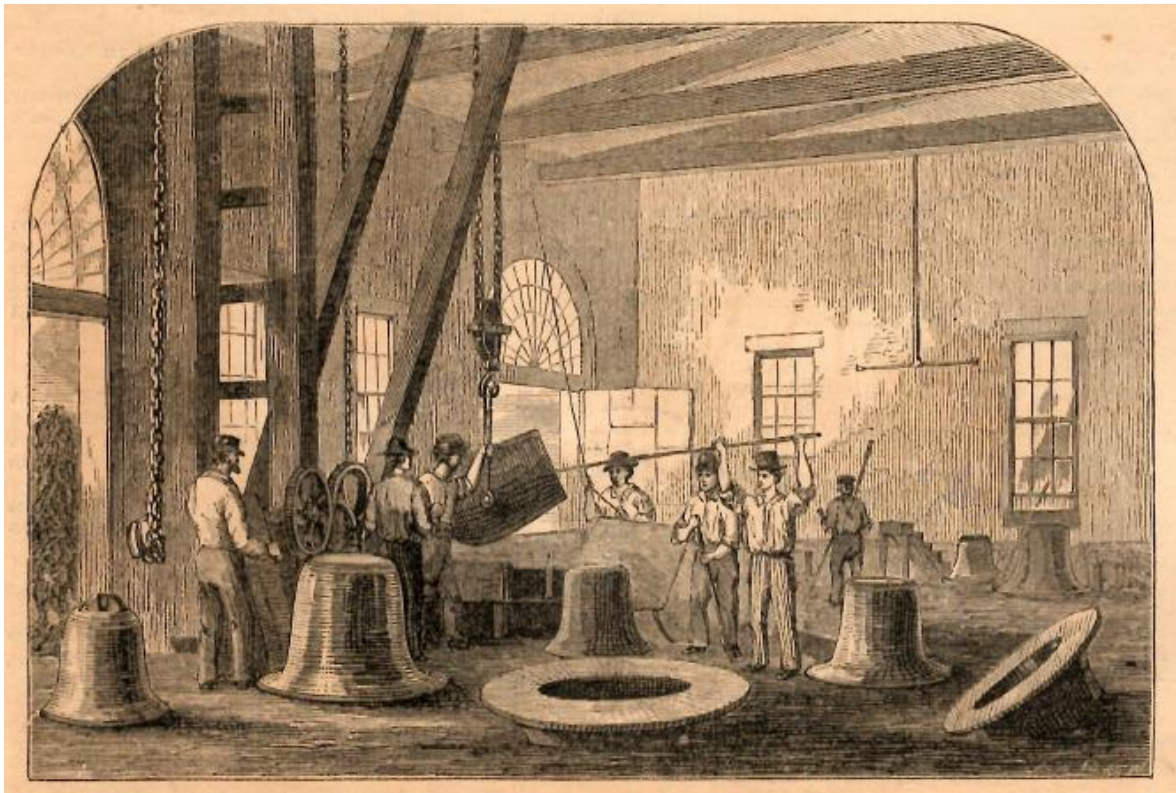
Business cards for both of the competing Meneely bell foundries
appearing in the *Troy Daily Times* May 20, 1891



View of Meneely's Bell Foundry from *Ballou's Pictorial Drawing Room Companion*. Date not known,
page 244 (17.5cm by 12.0cm)



Interior of the foundry from *Ballou's Pictorial Drawing Room Companion*. Date not known, page 244 (17.5cm by 12.0cm)



Moulding and Casting Process from *Ballou's Pictorial Drawing Room Companion*. Date not known, page 245 (17.5cm by 12.0cm)




Mounting Room and Year of the Foundry from *Ballou's Pictorial Drawing Room Companion*. Date not known, page 245 (17.5cm by 12.0cm)

(ix) Matthew O'Byrne (Dublin)

Following a career as a Chief Engineer in the Royal Navy Matthew O'Byrne established The Fountain Head Iron Foundry in James's Street, Dublin in 1840. They undertook the tuning of bells as well as their casting. In 1887 they patented the 'M Byrne Patent Rotary Mounting' which was a cast iron headstock with a tapered hole through which a tapered boss on the crown of the bell was inserted and bolted in place. The advantage was that by simply slacking the nut the bell could be rotated in a few minutes.

Church Bells
SINGLE SERVICE BELLS OR CHIMES
by **MATTHEW O'BYRNE**
Maker of fine bells for over a century
CANNOT BE SURPASSED FOR QUALITY AND SWEETNESS OF TONE



13-cwt. Bell made to the order of Very Reverend Patrick Canon Fitzgerald, P.P., Church of Our Lady
Queen of Peace, Merrion Road, Dublin

If you have any more enquiries of bells in relation to any church or
throughout the world and can quote very low rates for your requirements. CATALOGUES AND ESTIMATES
FREE ON REQUEST

THE BELL FOUNDRY
42 JAMES'S STREET, DUBLIN, IRELAND
Telephone Dublin 53376 — Five lines

Bell cast for Church of Our Lady Queen of Peace, Merrion Road, Dublin. Source unknown (14.3cm by 20.0cm)

(x) Rudhalls (Gloucester)

There had been a tradition of bell casting in Gloucester since before the 14th century. One of the prominent founders from that area was Rudhalls. The family business was founded by Abraham Rudhall (1657–1736) who developed a method of tuning bells by turning on a lathe rather than the traditional chipping method with a chisel. One of the earliest rings of bells he cast was for St Nicholas' Church, Oddington in 1684. He came to be described as the greatest bell-founder of his age. The business was continued by his eldest son, also called Abraham (1680–1735), his son Abel (1714–60), and three of Abel's sons, Thomas (?1740–83), Charles (1746–1815) and John (1760–1835). In 1815 John Rudhall was declared bankrupt and the bell foundry bought by Mears & Stainbank from the Whitechapel Bell Foundry. The business formally closed in 1828 but bells bearing John's name have been found with dates up to 1835.

PEALS of BELLS

CAST by the *RUDHALLS,*

of *GLOUCESTER.*

	No. in the Peals.	Weight of the Tonor. Cwt.		No. in the Peals.	Weight of the Tonor. Cwt.
MANCHESTER College ...	10	25	Daresbury, Cheshire ...	6	10
Windrush, Gloucestershire ...	6	8	Saint Nicholas, Hereford ...	6	15
High Ercall, Shropshire ...	6	11	Eaton Bishop, Herefordshire ...	6	12
Saint Peter's, Liverpool ...	8	22	North Nibley, Gloucestershire ...	6	11
Ross, Herefordshire ...	8	24	Burton-upon-Trent, Staffordshire ...	8	21
Marberry, Cheshire ...	5	8	Gayton, Northamptonshire ...	5	14
Colesborn, Gloucestershire ...	5	6	Kington, Herefordshire ...	6	13
Newark-upon-Trent, Nottinghamshire ...	8	28	Saint Michael's, Chester ...	6	7
Goosnagh, Lancashire ...	5	8	Saint Mary's, Litchfield ...	8	19
Nantwich, Cheshire ...	6	10	Cound, Shropshire ...	6	12
Holt, Denbighshire ...	6	9	Wrexham, Denbighshire ...	10	25
Kirkham, Lancashire ...	5	13	Saint Menver, Cornwall ...	5	8
Trentham, Staffordshire ...	6	10	Alvescott, Oxfordshire ...	5	9
Little Budworth, Cheshire ...	5	7	Bangor, Flintshire ...	6	7
Middleton, Lancashire ...	6	12	Didsbury, Lancashire ...	6	8
Standish, ditto ...	5	11	Ecclestone, ditto ...	6	8
Boaden, Cheshire ...	6	14	Newtown, Montgomeryshire ...	6	8
Bradford, Yorkshire ...	6	15	Lyonsall, Herefordshire ...	6	11
Great Torrington, Devonshire ...	6	13	Longdon, Staffordshire ...	5	12
Charlbury, Oxfordshire ...	6	14	St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, London ...	12	32
Breadley, Staffordshire ...	5	8	All Saints, Bristol ...	8	16
Edgworth, Gloucestershire ...	5	6	Saint Bride's, London ...	12	28
Chedworth, ditto ...	5	11	Canon Pyon, Herefordshire ...	5	11
Cold Aston, ditto ...	5	7	Astley, Worcestershire ...	6	13
Christ Church, Bristol ...	10	20	Eardisland, Herefordshire ...	5	13
Mells, Somersetshire ...	6	25	Upton, Gloucestershire ...	6	17
Presteign, Radnorshire ...	6	14	Saint Peter's, Lincoln ...	8	19
Minshall, Cheshire ...	5	10	Saint James's, Bath ...	8	19
Bishop's Castle, Shropshire ...	6	9	Longcote, Berkshire ...	6	9
Bonvilston, Glamorganshire ...	6	12	Fulham, Middlesex ...	10	20
Newport, Shropshire ...	6	13	Uttoxeter, Staffordshire ...	6	14
Enfield, Staffordshire ...	6	14	Much Wenlock, Shropshire ...	6	16
Waverham, Cheshire ...	6	9	Saint Peter's, Bristol ...	8	19
Gladestry, Radnorshire ...	5	7	Crowan, Cornwall ...	6	12
Minchinhampton, Gloucestershire ...	6	13	Holy Cross, Pershore, Worcestershire ...	8	26
Bideford, Devonshire ...	6	14	Dumbleton, Gloucestershire ...	6	11
Tetbury, Gloucestershire ...	8	16	Llaugharne, Carmarthenshire ...	6	8
Saint Michael's, Litchfield ...	6	10	Kentchurch, Herefordshire ...	5	8
Carmarthen, (Town) ...	6	12	Abergeley, Denbighshire ...	5	6
Lantwit, Glamorganshire ...	6	11	St. Stephen's-in-Brannel, Cornwall ...	6	10
Allensmore, Herefordshire ...	6	11	Llangonoyd, Glamorganshire ...	6	8
Bury, Lancashire ...	6	13	Saint Chad's, Shrewsbury ...	10	26
Mottram Longdendale, Cheshire ...	8	11	Painswick, Gloucestershire ...	12	27
Kingham, Oxfordshire ...	6	11	Marple, Cheshire ...	6	14
Bibury, Gloucestershire ...	6	9	Week Saint Mary, Cornwall ...	5	8
Much-Dewchurch, Herefordshire ...	6	9	Totness, Devonshire ...	8	26
Stoke-upon-Teme, Shropshire ...	5	8	Mold, Flintshire ...	6	8
Twining, Gloucestershire ...	6	11	Neston, Cheshire ...	6	10
Twiverton, Somersetshire ...	6	12	Ludlow, Shropshire ...	8	25
Acton, Cheshire ...	6	14	Wigan, Lancashire ...	8	30
Saint Nicholas, Liverpool ...	6	15	Aynstrey, Herefordshire ...	6	10
Burton-in-Wirroll, Cheshire ...	5	8	Michaelchurch Eskley, ditto ...	5	6
Montgomery, (Town) ...	6	10	Quedgley, Gloucestershire ...	6	10
Radnor, (Town) ...	6	16	Blaisdon, Gloucestershire ...	5	8
Cradley, Herefordshire ...	6	13	Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire ...	8	17
Talgarth, Brecknockshire ...	6	8	Langarren, Herefordshire ...	6	11
Coln Saint Aldwin's, Gloucestershire ...	6	8	Chapel-in-le-Frith, Derbyshire ...	6	11
Kingsley, Staffordshire ...	5	12	Barrington, Gloucestershire ...	6	8

Broadsheet from *Osborn Manuscript* (British Library, Add.19369) (Size unclear as cut to fit manuscript page)

The Rudhalls' foundry was not adverse to promoting their work in newspapers as illustrated by the following extracts.

Whereas Mr. Abraham Rudhall, of the City of Gloucester, Bell-founder, was lately Employ'd to Cast Eight Bells for the Parish Church of St. Dunstan's in the East, London. This is to give Notice, that he has perform'd his Contract to the Universal Satisfaction of the Gentlemen of the said Parish, and, in the Opinion of the Ablest Judges, has made them the best Peal of Bells in England.

Post Boy (Thursday, 23 July 1702)

Abraham Rudhall of the City of Gloucester Bell-Founder, being desired to give Account of the Bells cast by him into Peales, since the year 1684, to this time, is as followeth, viz. entire Peales, 1 Ring of 10 Bells at Warwick, and 14 Rings of 8 Bells, 45 rings of 6 Bells, 34 rings of 5 Bells, besides rings of 4 Bells and Bells cast into Peals to the Number of 765. the Bells above mentioned have been Cast for the use of 7 Cities and 49 Market Towns, 234 Parishes in 19 several Counties: He hath Cast since the 1st of May last entire Peals as follows, viz. for Cardiff 6; Rainsbury 6, Windrude 6, Masey-Hampton 6, Eardisley 5, Colehill 5, Cranum 5, Ashweek 5 and 2 Trebles to make 8 Bells for that famous Peal of 6 at St Margarets in Leicester, and other odd Bells into Peals to the Number of 59, and to the greater Satisfaction of those that understand ringing and good Bells.

Post Man and the Historical Account (Saturday, 7 May 1709)

Two new Bells being this Week put up in St. Bridget's Steeple in Fleet-street, cast, as we hear, by Mr. Abraham Rudhall of Gloucester, who cast the other Ten; which Peal of twelve Bells being more than in any Steeple in England, were rung last Night for the first Time, to the great Satisfaction of those that heard them.

Daily Post (Saturday, 5 December 1719)

Mr. Mist,
By constantly reading your Journal I find you a Man of Probity, which gives me Hopes of a Place for this in your next; because it is to do Justice to the greatest Artist in the World, in the Way of Bell-Foundry; I mean Mr. Abraham Rudhall, sen. of the City of Gloucester, who (notwithstanding some of his Enemies of the same Business, who find they can make but little Progress whilst he or his Son live, have induttriously reported they are both dead, whereas they are both alive, and in perfect Health) hath lately performed the greatest Piece of Work ever known, by Casting two Bells for St. Bride's Church, which, being added to the Ten he formerly cast, make a compleat Peal of twelve which, according to the best Masters in Musick and Ringing, exceed all others. It is hoped this ingenious Man may live to fill many vacant Steeples with his excellent Harmony, so pleasing in the Ears of all honest Men, and Lovers of Church-Musick.

I am, Sir,

Your very humble Servant,
 Bellarmine Soundwell.

Weekly Journal or Saturday's Post (Saturday, 9 January 1720)

MR. ABRAHAM RUDHALL the famous Bell-Founder at Gloucester, who has been so often reported to be dead, is to the great Mortification of the Authors of those Reports, still alive in perfect Health, who has given more Proofs of his Dexterity in that Art than any of his Predecessors ever did before him, which his own Works in many Parts of England can testify, especially the noble Peal of 12, which he has lately perfected at St. Brides, which may justly be counted the standard Peal of England for the Time to come, and will remain as an everlasting Monument of Praise due to that most ingenious Artist, which Number of Bells is such an Addition and affords so much Variety of Musick, that no Instrument whatsoever has receiv'd so great an Improvement, which Improvement, however is abundantly help'd by the Charming Air and musical Notes peculiar to Peals of Mr. Rudhall's calling, there being as much Difference in the Tones of Bells as to Musick, as there is between a Bartholomew Fair Fiddle of a Groat, and a Cremona Fiddle worth a hundred Guineas.

Evening Post (Thursday, 14 January 1720)

There is now coming from Gloucester a fine Peal of eight Bells, founded by Mr. Ruddle of that Place, to be put up in the Tower of the Church of Fulham in the County of Middlesex; and it is believed they will be compleatly fitted up in about a Month's Time: The Treble weighs five Hundred three Quarters and one Pound, and the Tenor eighteen Hundred three Quarters and eighteen Pound.

Daily Post (Thursday, 13 November 1729); together with a similar report in *Weekly Journal or British Gazetteer* (Saturday, 15 November 1729)

(xi) *Taylor's (Loughborough)*

John Taylor & Co, commonly known as Taylor's Bell Foundry, Taylor's of Loughborough, or simply Taylor's, is currently the sole major UK bell foundry still in existence. The present company is part of a line of bell founders dating back to Johannes de Stafford in the 14th century and has occupied its present site in Loughborough since 1839. It became Taylor's after the Taylor family took over in 1784. The Taylors also had foundries in Oxford and St Neots between 1786 and 1854, and they were the first founder to adopt 'true-harmonic' tuning in the late 19th century. In 2005 John Taylor's had merged with Eayre & Smith Ltd (a firm of bell hangers) and from 2005 until 2009 became Taylors Eayre & Smith Ltd.

In September 2009 Taylors went into administration but was bought out of administration by a consortium called UK Bellfoundries Ltd, led by Andrew Wilby, which successfully re-financed and re-established the business. Since then the company has re-established its presence both in the UK and in the Carillon and other export markets. In 2018 the company established a subsidiary called *John Taylor International*, based in Australia, to serve the southern hemisphere markets. In 2016 the Directors of UK Bellfoundries Ltd founded the Loughborough Bellfoundry Trust and transferred ownership of the buildings, equipment,

intellectual property and the Museum to that body in perpetuity to safeguard it for the future. The Trust has received emergency grants to restore several parts of the building from Historic England as it was listed as a Grade 2* building at risk. Further restoration is planned.

J. TAYLOR,

SUCCESSOR TO THE LATE EAYERS AND ARNOLD,
OF ST. NEOT'S, HUNTINGDONSHIRE,



Bell Founder,

LOUGHBOROUGH AND OXFORD,

* * THE FIGURES IN THE FIRST COLUMN DENOTE THE NUMBER OF BELLS,
AND THE SECOND THE WEIGHT OF TENORS.

HAS CAST THE FOLLOWING PEALS

1840.—LOUGHBOROUGH, 8 BELLS, TENOR 24 cwt.

LONDON AGENT.—C. BALLE, 8, Brook Street, Lambeth.

	No.	Cwt.		No.	Cwt.
Advent, Cornwall	4	5	Cranfield, Bedfordshire	5	18
Bourne, Cambridgeshire	6	15	Chelton Calcot, Northamptonshire	5	8
Boston, Lincolnshire	8	24	Challeston, Derbyshire	3	5
Beaworthy, Devonshire	3	5	Congerston, Leicestershire	5	7
Bishop's Tawton, Devonshire	6	11	Dartford, Kent	6	15
Boytons, Cornwall	5	7	Daventry, Northamptonshire	8	16
Bradstone, Devonshire	5	7	Dowland, Devonshire, a maiden peal	5	5
Bridestowe, Devonsh a maiden peal	6	14	Ely, Cambridgeshire	8	18
Brill, Buckinghamshire	6	11	Eynesbury, Huntingdonshire	6	13
Broadwood, Kelly, Devonshire	5	11	Eye, Herefordshire	6	8
Buckland Brewer, Devonshire	6	11	Enstone, Oxfordshire, a maiden peal	6	9
Bletsoe, Bedfordshire	5	12	Emberton, Buckinghamshire	5	9
Bude, Cornwall, two quarters and one hour	13	13	Fulbourn, Cambridgeshire	6	11
Beighton, Derbyshire	6	9	Finedon, Northamptonshire	6	20
Calton, Northamptonshire	6	13	Farndon, Cheshire	8	12
Calverton, Buckinghamshire	6	11	Galdby, Leicestershire	6	14
Churchill, Oxfordshire	6	11	Grantham, Lincolnshire	8	30
Comb Martin, Devons a maiden peal	6	12	Gritton, Northamptonshire	5	9

Broadsheet from the *Osborn Manuscript* (British Library, Add.19369) (Size unclear as cut to fit manuscript page)

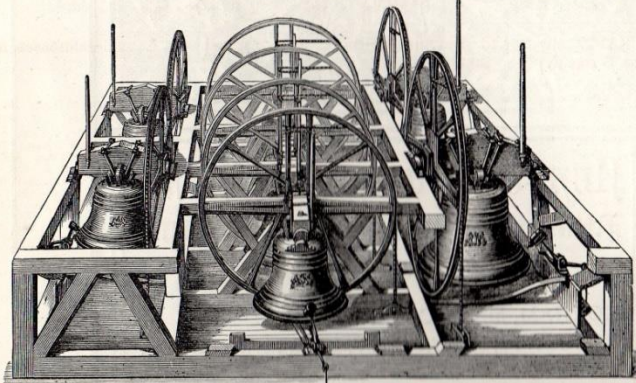
In addition to the foundry museum the site also contains a ring of 12 bells hung for change ringing in a separate tower, having augmented a ring of 10 bells that were previously installed. The National 12 Bell Striking Contest is competed for annually by the leading teams in England for 'The Taylor Trophy'. Notable bells cast by the foundry include Great Paul and the ring of bells at St Paul's Cathedral, London; Liverpool Cathedral bourdon bell Great George, at 14,900 kg or more than 14 long tons 13 cwt, it is the second largest bell in Britain; also the Baird Carillon, a 55 bell carillon at the University of Michigan and the 47 bell carillon in Loughborough itself.

(xii) John Warner & Sons (Cripplegate, London)

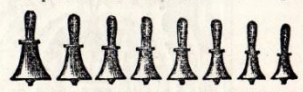
The company undertook metal works at various locations in the UK. It was originally founded in 1739 before being established as a company in 1763. From 1850 until 1924 they were mainly known for casting church bells. The company was dissolved in 1949.

Warners had a large output of bells, and Warner bells can be found throughout the world. Some of their notable bells including the clock chime at the Houses of Parliament cast at their foundry in Cripplegate. The original Big Ben was cast at their Norton, near Stockton on Tees, foundry but later had to be re-cast by the Whitechapel Bell Foundry.

JOHN WARNER & SONS,
BELL AND BRASS FOUNDERS TO HER MAJESTY.



Prize Medals awarded in London, Vienna, &c., for Bells, Chiming Machinery, Metal Work, &c.
The Highest Award to JOHN WARNER & SONS, in the Inventions & Musical Exhibition, 1885, for Church Bells, with Goslin's Patent System of Hanging Large Bells.
Bells Cast Singly or in Rings. Church Bells, School Bells, Chapel Bells. Old Bells Recast or Rehung.


HANDBELLS IN SETS
IN DIATONIC AND CHROMATIC SCALES
Clock Bells and Carillons in any size or number.
BELLS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION AND SIZE.
References to Cathedrals and Churches in every part of the world if desired.

J. W. & Sons are prepared to send an experienced Bell-hanger to report or advise upon Repairs, Alterations, or New Rings of Bells.
Manufacturers of Goslin's Patent Hangings for very large Bells, by which large Bells may be rung at all seasons with the least possible pulling.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUES can be obtained upon application, post free, giving a large amount of information.

PUBLISHERS OF

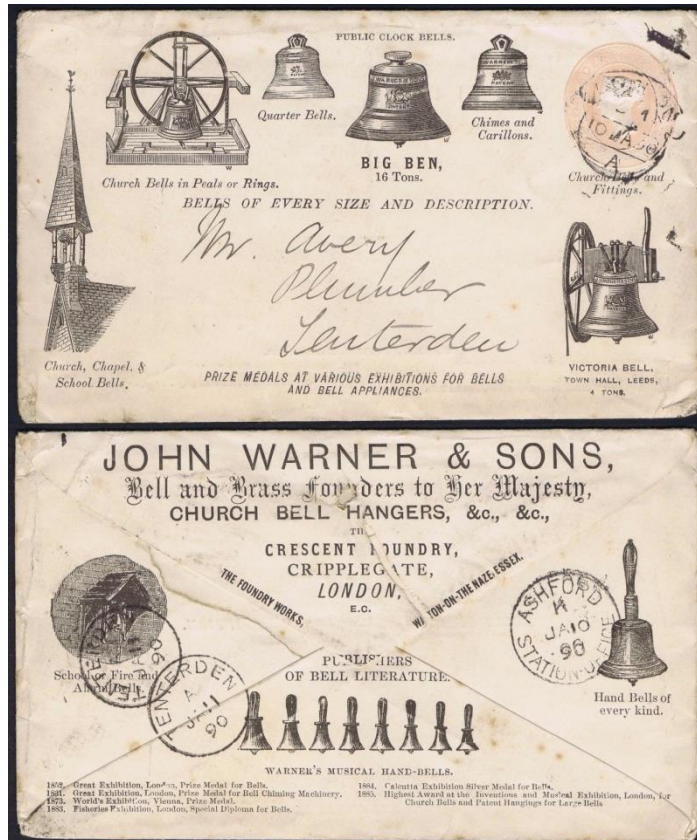
THE ABC OF HAND-BELL RINGING. By S. B. GOSLIN, in which are Tunes suited for Chiming on large Bells. Price 1s.
'Just the thing which was wanted for young beginners. . . . We recommend it.'—*Church Bells.* *'This little book will be very acceptable.'*—*Church Review.*

THE FIRST STEPS TO BELL-RINGING UPON CHURCH BELLS. By S. B. GOSLIN. Price 1s.
'We have no hesitation in saying that it is the best Elementary Introduction to the exercise of Bell-ringing in Rounds and Changes that we have met with.'—*Church Bells.*
'It is clear and simple in style, and is altogether just the book to place in the hand of persons desirous of knowing for themselves something of the Art.'—*Yorkshire Gazette.*

THE MUSICAL HAND-BELL RINGERS' INSTRUCTOR, Part II. Containing the Theory and Practice of Hand-bell Music and Tunes for Musical Hand-bells. By S. B. GOSLIN. Price 2s.
'A work of great practical utility.'—*City Press.* *'We advise all who are desirous of making progress with Hand-bells to get it.'*—*Church Bells.*
'We heartily commend it.'—*Church Review.*

THE CRESCENT FOUNDRY, CRIPPLEGATE, LONDON, E.C.

John Warner & Sons trade card from the *Osborn Manuscript* (British Library, Add.19368/19369)



John Warner & Sons printed envelope from the *Osborn Manuscript* (British Library, add.19368/19369)

BY ROYAL WARRANT
 Bell & Brass Founders to His Majesty The King.
JOHN WARNER & SONS, Ltd.
2, Jewin Crescent, Cripplegate, London, E.C.
"THE VICTORIA PEAL" OF EIGHT BELLS.



WEIGHT 25 cwt. WEIGHT OF PEAL 5 tons. 4 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lbs.
Hung in the 'Victoria Tower,'
ST. MARY'S CHURCH, CHATHAM.
H.R.H. PRINCESS CHRISTIAN ATTENDED at the DEDICATION SERVICE by the
 BISHOP OF ROCHESTER, Feb. 2nd. 1898;
 In Commemoration of Her Majesty's Jubilee, 1897.

Bell News and Ringers' Record: advert from 11 January 1902



JOHN WARNER & SONS, Patentees of Improvements in the Manufacture of Large Bells.

J. W. & SONS having of late years devoted much time and study to the long neglected art of Bell Casting, have recently invented and patented a new process connected therewith, by which they are enabled to manufacture Bells of any size, note or weight, of superior tone, truer in form, and at less cost than has heretofore been accomplished.

**Exhibition,
Hyde Park,
London,
15th Oct., 1851.**

Attest
**President
of the
Royal Comm'nsion**

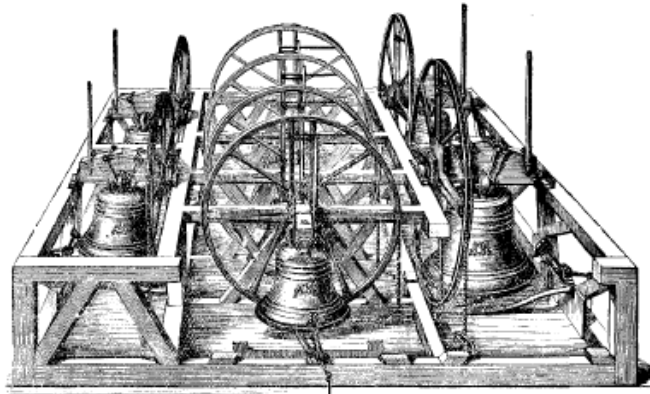
The weight subject to slight variation. A Table of sizes & weights kept in stock.

Peal of 3.		Peal of 5.		SINGLE BELLS.			
Time.	Weight of Peal. Tons. cwt.	Time.	Weight of Peal. Tons. cwt.	Diameter.	Cwt. qrs. lbs.	Diameter.	Cwt. qrs. lbs.
5	0 12	5	1 2½	6 In.	0 0 4½	21 In.	1 3 26
10	1 4	10	2 5	7	0 0 6½	22	2 2 9
15	1 16	15	2 19	8	0 0 11	23	2 3 22
20	2 5	20	4 6	9	0 0 16	24	3 1 5
		25	4 19	9½	0 0 18	25	3 3 10
Peal of 4.		Peal of 8.		10	0 0 21½	26	4 1 4
5	0 16½	10	2 13½	11	0 1 3½	27	4 3 11
10	1 9	15	4 1	12	0 1 16	28	5 0
15	2 5	20	5 3	13	0 2 0	29	5 1 2
20	2 16	25	5 18	14	0 2 12	30	6 1 6
Peal of 6.		30	6 16	15	0 3 8	31	6 3 0
5	1 0	35	7 10	16	1 0 12	32	7 1 8
10	1 16			17	1 0 18	33	8 5 7
15	2 12			18	1 1 22	34	9 2 0
20	3 9			19	1 2 0	35	10 9 0
				20	1 3 2	36	10 1 4

Bells for Churches, Churches, Schools, Tower Clocks, &c. cast for any size, note, or weight, singly or in Peals, TUNED BY MACHINERY, finished & selected ready for ringing. Old Bells re-cast or taken in exchange for NEW HAND BELLS. Tuned in the Chromatic Scale, with improved Clappers, and Pugged in a new system, which gives a superior tone and facility for ringing.
Drawing to show the most approved method of Hanging Church Bells, either singly or in peals, where there is not space enough for a wheel, a lever is sometimes used, which, with bells of 12-in. diameter and under, answers equally well, at less cost.

Trade cards produced for the Great Exhibition 1851 from the *Osborn Manuscript* (British Library, Add.19368/19369)

JOHN WARNER AND SONS,
Bell and Brass Founders to Her Majesty,



THE CRESCENT FOUNDRY, CRIPPLEGATE, LONDON, E.C.

Price Medals awarded in London, Vienna, &c., for Bells, Chiming Machinery, Metal Work, &c.
Bells Cast Singly or in Rings. Church Bells, School Bells, Chapel Bells. Old Bells Re-cast or Re-hung.
Hand Bells in sets in Diatonic and Chromatic Scales. Clock Bells and Carillons in any size or number.

Bells of every Description and Size.

References to Cathedrals and Churches in every part of the world, if desired.

J. W. & SONS are prepared to send an experienced Bell-hanger to report or advise upon repairs, Alterations or New Rings of Bells. Illustrated Catalogues can be obtained upon application, post-free, giving a large amount of information.

Also, "A B C OF MUSICAL HAND BELL RINGING," by S. B. GOSLIN.

Second Edition, enlarged and revised, price 1s. and

"THE FIRST STEPS TO BELL-RINGING UPON CHURCH BELLS," by S. B. GOSLIN, price 1s.

THE MUSICAL HAND-BELL RINGERS' INSTRUCTOR, Part II, by S. B. GOSLIN, containing Music Theory and Tunes for Hand Bells. Price 2s.

Bell News and Ringers' Record: advert from 4 April 1885

TENOR BELL

ST. GILES', Cripplegate.

This Peal of TWELVE BELLS is now Rehung in
"WARNER'S INDEPENDENT" IRON AND STEEL GIRDER
FRAMEWORK.

**WEIGHT OF
TENOR**
36½ CWT.

**WEIGHT OF
PEAL**
7 TONS,
17½ CWT.
13 LBS.

JOHN WARNER & SONS,
Bell Founders to H.M. The King,
CRESCENT FOUNDRY, CRIPPLEGATE,
LONDON, E.C.

Bell News and Ringers' Record: advert from 4 December 1909

(xiii) Whitechapel (London)

The Whitechapel Bell Foundry dates back to 1570. The last premises they occupied at 32–34 Whitechapel Road dates from 1670 and was formerly a coaching inn called 'The Artichoke' which had been damaged in the Great Fire of London. The Artichoke ceased trading in 1738 and the following year the Whitechapel Bell Foundry moved into the premises. The foundry remained at the site until May 2017. It was one of only two bell foundries left in the UK and had been in continuous production for almost 450 years. Previous bell founders from Aldgate and Whitechapel can however, be traced back to 1420. According to previous owners Alan and Kathryn Hughes, the foundry had been a family-owned company throughout its history continuing when Alan Hughes's grandfather bought the company in 1904, until its sale to Westley group in 2017.

The business had to adapt throughout the centuries and in modern times, with new churches being built less frequently, produced handbells and doorbells. It responded to a surge in orders for table bells, following the popularity of the ITV period drama 'Downton Abbey' with a third of its sales going overseas. In 2013 the foundry launched an online shop selling house bells, musical instruments including hand bells and other merchandise. The large bell business had been largely unaffected by periods of financial depression, partly owing to the fact that from enquiry to completion an order takes on average 11 years. The foundry was particularly busy after the war, replacing bells lost or damaged by fire in bombing raids across London.

In March 2017 a consortium of heritage groups, including Save Britain's Heritage, The East End Preservation Society, the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, the Ancient Monuments Society, and the Royal Academy of attempted to have the foundry premises listed as a Grade 1 building given the historic importance of the building. The foundry was sold to US investor Raycliff who announced their intention to convert the building into a 95 room hotel with a bell themed cafe.

Many churches across the world have bells cast by the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, but arguably some of its best-known examples are not in places of worship. In 1752 the foundry (known at the time as Lester and Pack) cast the Liberty Bell, which was commissioned to celebrate the 50th anniversary of William Penn's 1701 Charter of Privileges, Pennsylvania's original constitution. As a result of damage sustained during its stormy passage across the Atlantic, the bell cracked when it was first rung, and after repeated repairs cracked again in 1846 when rung to mark the birthday of George Washington.

Big Ben, which tolls the hour at the Palace of Westminster, was cast in 1858 and rung for the first time on 31 May 1859. It weighs 13½ tons and is the largest bell ever cast at the foundry. This bell cracked because too heavy a hammer was initially used to strike it. The crack and the subsequent re-tuning gives the bell its present distinctive tone.

The foundry cast 14 bells for the Liverpool Cathedral with psalm texts as engravings. The bells are notable for being the heaviest change ringing peal of bells in the world. The Whitechapel Bell Foundry also designed the Olympic Bell seen at the opening ceremony for the 2012 Games. It was not cast at the Whitechapel premises as the furnaces could not provide the 23 tons of molten metal required to make the bell, so it was manufactured at a factory in the Netherlands which normally produces ship's propellers. The Olympic bell has the lowest tone of any bell in the world at note B, is the largest harmonically tuned bell in the world and the widest bell in Britain. It now hangs in the Queen Elizabeth Park and is not rung because it is deemed too loud to be rung without disturbing local residents. The Foundry also cast the Royal Jubilee Bells used on the lead barge for the Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant held to mark the 60th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth's accession to the throne in 2012. These bells are now hung for ringing in the church of St James, Garlickhythe.

The following founder names are cast into the surface of Whitechapel bells of different dates. Prior to Robert Mot, in 1574, the *sign of three bells* was often cast to indicate that it was a Whitechapel (or Aldgate) bell.

- 1420 Robert Chamberlain of Aldgate
- 1426 William Chamberlain
- 1456 John Daniel
- 1470 John Daniel's Successor
- 1487 IW
- 1500–1515 Thomas Bullisdon
- 1506–1522 William Culverden
- 1523 Thomas Lawrence
- 1538 John Owen
- 1553 Thomas Kempe
- 1574 Robert Mot
- 1606 Joseph Carter
- 1610 William Carter
- 1616 Thomas Bartlet
- 1632 John Clifton
- 1640 Anthony Bartlet
- 1675 James Bartlet
- 1700 Richard Phelps
- 1735 Phelps and Lester
- 1738 Thomas Lester
- 1752 Lester and Pack
- 1769 Lester, Pack and Chapman
- 1776 Pack and Chapman
- 1781 Chapman and Mears
- 1784 William Mears
- 1787 William and Thomas Mears
- 1791 Thomas Mears I
- 1805 Mears and Son
- 1810 Thomas Mears II
- 1844 Charles and George Mears
- 1861 George Mears and Co
- 1865 Mears and Stainbank
- 1873 Robert Stainbank
- 1884 Alfred Lawson
- 1904 Arthur Hughes
- 1916 Albert Hughes
- 1945 Albert and William Hughes
- 1950 Albert, William & Douglas Hughes
- 1964 William and Douglas Hughes
- 1972 William, Douglas and Alan Hughes
- 1993 Douglas and Alan Hughes
- 1997 Alan and Kathryn Hughes

The last bell to be cast at the foundry was on 22 March 2017, and was given to the Museum of London along with historical artefacts from the premises. The manufacturing patents for the Whitechapel bells have been sold to the bell-hanging company, Whites of Appleton in Oxfordshire, with whom the foundry has had a business relationship for 197 years.

Thomas Mears
 Late LESTER, PACK & CHAPMAN
 Bell Founder.
 At the THREE BELLS in White Chapel, LONDON.
 I have cast the following Bell and Pairs since August 1738
 THE Number of Bells in each Peal and weight of the TENOR
 Bell Tunstons at the Cathedral Church Canterbury Weight

Claydon Suff.	3	12	Leominster Suff.	6	10	Treaty Church Guildford Surrey	3	25	Cochraneshire Co. Warwick	6	12	Berrington Salop	6	13
S Leonard St. Eadsch. Mids.	12	20	Ashtedon Yorksh.	8	20	Boston Yorksh.	6	10	Leatham Kent	8	21	Bakerwell Derbyshire	8	18
Bottle Suff.	5	23	S. Overhays W. Sussex	2	30	Taxhill Suff.	6	12	Walsingham Essex	3	30	New York America	8	25
Boston Harthorpe	4	12	Skipton Yorksh.	6	18	Thames Royal Drury Lane	6	6	Ludington Derbyshire	5	12	All Saints Northamptonshire	10	15
Yatlingham Surrey	7	9	Sturminster Suff.	5	7	Easton Yorksh.	8	14	South Yorksh.	6	12	Leeds Yorksh.	10	27
Godsham Surrey	8	25	Forham Suff.	4	10	Royal Exchange London	8	20	Pulthorpe Kent	8	22	Alk. Surrey	5	8
Cardinalham Suff.	2	15	How Wick Suff.	5	12	Seyn Oakes Kent	3	22	Wakefield Yorksh.	2	14	St. Peters Hill Port. Bucks	6	11
Abington Devonshire	6	22	Postham Kent	3	7	Old Acedlast Hants	6	20	Toburns N.	5	8	Tipton, Staffs. Shire	6	8
Chesham Surrey	6	18	Chatham Kent	6	16	Finchley Middlesex	6	9	Londenhorst Kent	6	15	St. Chrys. S. W. W. Shire	10	34
So. Hampton Hampshire	8	16	Wilson Lancashire	6	16	Hensley Yorksh.	8	12	Newing Essex	5	10	Haves, Middlesex	6	14
Tresham Northants	8	21	Boyley Yorksh.	5	14	Hadlowe K. Suff.	6	14	Kilwick Yorksh.	6	10	Sheffield Yorksh.	10	41
St. Martin Ayles Suff.	10	34	Dobsonham Suff.	2	20	Wellmease Suff.	6	11	Wroxham Norfolk	5	9	Bedlington Midd.	6	8
St. Leonards Suff.	8	11	St. Leonards Suff.	5	6	St. Leonards Suff.	5	6	Charlton Essex	5	22	Beecham Bucks	6	10

Thomas Mears, late Lester, Pack & Chapman broadsheet from *Osborn Manuscript* (British Library, Add.19369) (Size unclear as cut to fit manuscript page)

See large T card

London 18

B. of Thomas Mears,
 Bell Founder,
 (Late Tho. Mears & Son.)
 N. 267, White Chapel Road.

Established in 1738 by
 LESTER, PACK & CHAPMAN.

Heading suggests Thomas Mears II (1810 to 1844) broadsheet. (Size unclear as cut to fit manuscript page)



THO. MEARS (AND) SON,
(Late Lester, Pack & Chapman.)
Bell Founders,
White Chapel, LONDON.

Have Cast the following PEALS since Aug^r 1738. The number of BELLS in each PEAL & weight of the TENOR

	C		C		C		C
Croydon Surry	8 22	Abington Berks	8 19	Aiton near Birmingham	8 21	Hythe Kent	8 19
St Leonard Shoreditch Midd ^s	12 30	Charles Town So Caroline	8 18	Dunstable Bedfordshire	8 21	Wivenhoe Essex	6 8
Battle Suffex	8 22	Sheelds Durham	6 10	Holy Trinity Coventry	8 20	Bowden Kent	8 21
Royston Hertfordshire	6 12	Portsea Hants	6 12	Whilton Northampton ^s	6 10	Llantraham Monmouthsh	6 8
Puttlingham Surry	5 9	Ringwood Hants	8 19	Hillingdon Middlesex	8 21	Newdigate Surry	6 8
Godalming Surry	8 25	Gainsbrough Lincolnsh	8 20	Hoee Suffex	5 11	Kirkby Moorfield Yorkshure	6 8
Coddenham Suffolk	8 15	Longwhittenham Berks	6 9	Clerkenwell London	8 22	Shorne Kent	6 10
Athburton Devonshire	6 22	YORK MINSTER	10 53	Rumfey Hants	8 25	Burnley Lancashire	8 10
Clandon Surry	6 18	Rickmansworth Herts	8 23	Willefdon Midd ^s	6 9	St Stephen Herts	6 10
Southampton Hampshire	8 16	Checkendon Oxfordshire	6 12	Sutton Coldfield Warwicksh	6 22	Bosley Kent	6 12
Hesham Northumbesland	8 21	Midhurst Suffex	6 12	Cockermouth Cumberl ^d	6 12	Friddenden Kent	6 10
Stoneham Apple Suffolk	10 24	St Johns madder-marek ^t Norw ^h	6 12	Lewitham Kent	8 21	Baltimore America	6 12
Harrietsham Kent	8 15	Lewisham Kent	8 16	Lullington Essex	8 20	Carshalton Surry	6 12
Stuffed Essex	5 10	St Margarets Lynn Norfolk	8 30	Wallington Derbyshire	5 12	Dagenham Essex	6 13
Longmeelford Suffolk	8 16	St Nicholas Lynn Norfolk	8 16	Snaith Yorkshure	6 12	Burton Westmoreland	6 8
Redruth Cornwall	6 13	Albrighton Salop	8 12	Folktone Kent	8 22	Bobbing Kent	6 9
St Botolph Aldgate London	8 28	Dichaling Suffex	5 9	Wakefield Yorkshure	8 24	Baltonbury Somersetsh	6 21
St Pauls Bedford	8 27	Twyford Hants	6 12	Bubwith D ^o	5 8	Worlington Suffolk	6 15
Peterfield Hampshire	6 15	Sellen Kent	6 10	Lamberhurst Kent	6 13	Accrington Lancashire	6 9
Bethnalgreen Middlesex	8 14	Bodiham Suffex	5 7	Nazing Essex	5 10	Afton Clinton Bucks	6 13
Kenweon Cornwall	8 13	Ewell Surry	6 14	Kildwick Yorkshure	6 10	St Dunstons, Stepney	10 31
Olley Yorkshure	6 17	Wigginhall Norfolk	6 12	Wroxham Norfolk	5 9	Fladbury, Worcesterhire	6 13
Rotherhithe Surry	8 16	Hellion Cornwall	6 17	Chelmsford Essex	8 22	South Molton Devonshire	8 24
St Agnes Cornwall	6 7	Hleworth Middlesex	8 18	Godfion Surry	5 8		
Petersburg Rufsia	7 17	New Shoreham Suffex	6 15	Thaxted Essex	8 17		
Newport Pagnel Bucks	8 22	Long Cranon Bucks	8 19	Sandwich Kent	8 17		
Watford Hertfordshire	8 22	Malton Yorkshure	8 13	Hornchurch Essex	6 20		
St Phillips Birmingham	10 29	St Johns Manchester	5 8	Uckfield Suffex	8 12		
Hellingly Suffex	6 12	Fletching Suffex	5 12	Cavendish Suffolk	6 12		
St Georges Middlesex	8 20	North Shields Northumber ^l	6 12	Throwleigh Kent	6 13		
Buckingham Buckinghamsh	6 27	Stone Kent	6 13	Linlode Bucks	5 7		
Horsham Suffex	8 24	Orsett Essex	5 11	Sowerby Yorkshure	8 15		
Farnham Royal Bucks	6 12	Deddington Oxfordshire	6 17	Olley Yorkshure	8 15		
Wolverton Hampshire	6 8	Horbury Yorkshure	6 10	Etham Kent	6 9		
Leverington Cambridgesh	6 7	St Johns Wakefield Yorkshure	8 23	Harting Suffex	6 12		
Lifs Hampshire	5 8	Trinity Church Guildford Surry	8 25	Great Baddow Essex	8 13		
Wartling Suffex	5 8	Darton Yorkshure	6 10	Plymouth Devonshire	8 22		
East Dereham Norfolk	8 24	Bixhill Suffex	6 12	All Saints Northampton	8 23		
Guildford Surry	6 16	Theatre Royal Drury Lane	6 6	Caddington Bedfordshire	6 9		
Marlborough Devonshire	6 12	Barndley Yorkshure	8 14	Moulton Suffolk	5 6		
Berwick upon Tweed	8 21	Royal Exchange London	8 20	Hartfield Suffex	6 12		
Christ Church Philadelphia	8 18	Seven Oakes Kent	8 22	Hanworth Middlesex	3 7		
Cardigan South Wales	6 16	Old Alford Hants	6 11	Morton Corbet Salop	5 8		
St Petrox Dartmouth Devon	5 9	Finchley Middlesex	6 9	Buckingham Town	8 24		
St Catherine Cree London	6 12	Hensley Yorkshure	8 12	King's Norton Worcesterhire	8 17		
Wrotham Kent	8 20	Rudgwick Suffex	6 14	Farro Portugal	5 13		
St Mary White Chapel Midd ^s	8 20	Westbourne Suffex	6 11	Angmining Suffex	6 12		
Sundbury Middlesex	6 12	Carlbrooke Isle of Wight	8 20	St Johns Southwark London	10 19		
Claverdon Warwickshire	6 13	Shifnal Salop	8 19	Chart Sutton Kent	6 16		
Northfleet Kent	6 16	Spratbrough Yorkshure	6 8	Cranbrook Kent	8 23		
St Martins Birmingham	12 30	Salehurst Suffex	8 19	Maidstone in Kent	10 30		
Oswden Suffolk	5 14	St Peters Nottingham	8 22	Streatham Surry	6 12		
Andover Hampshire	8 16	Avington Hants	6 11	Wareham Dorsetshire	8 17		
Dent Yorkshure	6 8	Hertford Herts	8 22	Hernhill Kent	5 10		
Staindrop Durham	6 13	Pinnor Middlesex	8 19	Margate Kent	6 23		
Halifax Yorkshure	8 25	St Giles Cripple gate London	10 36	Wragby Yorkshure	6 10		
Toddington Bedf ^e	8 22	Newton abbot Devon	6 8	Holmsfirth D ^o	6 10		
Bratton Fleming	6 15	Framesden Suffolk	6 16	Blackrod Lancashire	6 12		
Leatherhead Surry	8 17	Cardington Bedfordshire	6 20	Leighton Buzzard Bedf ^e	8 26		
Chipping Lancashire	6 9	Uppingham Rutlandshire	8 16	Clopton Suffolk	6 14		
Leominster Suffex	6 10	St Sidwells Exeter	8 24	Gatehead Durham	8 14		
Addingham Yorkshure	6 10	Aylebury Bucks	8 22	St Andrews Edinburgh	8 15		
Slowerbridge Worcesterth	8 9	Bingley Yorkshure	6 12	Great Brick Hill Bucks	6 14		
Skipton Yorkshure	6 18	Waddington Yorkshure	6 9	Westham Suffex	6 8		
Storrington Suffex	5 7	Knareborough Yorkshure	8 19	Ashpington Devonshire	5 8		
Ewhurst Suffex	5 10	Tunbridge Kent	8 20	Ash Kent	8 22		
Bow Middlesex	6 12	Bilbophill Yorkshure	6 12	St Giles Reading Berks	6 15		
Pettham Kent	6 7	St Mild Coventry Warwicksh	10 31	West Grimstead Suffex	6 8		
Chilham Kent	6 18	Aldington Kent	6 14	Berrington Salop	6 13		
Walton Lancashire	6 15	Wye Kent	8 23	Bakewell Derbyshire	8 18		
Keighley Yorkshure	6 14	Blington Middlesex	8 16	New York America	8 25		
Debenham Suffolk	8 20	Gazeley Suffolk	5 10	All saints Newcastle upon Tyne	8 19		
Ballycattie Ireland	5 6	Hurd-per point Suffex	6 9	Leeds Yorkshure	10 27		
Great Chart Kent	5 15	Kendall Westmoreland	8 25	Ash Surry	5 8		
King'sbridge Devon	6 13	Honden Yorkshure	8 18	St Peters Chalfont Bucks	6 11		
Ripon Yorkshure	8 21	St Peter Mancroft Norfolk	12 41	Tipton Staffordshire	6 8		
SUMMARY BOW LONDON	10 53	Rye in Suffex	8 20	St Chad's Shrewsbury	12 34		
Whitby Yorkshure	6 18	Eling in Hampshire	6 12	Hayes Middlesex	6 14		
Levermore Suffolk	5 5	Kewick Cumberland	6 12	Sheffield Yorkshure	10 41		
Worthfield Kent	5 9	Workington D ^o	6 12	Harlington Midd ^s	6 8		

Thomas Mears and Son (1805 to 1810) broadsheet (Size unclear as cut to fit manuscript page)

**MEARS & STAINBANK,
WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY,
Church Bells Cast and Erected Complete.
Old Bells & Fittings Restored.
SCHOOL BELLS. BELL ROPES. MUSICAL HANDBELLS.**

The 12 Bells at Southwark Cathedral were Rehung by us September, 1911. Since then 2 peals of Cambridge Maximus, 3 of Treble Bob Maximus, 9 of Stedman Cinques and 1 of Stedman Caters have been rung on them by various Societies.

FOUNDRY ESTABLISHED A.D. 1570.
32 & 34, WHITECHAPEL ROAD, LONDON, E.



Southwark Cathedral Tenor, 20 cwt.

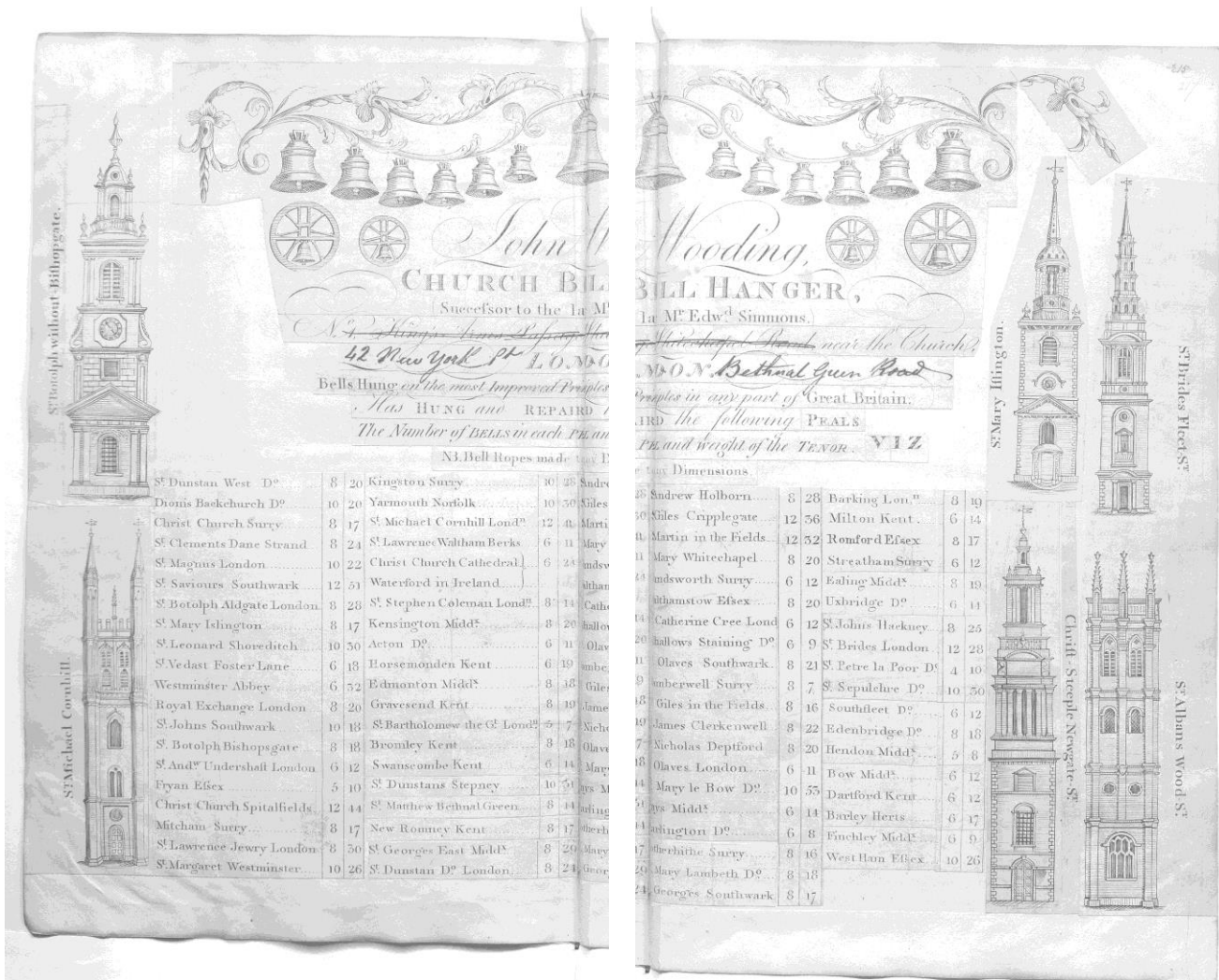
Bell News and Ringers' Record: advert from 21 March 1914

Bell Hangers

In the 18th and early 19th century the major bell founders were not, in general, contracted to hang bells as well. However, the founders generally worked in conjunction with a specialist in this type of work. The Rudhall foundry of Gloucester worked with members of the Jacques family over a period of many years while the Whitechapel foundry worked in association with a succession of bell hangers at this time. From 1763 until 1783 the brothers Robert and Samuel Turner hung most of the major rings cast at Whitechapel, as well as working with other founders and on independent jobs. Edward Simmons, who is known to have worked as a bell hanger from at least as early as 1775, took over, but it was not until after 1783 that he had much involvement with the Whitechapel foundry. A trade catalogue issued by Edward Simmons in about 1789 states the he was 'Church Bell Hanger to Mr. Win. Mears' and goes on to list 56 rings of bells he had worked on. The last known work by Edward Simmons was the hanging of the new ring of ten bells supplied to Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, in 1808 (*Ringing World* 1992, page 1200) and the place and date of his death are unknown.

(i) John Wooding (Whitechapel, London)

John Wooding had taken over the bell hanging business previously run by Edward Simmons. He issued a broadsheet which list of 78 rings of bells on which he had worked. Included in the list is the ring at Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, implying that Wooding worked there with Edward Simmons who is attributed with undertaking this work. Most of the rings on the list are in London and its environs but on one occasion he went to Waterford Cathedral, Ireland. The broadsheet is difficult to date as it has been cut up and then pasted into a manuscript and as such is almost certainly not as originally laid out. The last ring of bells mentioned is that cast by Thomas Mears II for Mitcham, Surrey, in 1820, but even so, it is at least possible that the list was printed before that date, as there was a previous ring of bells at Mitcham.



John Wooding broadsheet from the *Osborn Manuscript* (British Library, Add.19369) (Size unclear as cut to fit manuscript page)

(ii) Charles Oliver (Bethnal Green, London)

Born in 1783 in Wonersh, Surrey, Charles Oliver was a bell hanger and carpenter who was initially employed by the Whitechapel Foundry as their chief bell hanger.

By the early 1800s Wooding does not appear to have been undertaking much work for the Whitechapel Bell Foundry. This may well be because Charles Oliver senior had emerged as a serious rival. He was working with Thomas Mears from at least 1818, if not before. In that year Thomas Mears cast a new ring of ten bells for St. Thomas's church, Dudley. These were hung by Charles Oliver senior (*Bell News* 1895 page 88). Oliver did not have the exclusive contract to hang bells for Thomas Mears, however, for when a ring of six bells was supplied to Felmingham, Norfolk in 1819 they were hung by Thomas and Joshua Hurry of Norwich. Subsequently Charles Oliver junior joined his father in his bell-hanging business, and he issued a trade list of rings of bell that he and his father had hung, as well as others that had

been rehung. This list dates from shortly after 1841. The latest ring of bells mentioned being the one cast for St. James's church, Hull, Yorkshire in that year. Among the bells hung by the firm are the rings at St. Luke's, Chelsea; St Peter, Walworth; St. John, Lambeth and Woburn in Bedfordshire.

CHARLES OLIVER, JUN.
CHURCH BELL HANGER,
 7, & 8, GREEN STREET, CORNER OF GLOBE ROAD,
BETHNAL GREEN, LONDON;

*Fourteen years with Mr. THOMAS MEARS, Bell Founder, Whitechapel, London;
 and at Gloucester.*

**C. OLIVER, Jun. has Hung and Re-Hung with C. OLIVER, Sen. the
 under-mentioned Peals.**

THE NUMBER OF BELLS IN EACH PEAL, AND THE WEIGHT OF THE TENOR.

	No.	Cwt.			No.	Cwt.
Harwich, Essex	8	15		Leytonstone, Essex	6	13
Pirbright, Surry	6	13		Putney, Surrey	8	16
Dursley, Gloucestershire	8	13		Goring, Sussex	6	17
St. Luke, Chelsea, Middlesex	10	22		St. Peter's, Leeds, Yorkshire	13	35
St. Peter's, Walworth, Surrey	8	15		St. James's, Hull, Yorkshire	8	15
Holy Trinity, Newington, Surrey	8	20		OLD PEALS RE-HUNG.		
St. John, Lambeth, Surrey	8	18		St. Martin's, Birmingham	12	36
Woburn, Bedfordshire	6	13		St. John's, Manchester	8	20
Olham, Lancashire	12	33		Christ Church, Blackfriars, London	8	18
Haslingden, Lancashire	8	16		Macclesfield, Cheshire	8	19
Hampton, Middlesex	8	13		St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, London	10	53
Stone, Worcestershire	6	6		St. Michael's, Cornhill, London	12	41

And the GREAT TOM of LINCOLN, 5 Tons 8 Cwt.


St. Mary's

C. OLIVER, Jun. has hung and re-hung, since in Mr. Mears employ, the following Peals.

	No.	Cwt.
The front Six Bells, from the Old Peal of Ten, of St. Peter's, Leeds, hung at Headingley, Yorkshire	6	11
High Church, Hull, Yorkshire	8	19
St. Mary's, Lowgate, Hull, Yorkshire	6	11
St. Michael's, Foster Lane, London	6	17
St. Bride's, Fleet Street, London	12	28

Gentlemen,

Your favors are respectfully solicited by C. Oliver, Jun. should there be any orders required in Church Bell Hanging, the same shall be duly and faithfully executed, on the most reasonable terms.



Charles Oliver Junior broadsheet from *Osborn Manuscript* (British Library, Add.19369) (16.0cm by 19.0cm)

It is clear from the list that at some period Charles Oliver junior was actually in the employment of Thomas Mears, but then went into business on his own account. It is probable that father and son pursued different careers at this period for Charles Oliver senior did work as a founder on his own account. In 1843 he recast the third bell of the ring of 8 bells then in the tower of St. Clement Danes, and the same year cast supplied a bell to Stowupland, Suffolk on which his place of residence was given as Wapping. The next year he supplied two smaller bells to augment the ring at St. Clement Danes to ten bells. It has been suggested that Oliver borrowed the tools from the Whitechapel foundry (*Ringing World* 1941 page 247). He also supplied two bells to Carshalton, Surrey in 1845 and these bore his name as founder. Certainly his connection with Whitechapel was maintained and he was

still active in hanging bells for the foundry. Both father and son were elected members of the College Youths in 1850, and in the name-book Charles junior is stated to be of Stepney while Charles senior is described as being a bell founder of Whitechapel. Charles senior died on 21 September 1850 while hanging a new ring of bells at Sketty. It is not known when Charles Oliver junior died.

