

New Bells for Gateshead

Newcastle upon Tine.

The Church-wardens of the Parish of Gate[s]head, with Consent of the Rector, and Twenty-four, have this Week agreed with Mr. Edward and John Seller, Bell-Founders in York, for Six new Bells against May next, to be approved of by Mr. Michael Dawson, Mr. William Usher, Mr. William Turner, and Mr. George Mitford, all of Newcastle. The Tenor or greatest Bell will be about sixteen hundred Weight. But although there are only six agreed for, yet two more will be cast at the same Time, to make the Peal compleat; in hopes that the Contributions which at present are considerably Short, may, before they are finish'd, amount to as much as will satisfie for them.

(*Newcastle Courant*, Sat. 10 Jan. 1730; also *York Courant*, Tues. 13 Jan. 1729-30, under by-line *Newcastle upon Tine*, Jan. 10.)

We hear the United Company of Mercers, Drapers, Taylors and Tallow-Chandlers, in Gateshead, have contributed Five Guineas towards the Peal of Bells now casting for that Parish.

(*Newcastle Courant*, Sat. 21 Feb. 1730)

From the St. James's Evening Post, January 6.

LONDON, January 6.

On Saturday the 27th of December last, the Society of College Youths from London rung a compleat Peal of 5040 Changes, in the Method of Bob-Major, on the eight New Bells at St. Peter's Church in St. Albans, which was so well perform'd, as to gain the Applause of all the Auditors. This is the first whole Peal that hath been rung on those Bells, and the only true one that hath been rung in the County of Hertford.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 12 Jan. 1729/30)

On Tuesday last the Society of College Youths rung a complete Peal of 5040 Changes, called Plain Bob Trebles on the 8 Bells of St Mary le Bow in Cheapside, in 3 Hours and 40 Minutes: the said Society rung the same performance on the 8 Bells of St Mary Over's in Southwark the 19th December last, being the first true Peals of that Length ever rung in those Steeples, and reckon'd by all judges of the Exercise to be extraordinary Performances, they being the heaviest Peals of Bells in London, each of the Tenors weighing upwards of 52 Hundred Weight.

(*Derby Mercury*, Wed. 21 Jan. 1730 – per C Ridley)

We hear that the new Peal of Bells at Fulham, Cast by the famous Mr. Rudall [*sic*] at Gloucester, will be Rung next Monday by the College Youths.

(*Fog's Weekly Journal*, Sat. 31 Jan. 1730)

A dispute between Kettering and the Leicester Scholars

Leicester, Feb. 13 [*sic*]. This Morning, upon the celebrated Peal of St. *Margaret*, *Leicester*, was Rung by the Society of *Leicester* Scholars, the whole Peal of 5040 Tripples, in 3 Hours, 6 Minutes, and 27 Seconds, to the great Satisfaction of all the Hearers; and (save one Bell) the same was perform'd on the best Peal of Eight in *England*; and considering the Length of the Pull, the Weight of the Bells, and the short Space of Time in which the same was rung, it is one of the greatest Performances that has been heard in this Age: Not but the *College Youths* and *London Scholars*, the only Performers in *Europe* (to whom all Preference in this Art must be given) have rung but much larger [*sic*] Peals on a greater Number of Bells; yet they to perform the same here in the same Time, they might find it a much greater Fatigue than ringing double the Number of Changes in Town.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 2 March 1729-30; very similar report in *Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 14 March 1730, under the by-line 'Leicester, February 23', similar report also *St. James's Evening Post*, Tues. 3 March – Thurs. 5 March 1730, but with, *inter alia*, 'Length of the Peal' vice 'Length of the Pull' and 'longer' vice 'larger' – the latter per C. Ridley.)

Kettering in Northamptonshire, February 28

On this Day was rung by the Ringers of this Place, on our Peal of 8 Bells, the whole Peal of 5040 Changes in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes, the Tenor, whose weight is 25 Hundred, being rung throughout the whole Peal by one Man; which we think as great a Performance as that of the Leicester Scholars.

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 14 March 1730)

Kettering, Feb. 28. On this Day was rung by the Ringers of this Place, all Inhabitants, on their Peal of Eight Bells, the whole Peal of 5040 Tripples, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes: The Tenor, whose Weight is 25 Hundred, was rung throughout the whole Peal by one Man; and as all Persons in whom the Perfection of any Science is, are naturally addicted to speak with Modesty of their own Performances, and gently to animadvert upon the Pretences of others in the same Art, the Ringers of this Place will not, in plain Terms, deny the Truth of the Contents of an Advertisement publish'd in the Stamford Mercury the 26th Instant from Leicester the 13th, signifying, that the Scholars there had rung the same Peal on the Bells of St. Margaret's in 3 Hours, 6 Minutes, and 27 Seconds; but with all Modesty leave it to the Consideration of the Curious in the Art of Ringing, Whether, considering the great Disproportion in the Weight of the Bells here to those of St. Margaret's, whose Tenor is 32 Hundred, the Leicester Scholars cou'd possibly ring such a Peal in less Time than the Ringers here on this Peal: And as the Ringers here without any Breach of Modesty, may be said to ring their Changes as quick as most do, and have all the Advantages of true hanging their Bells, and of their ready Command of them by the near Position they stand in to them when the ring, the Ringers again humbly appeal to the Curious, whether the Leicester Scholars have not, from the vain Glory of their Hearts, affirm'd to themselves the Honour of ringing this Peal, and conceal'd some Circumstances which, if known, would have forbid their Pretences to that Glory.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 16 March 1729-30; also *St. James's Evening Post*, Sat. 7 March, under by-line 'Kettering in Northamptonshire, Feb. 28.')

Last Thursday a Girl between 14 and 15, got privately into the Belfrey of St. Vedast's Church in Foster-Lane, who tyed the Ropes together, and riding in the same, unfortunately fell; by which Accident she broke her Leg in two Places, and shattered it in such a miserable Condition, that her Life is despair'd of by the Surgeons.

(*St. James's Evening Post*, Sat. 21 March 1730)

*An Answer to the Question in this Paper of the
10th of March, Sign'd Isaac Peal.*

THE Number of Changes upon 12 Bells is found by Multiplying the Number, 1, 2, 3, &c. by one another, to matter whether they are multiply'd successively or not, they produce will be the same, *viz.* 479,001,600, Four hundred and seventy nine million one thousand six hundred Changes upon 12 Bells, then, suppose 3 Bells can strike in a Second, or in one swung of a long Pendulum, the Twelve would strike in four Seconds, and if there is one Change in 4 Seconds there is 15 in a Minute, or 900 in an Hour: and hence the Sum of all the Changes that can be rung upon 12 bells being divided by 900, gives the Number of Hours in which they can all be rung, *viz.* 532,246 Hours, and that divided by 24, gives 22,176 Days, and again divided by 365 gives 60 Years and 276, *viz.* 60 Years and 9 Months and 24 Days, that all the Changes upon 12 Bells would be a ringing, altho they rung Day and Night without ceasing, which is something too long for a Person son [*sic*] to be in a Tavern, as the Querist propos'd in his Question, at one Siting [*sic*], and enough to make *Bacchus* himself, if he was so confin'd to such a piece of Slavery, never to love Wine as long as he liv'd again.

If the perpetual Transposition of 12 Bells amount to so many Changes when all the Bells are oblig'd to be employ'd, what a wonderful Mystery must there be in the various, and almost infinite Transpositions of the 24 Letters, especially when the Vowels, like so many Hunts, run through, and give Sound to all the rest of the Letters, to form all Arguments upon different Subjects, and in all various Languages; which being such copious Subject, and so remarkably worth our Observation, some further Considerations of it shall be inserted in some of our future Papers.

(*Oedipus: or the Postman Remounted*, Tues. 31 March – Thurs. 2 April 1730 – per C. Ridley)

COUNTRY NEWS

Gloucester, April 6. We hear from Horton in this County, the following melancholy Account, that on Sunday the 29th of last Month, a Gentleman's Servant near that Place, being in the Belfrey among the Bells when the great Bell was standing, which he not observing, unfortunately stepped upon it, by which it gave way, and in the fall, cut the young Man almost in two in the Middle, so that he died immediately. (*St. James's Evening Post*, Thurs. 9 April 1730; *Weekly Journal*, Sat. 11 April 1730; somewhat similar report in *London Journal*, Sat. 11 April 1730. The parish register records that David White was buried on 30 March - per Rev. Dr. Gordon Edwards.)

They tell us from Tisbury, in Wilts, that on the 1st Instant Three Prizes having been rung for, one Company of the Ringers going home, came by a lone House, at which House one of the Men called for Fire to light his Pipe; being let in by the Children, no one else being at home, he took with him a Stick of Fire, which he was desired by the Children, who lock'd the Door after him, to take care of; but having lighted his Pipe, he thrust the same into the Thatch of the House, which was immediately set on Fire. His Companions seeing it, came back, and endeavour'd, but in vain, to extinguish it, so went off. A gentleman coming by, saved the Children by taking them out of the Window. They were pursued, and some of them taken, but the Person that fired the House has not been heard of since. (*Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 19 May 1730; also *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 18 May 1730; *Kentish Post*, Wed. 13/Sat. 16 May 1730)

From the *St. James's Evening Post*, June 11.

PARIS, June 17, N.S. On the 10th Instant, an Experiment was made of the two great Bells, weighing 40,000 Pound Weight each, and four lesser, which have been cast here for the King of Portugal, in the Presence of several Musicians and other Men of Skill, who found the Tone of them very harmonious, and free from any Defect. The two big ones are 12 Foot and a half high, and they are now going to be fram'd, in order to be carried to Port St. Nicholas, and put on Board a great Boat for Rouen, where a ship attends to carry them to Lisbon.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 15 June 1730)

New Bells are preparing by Mr. Phelps of Whitechappel [(] who cast the curious Ring of Bells at St. Michael's Cornhill) for the new Church in Bloomsbury, the new Church at Limehouse, and that at Deptford, which be the first that will be open'd. The Commissioners always give one Bell not exceeding 400 Weight to very new built Church; if they must have more, the Parish is to procure them. (*Whitehall Evening Post*, Tues. 23 June 1730 - per C. Ridley)

One Mr. Plank a Jeweller in *Breadstreet*, who dy'd a few Days since, aged 24, was buried last Night, upon which Occasion the famous Society of Ringers, call'd the *London Scholars*, of which he was a Member, met in the Tower of *St. Michael's Cornhill* about 7 in the Evening, in order to Ring a Dead Peal; the Clappers of the 12 Bells therein were tied round with Leather, they raised the Bells, and having rung 12 Rounds, they then rung only the Tenor, a like Number attending to the Years of his Age, and in the same Order all the rest gradually to the first, they then rung some time round on the 12, and the like on the Tenor, which concluded the mournful Ceremony, which drew the attention of Crowds of People, when ceasing till the Corps was interr'd and the Clappers uncovered, they then rung a Peal of Changes for an Hour with great exactness.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 1 Aug. - Sat. 8 Aug. 1730)

Exon, October 2. The Ten Bells at St. Peter's (four whereof have been Re-cast by Mr. William Evans, of Chepstow, in the County of Monmouth, viz. Treble, Fifth, Eighth and Tenor; the Tenor weighing 7052 l. and in Diameter 5 Foot 10 Inches and a half in C. Consort [*sic*] Pitch) were open'd on the 23d of September last, to the great Satisfaction of the Judges thereunto appointed, and likewise of all that heard them. Note, The Tenor is the largest in England, in Peal.

(*Read's Weekly Journal or British Gazetteer*, Sat. 10 Oct. 1730)

LONDON, October 6.

...

To day John Salter Esq; the newly elected Alderman of Cornhill Ward, was sworn into the Court of Aldermen, and took his Place accordingly, and the 12 Bells of St. Michaels ringing on that Account, he gave the Ringers 12 Guineas to drink.

(*Echo or, Edinburgh Weekly Journal*, Wed. 14 Oct. 1730; reports also in *Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 3 Oct. - Sat. 10 Oct. 1730, and *Caledonian Mercury*, Mon. 12 Oct. 1730.)

Yesterday Morning died in his House in the Old-Baily, Mr. John Patrick, Weather-Glass-maker, whom Dr. Halley, in his Book of Astronomy, and others of the Royal Society, allow'd to be the most ingenious and best of that Profession. Among his Diversions he used the Art of Ringing, and in that became so great a Proficient, that he was the first Inventor of ringing those long Peals which are now in use, of which a Book of the Art of Ringing is now extant in his Name.

(*London Evening Post*, and *The Evening Post*, both Tues. 20 Oct. 1730; similar report in *Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 24 Oct. 17, under the by-line 'London, October 20.')

WHEREAS it has been frequently reported, that Mr. EDWARD SELLER, Brasier and Bell-founder in this City, does not now Mend, or Repair old Goods of Brass and Copper. This therefore is to advertise, that the Report is false and groundless; as also, that whosoever shall have Occasion, cannot have their Work better done, nor cheaper, than by the above named Mr. EDWARD SELLER.

N.B. 'Tis also reported, that he sells nothing by Retail; but those who have Occasion, shall by Nobody be better used, both as to the Goodness of the Goods, and Moderation of the Price, than by the said Mr. EDWARD SELLER.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 17 & 24 Nov. and 1 Dec. 1730 – advert.)

We hear the Society of Ringers, called London Scholars, will keep their annual Feast next Monday at Sad[d]ler's-Hall, Cheapside.

(*Daily Courant* and *Whitehall Evening Post*, both Thurs. 3 Dec. 1730, the latter per C. Ridley.)

From the *London Evening Post*, Dec. 8.

LONDON, December 8.

The same Day [yesterday], the Society of Ringers, call'd London Scholars, (now grown very numerous, several Gentlemen and Persons of Fortune being Members thereof) held their Annual Feast at Sadlers-Hall, Cheapside, where an elegant Entertainment was provided for them. This was the Company that rung in four Hours and forty-five Minutes, six thousand two hundred and four Changes, on St. Michael's Bells in Cornhill, on the 24th of Nov. 1729, being the greatest Performance of that Kind that ever was known.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 14 Dec. 1730; also *Evening Post*, and *London Evening Post*, both Tues. 8 December 1730; *Applebee's Original Weekly Journal*, *British Journal*, or, *The Traveller*, *Read's Weekly Journal* or *British Gazetteer* –the latter per C. Ridley- and *Fog's Weekly Journal*, all Sat. 12 Dec. 1730 and starting 'On Monday the Society of Ringers...'; similar report in *Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 15 Dec. 1730, starting 'Yesterday...'; also *Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 12 Dec. 1730, under the by-line 'London, December 8.' and omitting the qualification '(now grown very numerous, several Gentlemen and Persons of Fortune being Members thereof)')

An augmentation to a ring of eight bells

York, Dec. 29. The Bells at *St. Martin's, Coney-Street*, were completed by Mr. EDWARD SELLER, Bell-Founder, on the 23d Instant; and Yesterday was rung by the *York Society* on the said Bells, the Peal of *Grandsire Tripples*, being 5040 Changes, in 3 Hours, 22 Minutes, 27 Seconds.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 29 Dec. 1730; opening of the ring of six bells was reported in *York Courant*, Tues. 20 May 1729.)

The Peal of 6 Bells, cast by Mr. Edward Sellars, Bell-Founder in York, about 2 Years Ago, was by the said Founder made a compleat Peal of 8, on the 23d of December last, and on the 28th of the same Instant, was rung, by the York Society, a Peal call'd Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 Changes, it being the first Time that such a Peal was perform'd in Yorkshire; and what is further taken Notice of by the Lovers of this Diversion, that 4 of the 8 Performers did not know the Meaning of a Change 18 Months ago, which it is suppos'd that they may challenge all England in the performing of such a Peal with so little Practise. The Peal was compleated in 3 Hours 22 Minutes, to the great Satisfaction of the City of York.

(*St. James's Evening Post*, Sat. 23 Jan. 1731)

1731

On Tuesday last the Society of College Youths rung a complete Peal of 5040 Changes called *Plain Bob Triples* on the eight Bells of S. Mary le Bow in Cheapside, in three Hours and 40 Minutes; and on Saturday the 19th of December last, the said Society rung the same Peal on the eight Bells of S. Mary Overies [*sic*] in Southwark, being the first true Peals that ever were rung of that Length in either of those Steeples, and reckon'd by all impartial Judges in the Exercise, to be extraordinary Performances, they being the heaviest Peals of Bells in London, each of the Tenors weighing upwards of 52 Hundred Weight.

(*Daily Post-Boy* and *Daily Journal*, the latter per C. Ridley, both Thurs. 14 Jan. 1730-1; *British Journal or the Traveller* Sat. 16 Jan. 1730-31, per C. Ridley; also, sometimes with slightly different spelling, in *London Evening Post*, *Whitehall Evening Post*, *Evening Post* of the same date; and in *Read's Weekly Journal*, *London Journal*, *Applebee's Original Weekly Journal*, and *Weekly Register*, Sat. 16 Jan. 1731; *Daily Advertiser*, Sun. 17 May 1731 – per C. Ridley; similar reports in *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 18 Jan. 1731, under the by-line 'From the London Evening Post, Jan. 14. / LONDON, January 14.'; *Gloucester Journal*, Tues. Jan. 26, 1730-1, under by-line 'London, January 19'; and shorter report in the *Norwich Gazette* of Sat. 16 Jan. 1731, recording the first peal only, under the by-line 'London, January 14'. Short report *Newcastle Courant*, Sat. 23 Jan. 1731.)

Bristol, Jan. 16. Last *Sunday* a Gentleman's Son of this City, aged about 14, was kill'd, as he was ringing one of the Bells in *All-Saints Church*, occasion'd, as we hear, by the breaking of the Stay. (*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 16 Jan. – Sat. 23 Jan. 1731)

The Society of Ringers, called London Scholars, having a considerable time ago rung a Peal of 6204 Changes, on the 12 Bells at St. Michael's in Cornhill, the other Society of Ringers, call'd College Youths, have several times attempted to equal if possible, and exceed them, but without Success, particularly on the 24th part, when they rung 4444 Changes, and on Saturday last 3388: but not withstanding their utmost Endavours [*sic*], by their being tired, were unable to go farther.

(*St. James's Evening Post*, Tues. 9 March 1731; also *Daily Journal*, Mon. 8 March 1731, with '24th part' vice '24th part'; *Read's Weekly Journal or British Gazetteer* Sat. 13 March 1731, per C. Ridley; and *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 15 March 1731, under by-line 'From the London Evening Post, March 9. / LONDON, March 9.', both with '...attempted to equal, and if possible, exceed them...')

Another controversy between Leicester and Kettering

Leicester, March 10.

On Saturday February 27 was rung by the Leicester Scholars, upon St. Margaret's Peal of Eight, 5040 Changes, being the whole Peal of Grandsire Triples, in 3 Hours, 2 Minutes; and a considerable Wager was won thereupon, by 5 Minutes. The Weight of the Tenor is 32 Hundred.

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 20 March 1731; quoted in Morris, *History and Art, &c.*, p.239. This may have been a straight 'bet you can't do it in under 3h. 10m.' type of wager, rather than a contest between two or more companies – CAW)

Leicester, March 13. On Saturday the 27th of Feb. last was rung by the Leicester Scholars, upon St. Margaret's Peal of Eight, 5040 Changes, being the whole Peal of Grandsire Triples, in three Hours and two Minutes; and a considerable Wager was thereupon won by five Minutes. And by the same Company was rung 5040 Changes in 3 Hours, 6 Minutes and 27 Seconds in February 1729, the Tenor only rung double, whose Weight, as computed, is 32 Hundred. We had not publish'd so trifling a Performance as this, had not the Ringers of Kettering been egregiously guilty of an erroneous Breach of good Manners, whose feign'd Modesty, or mistaken Assurance loudly proclaim'd, and industriously strove to stigmatize what was by us inserted, which must be in them either Prejudice, Want of Judgement, or both.

Now the Performance they assure to themselves (which may be seen in this Paper, Vol. X, page 187.) we don't deny, in plain Terms, but they might, upon their Peal of Tautonics, hobble through 5040 Changes in three Hours and 18 Minutes, but we upon Bells, compleated the whole in three Hours and two Minutes, to the great Satisfaction of Thousands both in Town and Country: And we have abundant Reason to believe they are incapacitated to perform the same at Leicester in that Time or any other. Yet there are the Gentry who have appeal'd to the Curious, to censure those who have far excell'd them.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 22 March 1731)

The Poem on the Leicester Scholars great and mighty Performance on St. Margaret's Peal of Eight Bells, as mention'd in our last, came too late to be inserted this Week, but may be expected in our next.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 29 March 1731)

The POEM on the Leicester Scholars great and mighty Performance, promis'd in our last.

A Gallant Feat some Days ago
Was here perform'd with much ado
On best 'of Bells in best of Steeples,
The whole Peal of *Grandsire Tripples*,
Which is Five Thousand, ay, and more,
For Sake of Rime, we'll say Two Score;
Performed was by Scholars here,
As we informed you once last Year,
In Minutes two and Hours three,
As all the Mercuries agree,
Tho' the Tenor was rung double,
And another with great Trouble:
For Argument that this was done,
A wond'rous Wager we have have [*sic*] won.
We wou'd not tell this idle Story,
But *Kettering* Ringers, for their Glory,
With bold Assurance, modest feigning,
And some Bombast, without a Meaning,
With partial Tongues and Prejudice,
Believ'd it all a Pack of Lies.
The great Atchievement they assume
Is somewhere in the tenth Volume;
What they say we think is right,
Yet their Bells are very light;
Town and Country now may see
They are not half so strong as we.
Thus with only Art and Skill
They pretend to ring this Peal,
Then we have don't by other Means,
Which is by Force of Pease and Beans.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 5 April 1731)

Kettering, April 17, 1731.

On Monday last was rung the whole Peal of *Grandsire Tripples*, being 5040 Changes, in two Hours 48 Minutes, by the Ringers of this Place, which is the shortest Time it was ever perform'd in, and 14 Minutes under the Leicester Scholars, without Hesitation, in such true Compass, that from the Double to the Coming round was exactly the same Time with the first Part, as was industriously observ'd by some Persons ready on the least Blemish to give Preference to Leicester; tho' we do not chose usually to strike such a Pitch somewhat slower, being as musical, had not our Rivals insisted so much on the Time, neither is it, as to the Quantity or Quality of Bells, any Thing to the Purpose as to the Goodness of the Performance, as all who are skill'd in Ringing will know. Tho' we respect the Gentlemen of Leicester as good Proficients, yet if we desir'd to give ourselves a Name, we should assume one superior to Scholars, as having rung this Peal in its utmost Perfection.

N.B. - Each Bell was rung single handed, tho' the Tenor is upwards of 25 Hundred.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 19 April 1731)

WHEREAS, it was inserted in this Paper on the 19th Day of April, dated from Kettering of the 17th, that they had rung 5040 Changes in 2 Hours 48 Minutes, for the Possibility of which we refer to the College Youths and *London* Scholars, they being the most proper Judges in all Europe: Therefore to satisfy the Publick, whom they have so long impos'd upon, and to put a Period to those proud Boasters, with their doggerel Rhime and false Assertions, which shews they are not Men of that profound Judgment their own Mouths have so long sounded Forth.

AND now barring your Equivocations and many Reservations, We, the *Leicester* Scholars, do again in plain Terms deny what you have had the Assurance to publish to be Matter of Fact; and we do offer to wager with you, or your neighbouring Gentlemen, any Sum from five Five [*sic*] Shillings to Five Hundred Pounds, that you don't nor can't perform as you have inserted APRIL 17.

AND although we were (as you justly remark'd) fourteen Minutes longer, in ringing 5040 Changes, than you pretend you were; we'll wager with you, ten Pounds to a Crown, you don't ring 5040 at *Leicester* and another at *Kettering*, in five Hours and fifty Minutes, which is longer by seven Minutes in each Peal, one with the other, than you pretended above.

Now for the Satisfaction of the Curious in these Parts. We do offer to wager with you, name your Sum, that we ring a whole Peal of *Grandsire Tripples* at *Leicester*; and another at *Kettering*, better Changes, Treble leading for Treble leading, and in less Time, by several Minutes, than the Inhabitants of *Kettering* can.

AND when you have, with all your Conceit, shew'd the Country your utmost Endeavour (then and not till then) have we any Thing more to say to you, and then so minded, give and take, (*viz.*) you chuse one Peal, we another, we are at you for your Sum in any Part of England.

AND if you have not Abilities to perform, as you have alarm'd the Country, you have justly assum'd to yourselves a Name much inferior to Scholars - IMPOSTERS.

YOUR two Hours and forty Minutes, we didn't think worth our Notice, neither had we, had it not been to oblige several neighbouring Gentlemen, and others (more than ourselves) and if you have any Reply worth our while, we are (at your first Notice) ready to meet you at the *Swan* in *Harborough*.

P.S. AND we'll give you, or any Company in *England*, a Treat of Five Guineas, who shall ring 5040 Changes at *Leicester* in three Hours and two Minutes.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 24 May 1731)

To the Author of the Daily Journal.

Sir,

Whereas certain Pretenders to the Art of Ringing (called *London Scholars*), who are very desirous of being acknowledged Persons of great Distinction, having endeavoured to asperse the Performances of the antient Society of *College Youths*, by inserting in the publick Papers several gross Falsities, particularly in this Paper of the 8th Inst; therefore we the said *College Youths*, to undeceive all Lovers of the Art of Ringing, and vindicate ourselves, have inserted a very just and impartial Account of all the remarkable Performances in Ringing that have been done by each of the aforesaid Societies, and likewise in what Manner they were performed; and for the Truth of what we have printed we refer to all other Societies of Ringers in London.

Peals performed by the Society of College Youths.

5060 Cinques at St. Bride's in Fleet-street, in 1724-5.

5058 Caters at St. Magnus by London Bridge, in 1724-5.

5040 Bob Major at St. Bride's in Fleet-street, in 1725.

5040 Bob Major Royal at Ditto, in 1725.

5280 Bob Maximus, or all 12 in Plain Bob Method, at Ditto, in 1725-6.

And rang 5200 Changes in the same Method, on the 12 Bells at St. Michael's in Cornhill, in 1729, but had the Misfortune not to complete it, being out when we had but 80 Changes to ring.

5094 Caters at St. Giles's without Cripplegate, in 1725-6.

6832 Bob Major at Lambeth, in 1726.

5076 Caters at St. Martin's in the Fields, in 1726.

5040 Bob Major Double, at St. Dunstan's in the West, in 1727-8.

5040 Caters at St. Mary's in Cambridge, in 1727.

5040 Dunstan's Triples, at St. Dunstan's in the West, in 1727-8.

5040 Union Triples, at St. Laurence's by Guildhall, in 1727-8.

6314 Cinques at St. Martin's in the Fields, in 1727-8, being the longest Peal of Cinques that ever was rung.

5040 College Triples, at St. Olave's in Southwark, in 1727-8.

10080 Bob Major at St. Mary Magdalen's Bermondsey, in 1728. It was completed in 6 Hours and an-half, being the longest Peal that ever was rung.

5184 Caters at St. Dionis Backchurch, in 1729.

5126 Cinques at St. Michael's in Cornhill, in 1729. This Peal was perform'd by 14 Men.

5040 Bob Major at St. Peter's in St. Alban's, in 1729.

5040 Bob Major at Fulham in Middlesex, in 1730.

5040 Plain Bob Triples, at St. Mary Overs in Southwark, in 1730.
5040 Plain Bob Triples, at St. Mary le Bow in Cheapside, in 1730-1.
4444 Cinques at St. Michael's in Cornhill, in 1730-1.
In all 22 Peals, and 7 of them rung by different Methods, 4 of which were true whole Peals of Triples.

The following Peals were perform'd by the Society of London Scholars.

5040 Caters at St. Bride's in Fleet street, in 1716-7.
5110 Grandsire Triples at Lambeth, in 1724, which was a false Peal in itself, a Bob miss'd in calling, and 5 Leads rang over again, which makes 70 Changes.
5292 Caters at St. Giles's without Cripplegate, in 1725-6, which was a false Peal, having 360 Changes over again in the Composition, 2 Bobs miss'd in calling, Bells out of Course for 810 Changes, and was brought round with what is generally call'd a Single.
5040 Caters at St. Martin's in the Fields, in 1726, which was a false Peal, having 90 Changes over again in the Composition.
6006 Cinques at St. Martin's in the Fields, in 1727-8.
6204 Cinques at St. Michael's in Cornhill, in 1729.

This Peal was perform'd by 15 Men, they having a spare Man in the Steeple to sit by, that if any tired he might ring the Bell while the other rested himself, which happened according to their Expectation, for the Person who undertook the 7th rested twice before he had gone half Way; and one of the 3 Men who undertook to ring the Tenor, rested near 10 times before the Peal was rung out; and all the rest were so weary, that they were not able to ring the Bells true Rounds, after the Changes were compleated. As for shifting of Men in ringing of Peals, it is looked upon as very scandalous by all Ringers (except *London Scholars*) and what has never been practised by the *College Youths* in any Peals that they have ever undertaken, for by that Method it is possible to take Men enough into St. Michael's Steeple to ring a Peal of Cinques of above 12000 Changes in Length; which, if such a Peal were rung, would be look'd upon as nothing by the Generality of Ringers, no Performance in this Art being valu'd by them, wherein any Man fails, and another takes the Bell from him to complete the Peal.

In all six Peals, and all of them rung by one Method, they having never been Masters enough of the Art to perform a Peal in any other, and 3 out of the 6 false ones.

If the *London Scholars* should think themselves injured by this Account, we are ready to give them a Meeting at any time, and desire that some of the members of each Society of Ringers in London may be present at the said Meeting.

(*Daily Journal*, Tues. 30 March 1731 - per W.T. Cook)

London, April 22.

On Tuesday the Rev. Dr. Snape preach'd the Spital Sermon at St. Bride's, before the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffs, &c. And

Yesterday the Spital Sermons ended there, when the Rev. Dr. Mangey preach'd. The Right Hon. The Lord Mayor was pleased to send 3£. to the Churchwardens, to be distributed to the Poor of the Parish, in lieu of what had customarily been given to the Ringers; his Lordship not chusing to have the Bells rung on that Occasion.

(*Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 27 April 1731)

On Monday last the Society of College Youths rung a compleat Peal of 5280 Bob-Maximus, or all 12 in Plainbob [*sic*] Method, on the 12 Bells at St. Martin's in the Fields; being the Second that ever was rung, the First being perform'd by them at St. Bride's in Fleet-street, in 1725-6. It was completed in 4 Hours and 4 Minutes.

(*Daily Journal*, Wed. 5 May 1731)

LONDON, May 6.

.....

On Monday last, the Society of College-Youths rung a compleat Peal of 5280 Bob-Maximus, or all 12 in Plain bob Method, on the 12 Bells at St. Martins in the Fields; being the Second that ever was rung, the First being perform'd by them at St. Bride's in Fleet-street, in 1725-6; It was completed in 4 Hours and 4 Minutes.

(*Newcastle Courant*, Sat. 15 May 1731; also *Weekly Register or Universal Journal*, Sat 8 May 1731 but beginning 'Last Monday the Society', the latter per C. Ridley.)

On Monday the third Instant the Society of Ringers call'd Union Scholars held their Annual Feast, at the White Horse in St. Martin's Lane, when (by Leave of the said Company) the Ancient and Honourable Society of College Youths (well known by most Companies of Ringers in this Kingdom, for their many extraordinary Performances in the Art of Ringing) congratulated them, while they were at Dinner, with a compleat Peal of 5280 Bob-maximus, or all 12 in, at the Parish Church of St. Martin's in the Fields, several of the College Youths having formerly been Members of the said Society. (*Fog's Weekly Journal*, Sat. 15 May 1731; also *Weekly Register or Universal Journal*, Sat 8 May 1731 but beginning 'Last Monday the Society', the latter per C. Ridley.)

A much-reported peal

On Saturday last the Society of College Youths rang a complete Peal of 5040 Catons in 3 Hours and a Half, on the 10 Bells at St. Sepulchre's without Newgate, being the first that ever was performed in that Steeple, those being such difficult Bells to ring, that no Ringers, except themselves, ever had the Courage to attempt before, although there have been 10 Bells upwards of 40 Years. (*St. James's Evening Post*, Tues. 18 May 1731; *Evening Post*, 18 May 1731; *Read's Weekly Journal*, Sat. 22 May 1731; *Daily Advertiser*, Mon. 17 May 1731, with addition at end '40 Years last past. It was completed in three Hours and three Quarters.' – per C. Ridley; and *Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 22 May 1731, and *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 24 May 1731, both under the by-line 'London, May 18.')

On Saturday last, the Celebrated Society of College Youths (mentioned in this Paper of the same Day) Rung at the Parish-Church of St. Sepulchre's, a compleat Peal of 5040 Catons, being the First whole Peal which ever was rung in that Steeple, it is remarkable, and allow'd by all Ringers, that those are the most intricate Bells to Ring, of any in this City and Suburbs.

N.B. This was the Company who in May, 1728, Rung at St. Mary Magdalen Bermondsey in Southwark 10,800 Bob Major, in six Hours and an Half, being the longest Peal that ever was Rung. (*Fog's Weekly Journal*, Sat. 22 May 1731)

MONDAY, May 17.

On Saturday last the Society of *College Youths* rung a fine Peal of 5040 Catons on the 10 Bells at St. *Sepulchre's* Church, being the first Peal of that Kind that ever was rung there; they perform'd it in three Hours 45 Minutes. (*Weekly Register or Universal Journal*, Sat. 22 May 1731 – per C. Ridley)

The Queen, upon accepting of the Manor and Park of Greenwich, has been graciously pleased to give 100£. to the said Parish, towards a Ring of Bells for the new Steeple which is building there, and for repairing the Organ in the Church: Upon which a very full Vestry met last Tuesday, and unanimously agreed on an Address of Thanks to her Majesty for the same. (*St. James's Evening Post*, Sat. 22 May 1731; also *Daily Journal*, Mon. 17 May 1731 – per C. Ridley, and *London Journal*, *London Evening Post*, and *Evening Post*, all Sat. 22 May 1731.)

A new ring for St. Andrew's, Holborn

This Day the Sett of Bells belonging to the Parish Church of St. Andrew's Holbourn [*sic*] were taken down, in order to be new cast by Mr. Richard Phelps of Whitechapel, the Tenor being broke, and others crack 'd. (*Whitehall Evening Post*, Sat. 29 May 1731; also *The St. James's Evening Post*, Sat. 29 May 1731, but without the reference to the tenor being cracked; similar report in *Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 5 June 1731, under date-line 'Monday May 31.')

The same Day [Yesterday], in the Morning, eight new Bells that were Cast by Mr. Phelps at Whitechapel were brought to St. Andrew's Church, Holborn, and three of them hang'd up in the Afternoon. They were tun'd by the Approbation of Mr. Stanley, Organist of the said Church. (*Daily Advertiser*, Tues. 24 Aug. 1731)

A new Ring of eight Bells having been cast by Mr. Phelps of Whitechapel, for the Parish of St. Andrew's, Holborn, the same were Yesterday brought home, and will be hung with all Expedition. The Tennor [*sic*] weighs 27 Hundredweight and half. (*Daily Courant*, Tues. 24 Aug. 1731; also *Fog's Weekly Journal*, Sat. 28 Aug. 1731 with 'last Monday' vice 'Yesterday'.)

The Set of new Bells which was lately hung up in the Steeple of St. Andrew's Holbourn [*sic*], was Yesterday rung for the first time by the London Scholars, and a handsome Entertainment was given to the said Ringers at the Fountain-Inn, Hatton-Garden.
(*Daily Advertiser*, Tues. 7 Sept. 1731)

MONDAY, June 21.

....

On tuesday [*sic*] Mr. Will. Laughton, Watchmaker, at the Wheat-sheaf in Leather-lane, swam from Billingsgate to Chiswick, which is 10 miles, without resting or swimming upon his back.
(*Grub Street Journal*, Thurs. 24 June 1731; Laughton was later a leading member of the Rambling Ringers. On 26 November 1712 he had been apprenticed for seven years to Thomas Taylor, citizen and clockmaker of London, as his master for a premium of £12. His father was also William Laughton, a citizen and clockmaker, who had died by the time the indentures were signed.)

A few Days since Mr. Birch, of Brandon in Norfolk, was marry'd to Mrs. Ashley of Eaton near St. Neots in Huntingdonshire, a Lady of considerable Fortune; and that Mr. Birch giving the Ringers of Eaton four Guineas, they quarrel'd about dividing it, and fought till one died on the Spot, and another was desperately wounded.
(*London Evening Post*, Thurs. 1 July – Sat. 3 July 1731; also *Daily Post*, Fri. 2 July 1731.)

The same Day [Thursday last] the great Bell, cast by the famous Mr. Phelps, of Whitechapel, for Christ-Church by Newgate-street, was set up in the Tower of the said Church. It weighs considerably above a Ton, and we hear it cost 170£.
(*St. James's Evening Post*, Sat. 14 August 1731; also *Read's Weekly Journal*, *London Evening Post*, and *Evening Post*, 14 Aug. 1731)

Wednesday, August 11.

Yesterday was hung up in the Steeple of the Church adjoining to *Christ's-Hospital*, a large new Bell, only one being there before.
(*The Weekly Register*, Sat. 14 Aug. 1731)

Last Saturday Night the Society of College Youths rung a compleat Peal of 5040 plain-bob Triples, in three Hours, at St. Stephen's in Coleman street.
(*Fog's Weekly Journal*, Sat. 28 Aug. 1731)

They write from York, that on Tuesday last, Mr. Samuel Waud [*sic*], an eminent Attorney, who has frequently been made Under Sheriff and Returning Officer of that City, and Mr. Edward Seller, a considerable Bell-Founder, were unanimously chosen Sheriffs of that City, being two of the most remarkable Citizens for their Zeal for the present Royal Family and the Protestant Interest.
(*London Evening Post*, Sat. 25 Sept. - Tues. 28 Sept. 1731; also *Daily Journal*, Mon. 27 Sept. 1731, *Grub Street Journal*, Thurs. 30 Sept. 1731, with 'Ward' vice 'Waud', and *Fog's Weekly Journal*, Sat. 2 Oct. 1731)

NORFOLK , Aylesham

THIS is to inform all those who are Lovers of the Art of Ringing, that we whose Names are here under-written, the Society of Ringers in the said Town of Aylesham, did on Monday the 1st of November instant ring the Peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, containing 5040 Changes, in the Space of 3 Hours and 11 Minutes; which was never known to be done in so short a Time but by the above-mentioned Company, once by the Leicester Scholars only excepted: And whereas is has been inserted in the News-Papers, that the Company of Ringers belonging to the Parish of St. Peter's Mancroft in the City of Norwich, did lately ring the Peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES; we the Company above-mentioned, and those whose Names are here under-written, take Leave to tell them, that we do not believe they did or can prick or ring the said Peal to Truth, notwithstanding their several Pretensions, they having contradicted themselves in pricking the same.

John Amyas, jun. - - - - Treble.

Ralph Spurrell, - - - - 2d.

William Weily, - - - - 3d.

Robert Lubbock, - - - - 4th.

Robert Scott, - - - - 5th.

Edward Barnes, - - - - 6th.

Thomas Spurrell, - - - - 7th.

Jonathan Ulph, - - - - Tenor.

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 6 Nov. 1731)

NOTICE is hereby given, That Mr. Stephen Hunn at the White Swan in Wymondham in Norfolk, will give Five Pair of Gloves to be rung for at Wymondham Church, on Monday the 27th of this instant December, by any Sett of Ringers who shall ring an Eighteen Score best, to the Judgment of Two Men who shall be appointed. Note, the Gloves are to be RUNG for, not SWORNE for.

(Advert. in *Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 18 Dec. 1731)

We Hear from Totness in Devonshire, that the Mayor and Churchwardens of the Borough have agreed with the famous Mr. Rudhall, of Gloucester, to cast them a Sett of Eight Bells, as near the Key of St. Bride's as possible, and that they will be ready to be rung by next Easter.

(*Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 21 Dec. 1731)

From the Daily Journal, Dec. 29.

Dimensions of the Great Bell at Moscow.

	Yds.	Feet.	Inch.
Diameter	06	00	01
Circumference	19	00	08
Metal's Thickness	00	02	01
Circumference of the Clapper	02	01	10
Length of ditto	03	00	02

Weight 800 Pood, each	Ton.	C.	qr.	lb.
Pood being 36 lb. English)	128	11	01	20

(*Kentish Post*, Wed. 29 Dec. 1731/Sat. 1 Jan. 1731-2; a similar table in *York Courant*, Tues. 4 January 1731-2, but without the by-line)

The following are a series of advertisements from the *Norwich Gazette* 1731/1732

Saturday 11 September

Whereas that most noted and harmonious Peal on 7 Bells called STEDMAN'S TRIPLES which has so long lain hidden in Darkness from the Knowledge of the World, and although so many ingenious Ringers have pricked so many Thousand Sheets of Paper and could never bring it to Truth, but have thought it impossible to be done: This is therefore to acquaint all Ringers and Lovers of that Art that it is now brought to Light and Truth with two Doubles, and is pricked at Length which contains 5040 Changes, by that ingenious and compleat Ringer EDWARD CRANE. Note If any Ringers doubt the Truth of the Peal, let them come to the Sign of the 6 Ringers in St. Michael's of Coslaney, and they may have a Wager from 2 Guineas to 10.

Saturday 30 October

NOT withstanding the Pretensions of several ingenious Ringers in this City and elsewhere, who would bear the World in Hand that they have composed that most intricate peal of STEDMAN'S TRIPLES; this is to therefore satisfie all Lovers of that ingenious Art, that Thomas Melchior has composed it to Truth with Two Doubles, being the First that ever was composed all perfect Stedman, consisting of 5040 Changes: And was rung by him and 7 more on Monday the 25th of October 1731 at St. Peter's of Mancroft in Norwich, in 3 Hours and 40 Minutes; and never a Bell out of Course, nor Changes alike; By us whose Names are here subscribed viz:

NOTE. – If any of the Curious be desirous, they may see the Peal at John Foster's at the Sign of the Eight Bells, in St. Peter's of Mancroft aforesaid, and satisfie themselves without laying any Wager.	Thomas Melchior,	-	Treble.
	Thomas Blofield,	-	2d.
	Wm. Palmer	-	3d.
	Thomas Atber	-	4th.
	John Gardiner	-	5th.
	John Forster	-	6th.
	Christopher Booty	-	7th.
	William Porter	-	Tenor.

Saturday 6 November

WHEREAS it was asserted in last Week's News, by that Master of Art as he calls himself, That he was the first Man that composed that most intricate Peal of STEDMAN'S TRIPLES to Truth with two Doubles; this is to tell him before the Face of the World, and he very well knows, that I EDWARD CRANE had pricked it out at Length with Two Doubles in August last; and if he or any Man else can shew a truer Peal, and bring their great Bells Home at their Quarter, Half, Three Quarters and Whole Peal' End, and with fewer Alterations according to Grandsire Triples, than I have done, then I will allow him to be a Master of Art, and their Peal to be Best: And as for the Peal that they rung, I will tell the World of their Ingenuity; in the first Place the great Bells were turned Half the Peal one Way, and Half the other Way, which never was doe but by that Great Man who calls himself Master of Art: In the next Place, they say they rung the Whole Peal; if they did, they rung Nine Score Changes without the Tenor; for they rung no more than 4860, which is Nine Score too short: All this I THOMAS CRANE will assert to be true: And in the next Place they rung the Bells out of Course, and made Three Doubles the last Hour; they made Two behind with the 6th and 7th lying still, and One before with the Treble and 2d lying still; and all the time they rung, they had a Prompter as in a Play, which never was known before by any Professor of that Art: I the next Place they say they rung 3 Hours and 40 Minutes, but they rung no more than 3 Hours and an Half. I have no more to say, but I will referr it for the next Advertisement.

EDWARD CRANE

...And whereas it has been inserted in the News-Papers, that the Company of Ringers belonging to the Parish of St. Peter's Mancroft in the City of Norwich, did lately ring the Peal of STEDMAN'S TRIPLES; we the Company above-mentioned, and those whose Names are here under-written, take Leave to tell them, that we do not believe they did or can prick or ring the said Peal to Truth, notwithstanding their several Pretensions, they having contradicted themselves in pricking the same.

(Part of the advertisement by Aylsham ringers in issue of Sat. 6 November 1731 – for full advertisement see above)

Saturday 20 November

Whereas Thomas Crane did assert on Saturday before last, That that Master of Art (as he pleased to call me) rung 4860 Changes and no more, on Monday the 25th of October last, I will acquaint the World with his accurate Proceedings.

First he placed himself in a Publick-House, where People were often coming in and going out; by and by in a Yard, and oftentimes walking backwards and forwards, telling the strokes of the Tenor; which is the Method he took to prove the Truth of our Performance, as he himself confessed before the Justice: Now I appeal to the World, Whether or no this Man could be a proper Judge of it? He also asserted that we rang but 3 Hours and a Half, and likewise that we rung 180 Changes too short: notwithstanding we rung 3 Hours and 40 Minutes, not only by Mr. William Riches's Watch, but by many others in St. Peter's of Mancroft in Norwich; and that the Peal contained 5040 changes, John Webster (whom they supposed to be the prompter) will firmly assert: And for the satisfaction of the Publick, I Thomas Melchior who composed that most intricate peal of Stedman's Triples with two Doubles and no Alteration, and the rest of the Company who completely rung it in the aforesaid Time, do offer a Wager, Two to One, as far as Ten Guineas go, that Edward Crane's Peal (if it be the same they oftentimes indeavoured to ring at St. Michael's of Coslaney) is not proper Stedman's Triples, according to Stedman's own Words, Pages 90, 91, 129, 130; we will also make a Wager that Thomas Melchior's is proper Stedman Triples. Proof as before, which we will prove before any reasonable Judge; but to challenge them to ring is beneath us; for we know that if we perform our Parts to Truth, we may be sworn out of it: Therefore we leave them, as false malicious Brethren, not thinking it worth our while to answer their base, scurrilous and scandalous calumnies for the Future.

We take leave to tell the Aylesham Ringers that we do not believe that they rung 5040 Changes at one pulling down, any more than they believe that we have pricked or rung Stedman's Triples; but for their further Satisfaction, on the 28th December, 1719, we rung 5040 Triple changes (Two Doubles excepted) in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes, at St. Peter's of Mancroft: Thomas Barrett rung the 6th; Thomas Melchior the 7th; John Webster the tenor, the other bells my Domestick Adversaries rung; who though now at Variance with me, yet I hope they have so much Honesty left as to justifie me in what I here assert.

THOMAS MELCHIOR

Saturday 4 December

Whereas THOMAS MELCHIOR did assert in the News on the 27th past that THOMAS CRANE did place himself in a Publick-House where there were People coming in and going out; this is to tell him that Mr. Will. Aburn does here justifie that he was in a Room of his, and that there was Nobody with him all the Time of their Ringing, but Two of his Company, till he had proved the Truth of their Peal; But this is just like offering to swear that their Advertisement was true; but when THOMAS CRANE went and made Affidavit before one of our Magistrates that they rung but 4860 Changes, and that we put John Webster upon his Oath, he then cunningly said it was not the peal they rung, but it was the Peal upon his Paper he would swear was true: Then we asked him Why they advertised but 8 Men, when he was fain to relieve the 6th Man? He said they did not count the Tenor man: Then why was he in the News? We asked him how many Times their 5 fore Bells struck together in one part of their Peal? He owned 5 Times. Then how could their Peal be rung true without Bells out of Course? Mr. MELCHIOR was pleased likewise to say that the Peal we ring in St. Michael's of Coslaney is not STEDMAN: I am very sorry he should show his Ignorance to both City and Country. I will appeal to any Man of this Art, whether or no they ever knew the 6th and 7th Bells were turned Half the Peal one Way and Half the other Way, as theirs now do. I must tell him, that he never pricked a Peal upon 7 Bells with only Two Doubles; if he had, he would have known how the great Bells should have come Home in their proper Places; and not to have taken himself to a Peal of 5 Bells, and fled to STEDMAN for Assistance; because the Peal of 5 Bells will work many ways, and so will GRANDSIRE on 5 Bells as well as STEDMAN. Then I pray let any Man that is a Judge in this Art tell me, Why STEDMAN on 7 Bells should not work as proper as GRANDSIRE on 7 Bells, and bring their great Bells Home at their Quarter, Half, Three Quarter, and Whole Peal's End? Likewise STEDMAN Bob on 6 Bells, Why they work proper, and bring their great Bells Home at their proper Time? And so do other Peals on 5,6,7, and 8. But, alas! Mr. MELCHIOR, if you desire to keep your Credit you must go into St. Gregory's Churchyard, and call up JOHN GARTHAN to do the Work for you. Pray be not affronted, because I tell you the Truth.

EDWARD CRANE, and his Company.

Saturday 11 December

WHEREAS THOMAS CRANE in the last Week's Paper did pretend that Mr. ABUNN would justify that he was in a Room of his all the Time that we were ringing, and that there was Nobody in the Room but Two of his company: Be it known that Mr. ABUNN informed us, that at their first coming they went into the Yard, where they sat and heard us ring for some Time; but finding it too cold, they went into the room; but he going in some Time after, found only One Man there: Doubtless they had no Discourse, for honest Tom was so brisk in telling the Strokes of the Tenor, that he could hardly spare time to bid RICE GREEN go and be damned because he would stay no longer. TOM methinks has an excellent Memory, and Ears as long as an Ass, that he could not be put out of his Reckoning by any Noise the People made by going in and out: This indeed to me seems wonderful, for I have often mistook in telling Twelve Strokes of the Clock by some Interruption or other. But TOM was earnest in proving what he knew Nothing of; for whenever the Landlord came in to see what he wanted, he clinched his fist, shut his HARD MOUTH, and grinned at him; all this could not put infallible TOM out, but on he went telling the Strokes of the Tenor for Three Hours and an Half together, in which time he told 4860 Strokes, as he asserted. Methinks this infallible Man ought to be Knighted for this grand Exploit: I would almost envy his great Skill in proving of Peals. I durst have sworn by the Paper we had with us, in which were set down the Bobs and their Distances taken from the Original, that we rung 5040 Changes, and not Two Bells out of Course in Three Hours and Forty Minutes. I think I know what I wrote; and JOHN WEBSTER remarkt every Bob that I called, and will take an Oath that I called every Bob neither more nor less; yet honest TOM, by his unerring Rule of telling the Strokes of the Tenor, has sworn that we wanted Nine Score Changes. Likewise this HONEST MAN told JOHN WEBSTER "that he never spoke that Word his Life, but he would swear to the Truth of it." Let this be allowed him. But alas! I am sorry for poor NED CRANE, finding him void of all Knowledge of STEDMAN's TRIPLES. If the peal we pricked and rung be not proper STEDMAN's TRIPLES, Why does he not accept the Wager Two to One proffered in our last? I tell you, NED, I am of Opinion, That you would rather have made your Peal without Alteration than with, had you known how. You have owned, that I was the first Man that ever turned the Sixth and Seventh; but let me tell you, they are All turned as well as those, else they would not be every Bell a Course alike, which takes away all Pretension of keeping your bells as in Grandsire: But it is STEDMAN's TRIPLES we contend for and not GRANDSIRE. If your Peal had been without Alterations, we would have owned it, but as it is it must be called NED CRANE's Triples and not STEDMAN's. I tell that Wise Gentleman who was your Prompter, before you found that nice way of nailing your Paper against the Wall to call your Bobs by (though to no Effect) that if JOHN GARTHON had been alive, he would have laughed at your Ignorance, for assigning Hunts to STEDMAN's TRIPLES; whereas STEDMAN says, every bell has a Course alike.

THOMAS MELCHIOR, by Consent of his Company.

Saturday 25 December

WHEREAS Mr. MELCHIOR did advertise on the 11th Instant, by the Consent of his Company, a kind of Banter upon St. MICHAEL's company; but not one Word of Truth, unless it was that honest TOM has ears as long as an Ass: Truth indeed, but it is such Asses as themselves; but that is not all. Whereas on Monday 6th of this instant December was rung at ST. MICHAEL's that ingenious Peal called STEDMAN's TRIPLES, which contains 5040 changes (being the first time that ever it was rung), notwithstanding some of St. PETER's Company did employ a Bell-Man to cry about the Streets the following scandalous Verses, just before we began to ring, viz.:-

"This is to give Notice to all Sorts of People,
"That the Ringers that practice at St. Michael's Steeple
"Have craz'd their Brains, by setting forth false Pretences,
"That it is to be fear'd, they have quite lost their senses,
"Therefore let 'em repair to JOHN FOSTER's, and 'tis plain,
"There's those that can help them to their senses again.

And a little before the peal was ended, they had the impudence to swear we should not ring it out; and so did fling stones up the Church Leads, and against the Doors, and did cause the Boys in the Street to cry Huzzas; nay, one of them was so impertinent, as to open the Window of the church to get in; but was prevented by the People that stood to hear the Peal come out, and were sent home to their Shame with bloody Noses; all this some hundreds of People saw, who stood to hear the Peal; all this is good Credit for St Peter's Ringers. MR. MELCHIOR was pleased to say, That the peal we rung was not STEDMAN's TRIPLES. I will meet him before any Gentleman who is a proper Judge of that Art, and belongs to neither Company, and I will lay down My Peal at Length, and he shall do the same and let us dispute it out which is the properest Peal according to STEDMAN's own Rule on Five Bells. MR.

MELCHIOR: You are pleased to say that in STEDMAN every Bell has its Course alike; but STEDMAN is mistaken, and so are you. These are the Names of the Men that rang the Peal on Monday the 6th instant aforesaid, viz:-

Richard Barnham,	Treble.	William Pettingall,	5th.
Edward Crane,	- 2d.	Thomas Crane	- 6th.
John Harvey,	- 3d.	Rice Greene	- 7th.
Robert Nockold,	- 4th.	Robert Crane	- Tenor.

Saturday 1 January 1732

WHereas MR. EDWARD CRANE (not Sir Thomas) did in the public News on the 24th of December 1731 charge St PETER's Ringers with many base and scandalous Actions, which they are ashamed to hear of, much more to act; for I must tell you that St. Peter's RINGERS scorn to act or encourage any such Thing; neither can you bring any one Person of those Hundreds that you mention that can prove they did any of those Things you charge them withal; if you could, you would have set down the Name: Perhaps you thought that every Body had long Ears and a foul Tongue, that would swear to that they knew Nothing of; but you are mistaken as well as others of your Company, who pretending to justify it, heard it all denied to their Faces by their own Neighbours. As for a Bell-Man's being employed, you may lay that to whom you will; but the Intent of it (as I am informed) was to animate your fearful Hearts at the dreadful Approach of your Alterations. For who could have thought that the Sight of those dismal Changes could have defeated such old Veteran Ringers, and put them out 11 Times together, as you have lately been at St. MICHAEL's; where you likewise say that you rung 5040 STEDMAN's TRIPLES: But it was rung no otherwise than with Changes alike; Witness your 4th Bell dodging Behind with the 3d 2d and 7th, before she came from behind; and your Bells dodging 4 2 on the Back Stroke, instead of 2 4. These Things are not to be found in your Peal as you prickt it, yet you all inserted your Names that you rung it; much akin to your former Assertions. Likewise you say STEDMAN and I are mistaken, by saying every Bell has a Course alike. As you accused us in Publick, it is reason you should dispute us in Publick; and in your next let me know your Opinion, if these Figures in the Margin be the proper Form and Grounds of STEDMAN's Doubles? And whether they, by being wrought 5 times over, in an expressible denominative Course, so not produce 60 Changes every Bell a Course alike? And whether your whole Peal begins 21354 from every 12th Change throughout your 5040, as mine and this Peal in the Margin successively do through the 120?

THOMAS MELCHIOR

Saturday 8 January

WHereas MR. MELCHIOR refuseth to meet me before any Man that belongs to neither Company, and that is a Judge in the Art of Ringing, but desires that I should dispute with him in Publick: As long as he can deny the Truth in the publick Prints he will go on with his base and scandalous Actions; for he would make the World believe, that he is a very great Man, and exceeds all in that Art. But, MR. MELCHIOR, you call me to an Account for saying STEDMAN is mistaken, and so are you; but if I be right, it is so; STEDMAN in Page 29 says, That all the Bells have a like Course: but if it be so, then tell me why there is Two Alterations in STEDMAN on Five Bells? For the 2d and 3d change Places, therefore every Bell hath not a Course alike; if they had, every Bell would have changed as well as they. But STEDMAN on Page 130 says, "Whatsoever Two Bells be dodging Behind, at the first Extream; the same Two Bells coming together again Behind, is certain Warning for the second Extream to be made": But I must tell you, That in my Peal of 5040, when the Doubles are made, the same Bells dodge Behind at the first and second Extream, or Alterations as you are pleased to call them. But, to the End the Publick may not be

imposed on, I have prickt the first Twelve Changes as 31425
 STEDMAN did himself, and the rest by the Quick Hunt; and 34152
 I would have the World take notice, that the first 25143
 Time MR. MELCHIOR makes his Two Doubles with the same 21534
 Two Bells dodging as STEDMAN does on Five Bells, I 43512
 will give him a Bowl of Punch of 10s. to chear up his 45321
 drooping Heart; For I design to answer no more of 12354
 his base and scandalous Advertisements, but rather 12345
 advise him to keep his Money; and to give every Man his
 Half Crown again, that he had for his Peal of Stedman Triples with 14 Doubles
 and 21 Alterations.

EDWARD CRANE

Saturday 15 January

Mr. CRANE, I expected that such an ingenious and compleat Ringer as you have stiled
 yourself, could have found an Answer to Two such easie Questions as I proposed in my last; and have
 not shifted them off with a false Notion, that I refuse to dispute you before any Man that belongs to
 neither Company: these are scandalous Actions indeed in such as Man as you, who know nothing but
 how to carp and cavil at another Man's Works, as at the Extream of STEDMAN; where you say the 2d
 and 3d changes Places, therefore every Bell hath not a course alike: But you are mistaken, and not
 STEDMAN; for if the first 60 Changes be every Bell a like Course, so have the last 60; for they do not
 change Courses, but only Places; for the Courses are intire Whole throughout the Peal, beginning
 21354 from every 12th change which 12th changes are the real true Course and Grounds of the whole
 Work. And DOLEMAN in Page 46 says, "In this Peal every Bell hath one and the same Course, there
 being no proper Hunt Half Hunt therein." Now if STEDMAN be mistaken (who was Master of a
 College in the University and a learned Mathematician) with DOLEMAN and others, Why need I take
 amiss MR. CRANE's saying that I am mistaken too? for he is a Learned Man and knows Omnia Bene
 in his own Conceit. However, he may look into STEDMAN, Page 90, and he may see why there are 2
 Alterations in STEDMAN on 5 Bells. And in Pages 129 and 130 is said, "Every Bell that comes
 Behind dodges 6 changes with one Bell,

and 6 with another; then in Course the Parting Change brings it down. 1 6, cuts Compass, the next doth
 not, and so by Turns successively;" for which you cannot shew throughout your 5040: For at your
 Quarter Peal's End your Bells come thus, as in the Margin, it being your
 Alteration; where there are 3 Parting Changes out of 7, instead of 1 in 6.
 Likewise, the Treble is turned out of a quick Course into a slow one, which
 should have led a whole Pull. By this may be seen, who is willing to impose
 on the Publick; not I nor on you neither; For if Sir THOMAS and another
 Gentleman had not kept up all Night, you had never had the peal with 14
 Doubles, but they persuaded me to sell it; and if they had not bought it, we
 had never known the proportionable Parts of it; for you cannot divided the
 Number of your Fingers, by the Rule of Arithmetick: You know you had your Bargain, but you
 shamefully unman yourself to cry for your money again. However, I will take your Advice, and in
 short Time will send you Word who shall be your Judge, and where I will dispute you in private, as
 you desire.

p.c. 3215476
3124567
p.c. 1342576
3145267
3412576
4351267
p.c. 3451276

THOMAS MELCHOIR.

1732

On Friday the 21st of January 1732, by the Bungay Youths, who have practised not full Two Years, at the first Time of their pulling off for it, was completed the extent of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, being 5040 Changes, within the Space of Three Hours by several Gentlemen's Watches, which we take to be a shorter Time than it has been rung in before.

John Botwright,	Treble.
William Turner,	2d.
William Barnard,	3d.
Bennet Edwards,	4th.
Philip Girling,	5th.
William Howell,	6th.
James Pratt,	7th.
John West,	Tenor.

(Advert in *Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 29 January 1732)

The competition between the London Scholars and the College Youths

London, February 1.

The Society of Ringers, call'd, The London Scholars, having in November, 1729, rung a Peal of 6204 Cinques on the 12 Bells at St. Michael's in Cornhill, another Society, call'd College Youths, have since at several Times attempted to exceed them, but have never been so fortunate as to equal them by some thousand Changes, much more exceed; particularly on Saturday last, when, after ringing in about three Hours 4000 Changes, they were out, and, though they endeavour'd, could not recover themselves, they being tired.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 7 Feb. 1731-2; also *St. James's Evening Post* and *Daily Journal*, both Tues. 1 Feb. 1732, and *Weekly Journal or British Gazetteer*, Sat. 5 Feb. 1732, the latter per C. Ridley.)

London, February 8.

On Saturday last the Society of Ringers, call'd College-Youths, attempted again to excel the London Scholars, whom they have never been able to equal, on the 12 Bells at St. Michael's in Cornhill; but after ringing about three Hours, (much the same Time they vainly spent the Saturday before, *see our last Mercury*, Page 166,) they were unable to proceed any further.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 14 Feb. 1731-2; also *Daily Journal*, Mon. 7 Feb. 1732 – per C. Ridley, *St. James's Evening Post* and *Berington's Evening Post*, both Tues. 8 Feb. 1732, the latter also per C. Ridley.)

Yesterday about a Quarter past 11 in the Fore-noon, the Society of Ringers called College-Youths, began a Peal [*sic*] upon the 12 Bells at St. Michael's Cornhill, which they completed in 5 Hours and a Quarter, consisting of 7108 Changes, which is 814 more than what the London Scholars rung on the same bells above two Years ago.

(*Daily Journal*, Tues. 15 Feb. 1732 – per C. Ridley)

Yesterday the Society of College Youths rung at St. Michael's in Cornhill, a compleat Peal of 7018 Cinques, being the longest Number of Changes that ever was rung upon 12 Bells, and was completed in something less than five Hours and a half; and altho' rung by 14 Men, far exceeded what the London Scholars had ever perform'd before with 15.

(*Daily Post* and *St. James's Evening Post*, both Tues. 15 Feb. 1732; *Whitehall Evening-Post*, Tues. 15 Feb. 1731-2, has the same report, but ending '...14 Men, exceeded what the London Scholars rung by 814 Changes, and with 15 Men.'; short report in *Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 19 Feb. 1732, as far as '...12 Bells.', under the date-line 'Thursday, Feb. 17')

From the *Daily Post*, February 16.

The Society of Ringers call'd London Scholars, having in the Year 1729, rung on the 12 Bells at St. Michael's Cornhill 6204 Cinques, which was perform'd by 15 Men; on Monday the Society of College Youths rung 7018 Cinques in five Hours and a Quarter on the same Bells, being the longest Peal of Cinques that ever was rung in England; it was perform'd by 14 Men: There was the greatest Concourse of Gentlemen (during the whole Time) at the Royal Exchange and in Cornhill, as was ever seen on such an Occasion.

(*Kentish Post*, Wed. 16 Feb - Sat. 19 Feb. 1731-2)

The Society of Ringers call'd London Scholars, having in the Year 1729 rung on the twelve Bells at St. Michael's in Cornhill 6204 Cinques, which was performed by 15 Men, they having a spare Man in the Steeple to sit by, that if any tired he might ring the Bell while the other rested, which happen'd according to their Expectation, for the Person who undertook the 7th rested twice before he had gone Half-Way; and one of the three Men who undertook to ring the Tenor, rested near ten Times before the Peal was rung out; as for shifting Men in Ringing of Peals, it is look'd upon as scandalous by all Ringers (except London Scholars); on Monday the Society of College Youths rung 7018 Cinques in five Hours and a Quarter upon the same Bells, being the longest Peal of Cinques that ever was rung in England; it was perform'd by 14 Men: There was the greatest Concourse of Gentlemen (during the whole Time) at the Royal Exchange and in Cornhill, as ever was seen on such an Occasion. (*Daily Post*, Wed. 16 Feb. 1732; *Berington's Evening Post*, *London Evening Post*, both Thurs. 17 Feb. 1732, and both per C. Ridley; and *Stamford Mercury*, Thurs. 24 Feb. 1732, in a column headed 'LONDON, Feb.17.' A shorter version of this report appeared in the *Kentish Post* of Wed. 16 Feb./Sat. 19 Feb. 1731-2, for which see below.)

To the AUTHOR of the DAILY JOURNAL.

SIR,

The London Scholars having of late made bold to insert in the Publick Papers several scandalous Paragraphs, concerning the College Youths ringing at St. Michael's, Cornhill, wherein they have endeavour'd to make People believe that they were not able to perform a Peal of any considerable Length on those Bells; therefore in Behalf of the said College Youths, that they may no longer be imposed upon by such ignorant Ringers, and hard-mouth'd Gentlemen, as the London Scholars are, I have thought it proper to present the Publick with an exact Account of all the remarkable Performances that have been done by each of the aforesaid Societies at that Place, and likewise in what Manner they were performed, which is well known to many Ringers in London to be Truth, who can justify this to be a very impartial Account.

*Peals performed at St. Michael's by the Society
of COLLEGE YOUTHS.*

On Wednesday the 10th of September 1729, a complete Peal of 2530 Cinques, the first Trial.

On Friday, the 7th of November 1729, a complete Peal of 5126 Cinques, the third Trial.

On Friday the 28th of November 1729, a complete Peal of 2376 Bob Maximus, first Trial.

On Friday the 5th of December 1729, 5200 Bob Maximus, first Trial, but wanted 80 changes more to complete the peal.

And on Monday last a complete Peal of 7018 Cinques, being the longest and best Peal of Cinques that ever was rung, and the greatest Performance that has been done in the Exercise of Ringing: It was completed in 5 Hours and 20 Minutes, and the 6th time of going for.

N.B. there was no shifting of Men in the ringing of these Peal, every one standing to the Bell he undertook, from the beginning to the ending of them; and were not performed after that scandalous Manner as the London Scholars did 6204 at the same Place, which was look'd upon by most Ringers that heard it to be the worst Peal that ever was rung; and tho' they attempted 28 times to ring 2530 Cinques, 5000 and odd, and 6204, yet compleated none but the last; and 'tis thought that they would never have done that, if they had not taken up spare Men with them, that they might ring the Bells when some of the others were weary, which is look'd upon by all Masters in this Exercise to be a very unfair Way of Ringing of Peals: But we hear they intend to go for 8000 Cinques at the same Place, and after the same Manner, which, if they should ring out, would be looked upon as nothing by Ringers.

The College Youths have in all rung 25 long Peals, the shortest of which was upwards of 5000 Changes, and one of them 10,800, and 7 of them rung by different Methods: the London Scholars have rung 6 in all, and 3 out of them false ones, and all rung by one Method, they never having been able to perform a Peal in any other method but Gransire [*sic*].

If the London Scholars should answer this Account, the Publick may be sure of being impose upon, for they never have printed any thing yet that was Truth.

(*Daily Journal*, Thurs. 17 Feb. 1732)

Yesterday the Society of College Youths met at the Fleece Tavern in Cornhill, where they had a very handsome Dinner, in Commemoration of that unequalled Performance of 7018 Cinques, lately rung by them at St. Michael's; they were accompanied by many other worthy Gentlemen, who delight in that Exercise.

(*St. James's Evening Post* and *Berington's Evening Post*, both Sat. 11 March 1732, the latter per C., Ridley; similar report in *Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 18 March 1732, but starting 'On the 10th instant...')

COUNTRY NEWS.

Gloucester, Feb. 22.

They write from Painswick, That on Wednesday the 19th of Jan. last, there was rung there the whole Peal of Tripples, which was perform'd in three Hours 37 Minutes; but it having been falsly reported by some People that it was not done, and thought by others to be a Thing impossible for Men to stand so long: This is therefore to inform the Publick, that at the Request of the Gentlemen of the Parish, the Ringers have agreed to ring it again, hoping as they done [*sic*] it once, they may do it a second Time, barring Accidents; and in Honour to our present QUEEN, have fix'd upon the first of March next for the Day of Trial, it being her Majesty's Birth Day. They begin at Ten a Clock.

(*St. James's Evening Post*, Thurs. 24 February 1732; *Read's Weekly Journal*, Sat. 26 February 1732)

Tuesday the 22d instant a Peal of plain Bob Trebles, consisting of 5040 changes, was rang by the Ringers, called the Fulham Youths, on the eight new Bells there in three Hours and two Minutes; and on the 16th of November last the same Company rung the like Number of Changes in a peal of Grandsir [*sic*] Trebles in three Hours.

N.B. This Company consists of very young Lads who have not learned to ring much above a Year.

(*Country Journal or The Craftsman*, Sat. 26 Feb. 1732)

Two conflicting reports

The same Day [Yesterday] the College Youths, who usually ring at St. Michael's, Cornhill, went to Greenwich, and rung the Eight Bells newly cast by Mr. Phelps of Whitechappel [*sic*], for the first Time, in Honour of her Majesty's Birth-Day; her Majesty having been a generous Benefactress to them.

(*Daily Courant* and *Whitehall Evening Post*, both Thurs. 2 March 1732, the latter per C. Ridley.)

In Honour of the Day [March 1st, the Queen's birthday] the new Peal of 8 Bells at Greenwich, to which her Majesty contributed largely, was rung for the first Time by the London-Scholars. There was also a publick Entertainment in the Painted Hall of the Royal Hospital, and the Pensioners march'd in Procession.

(*St. James's Evening Post*, Thurs. 2 March 1732; *Read's Weekly Journal*, Sat. 4 March 1732; also *Weekly Register or Universal Journal*, Sat. 4 March starts 'The same Day the new peal ...', the latter per C. Ridley.)

Yesterday (on Account of her Majesty's Birth-day) the new Peal of eight Bells at Greenwich, to which her Majesty contributed largely, was rung for the first Time by the London Scholars. There was also a publick Entertainment in the Painted Hall of the Royal Hospital, and the Pensioners march'd in Procession.

(*London Evening Post*, Tues. 29 Feb. - Thurs. 2 March 1732; also *Daily Journal*, Thurs. 2 March 1732 and *Read's Weekly Journal or British Gazetteer*, Sat. 4 March 1732)

They write from Ealing, that the poor unfortunate Inhabitants of Ealing and Old Brentford, in the County Middlesex [*sic*], are griev'd at Heart, that they could not express their Loyalty by ringing their Bells on her Majesty's Birth-Day; their old decay'd Church and Steeple falling some Years since, and still lying in Ruins.

(*St. James's Evening Post*, Sat. 4 March 1732)

Yesterday the Society of College Youths met at the Fleece Tavern in Cornhill, where they had a very handsome Dinner, in Commemoration of that unequalled Performance of 7018 Cinques, lately rung by them at St. Michael's; they were accompanied by many worthy Gentlemen, who delight in that Exercise.

(*Daily Journal*, Sat. 11 March 1732)

On Sunday Evening last the Society of City Scholars rang, at the Parish Church of St. Mary at Lambeth, a complete Peal of 5040 Bob-major, in three Hours nine Minutes, being the first that ever was rung in that Steeple; which is a fine Performance for a Company so young, they having not been a Company above a Year. This Company rang at Camberwell, in Surrey, a compleat Peal of 5040 Plain Bob Tripples in January last.

(*Read's Weekly Journal or British Gazetteer*, Sat. 25 March 1732)

A peal of Plain Bob Triples at Southwark

On Saturday last the Society of City Youths rang at St. Mary Overs a compleat Peal of 5040 Triples, plain Bob Method, which they compleated in three Hours and thirty-two Minutes with nine Men.

(*St. James's Evening Post*, Thurs. 30 March 1732; also *Read's Weekly Journal*, Sat. 1 April 1732)

On Saturday last, of City Youths, the Society,
At St. Mary Overs rang a compleat peal of *great variety*
5040 Triples, plain bob method, which *then*,
They compleated in 3 hours 32 minutes with 9 men. *SJ*.

(*Grub Street Journal*, Thurs. 6 April 1732)

This is to give Notice, That at the Crown in Shottesham in Norfolk, on Easter Tuesday next, will be give Six Pairs of Gloves Gratis, to any Sett of Ringers that shall ring a Peal best by the Judgment of a Judge for that Purpose: and on the Wednesday following will be Six Bridles run for, by any Horse, Mare, or Gelding that shall put it; the start at Four of the Clock in the Afternoon.

(Advert in *Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 8 April 1732 – per David Cubitt)

The Society of Ringers called College Youths, who were grown exceeding vain, have met with a Check, by a young Company, called the City Scholas [*sic*], who on Monday last rung a complete Peal of 6136 Catons at St. Magnas's [*sic*] near the Bridge, in 3 Hours and 55 Minutes; and on Tuesday they rang at St. Giles's Camberwell, a complete Peal of 5040 Bob Majors. These two Peals were rung by a Society of Youths, who, considering their Age and short Space of Practice, may justly be expected to prove a Scourge to the Pride and Insolence of the above Society.

(*Daily Journal*, Fri. 14 April 1732)

On the 1st day of April 1727 were rung by the Society of NORWICH Ringers, at St. Michael's Coslaney Church in this City, 10080 Changes, which is the Quarter peal called UNION BOBB; and every 1st of April since, has been observed by the Society: And on Saturday the 1st of April instant were rung, at the aforesaid Church, by some of the said Society and some others of their Brethren, 5040 Changes in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes; being the shortest Time that ever they were rung in.

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 15 April 1732)

London, May 11.

On Thursday last, the 4th Instant, the young Society of Ringers, call'd the City Scholars, rang a compleat Peal of 5040 Changes plain Bobb Trebles upon the eight new Bells at the Parish Church of St. Andrew's in Holborn, which was compleated in three Hours and fifteen Minutes, being the first compleat Peal ever rung in that Steeple; which makes it judg'd a fine Piece of Performance in this young Society, they being most Part of them but Youths.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 15 May 1732; also *St. James's Evening Post*, Thur. 11 May 1732, and *Read's Weekly Journal*, Sat. 13 May 1732; and *Universal Spy or the Royal Oak Journal Reviv'd*, Sat. 13 May 1732 with 'Holbourn' vice 'Holborn', and 'peel' vice 'Peal', and '.... judg'd a great Piece ...' vice '...judg'd a fine Piece, the latter per C. Ridley.)

London, May 23.

On Sunday last the young Society of Ringers, call'd City Scholars, rang a compleat Peal of 5040 Trebles plain Bobb Method, upon the new Bells at the Parish Church of Hillington in Middlesex, which was compleated in three Hours, nine Minutes and an Half. On Sunday the 14th Instant, the same Society rang a compleat Peal at the Parish Church of Lambeth. And on Monday the 15th Instant, they rang another compleat Peal at St. Dunstan's in Fleet-street; Both the Peals the same Method as the above at Hillington.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 29 May 1732; also *St. James's Evening Post*, Tues. 23 May 1732 and *Applebee's Original Weekly Journal*, Sat. 27 May 1732 with 'peel' instead of 'peal' and addition of '... nine Minutes and an Half, being the first time ever these Bells were rung, and first complete Peel at the Parish Church of Lambeth. On Sunday', the latter per C. Ridley)

From the Whitehall EVENING POST, May 30

Sunday being the Anniversary of the Birth of his late Majesty King George the First, of Glorious Memory, the same was observed throughout the Cities of London and Westminster, by Ringing of Bells and all other Demonstrations of Joy.

Yesterday being the Restoration of King Charles II, the same was observed throughout this City and Suburbs, the Ringing of Bells, Bonfires, and other Demonstrations of Joy.
(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs 1 June 1732 – per C Ridley)

Yesterday Signor John Angelo Belloni's Letter from Rome, a most audacious Libel, touching the Seizing and Confining of John Thompson, late Warehouse-keeper of the Charitable Corporation, was, pursuant to the Orders of both Houses of Parliament, burnt before the Royal-Exchange by the Hands of the common Hangman, amidst a very great Crowd of Spectators, and loud Huzza's expressing their Satisfaction; and it was observable, that the Twelve Bells at St Michael's rung at the same time.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs 1 June 1732 – per C Ridley)

NOTICE is hereby given, That on the 20th of this instant June, being the GUILD-DAY, will be Six Pairs of Gloves given gratis, to be rung for by only County Ringers on Five Bells, by Mr. Thomas Barney at the Sign of the Three-Jolly-Masons in St. Martin's by the Palace in Norwich.
(Advert in *Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 10 June 1732)

On Tuesday last the young Society of Ringers call'd City Scholars, rang a compleat Peal of 5040 Bob-Major, or all Eight in, upon the eight Bells of St. Mary Overy's in Southwark, which was completed in three Hours and forty five Minutes, being the first Peal in that Method ever rung in that Steeple, and one of the greatest Performances in Ringing that ever was, the Tenor of the above Peal weighing upwards of 5000 lb. wt.

(*Weekly Register or Universal Journal*, Sat. 12 Aug. 1732 – per C. Ridley)

London, September 14

Last Thursday the Society of Ringers called the City Scholars, rang a compleat Peal of 10080 Bob-Majors, at St. Mary-Magdalen, Bermondsey, in 6 Hours and 7 Minutes; which is a Peal that has never been rung out of London.

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 16 Sept. 1732; also *Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 14 Sept. 1732, source stated to be *Whitehall Evening Post*, 12 Sept.; short version *St James's Evening Post*, Tues. 12 Sept. 1732, the latter per C. Ridley.)

Last Monday a Peal of 5040 Changes was rung by the City Youths at St. Laurence Jury and St. Mary Milk-street, in three Hours and 16 Minutes.

(*St. James's Evening Post*, Thurs. 12 Oct. 1732)

On Monday the 9th Instant the Society of Ringers, called City Youths, rung at St. Laurence Jury by Guildhall, a compleat Peal of 5040 plain Bob Triples, which was performed in three Hours and 16 Minutes. And,

On Tuesday the same Society rung at the same Place a compleat Peal of 5264 Bob-Major, which was performed by eight Men, and compleated in three Hours and three Quarters; the Tenour, being 3300 Weight, was rung by Mr. Oram, a Silk-Dyer in Coleman-street, who is about 20 Years of Age; and as a Testimony that they were not tired, after the same was compleated, they rung a Course (containing 84 Changes) of plain Bob Triples before they ceas'd. This was the longest Peal that was ever rung on those Bells.

(*Read's Weekly Journal*, Sat. 28 Oct. 1732 also *London Evening Post*, Thurs. 26 Oct. 1732 with 'Tenor' vice 'Tenour', the addition at end 'We hear that the City Scholars intend to go for upwards of 7000 Bob Major at the same place.' – the latter per C. Ridley.)

Wigan, Dec 27

The young Ringers from Preston came to Town to try our new Bells, and performed the Quarter Peal of Twelve Hundred and sixty Changes in a very extraordinary manner, to the great Satisfaction of the Town and all that heard them. Several Neighbouring Sets of Ringers have been here, but none comparable to the Ringers from Preston, who are believ'd by the most skilful Gentlemen in that Art in this Place, to be the best in the North of England.

(*The Flying Post or the Post Master*, 9 January 1733 – per C Ridley)

A challenge by the ringers of Garboldisham

January 27 - 1732. This is to give Notice, That the Company of Five Bell Ringers, who go by the Name of GARBOLDISHAM RINGERS in Norfolk, do challenge both Suffolk and Norfolk to the Best of Ten several Peals with them, for the Value of Five or Ten Guineas, to the Time and Truth of Ringing: The Ringers Names are as follow, and the Wager to be accepted by publick Notice within Three Months from the Date hereof.

William Clarke,
Crispin Taylor
Robert Hull

Robert Collings
John Dove

Saturday, March 17:

WHEREAS the Ringers of Garboldisham have in a late Advertisement challenged any Five Ringers in Norfolk or Suffolk, to ring the Best of Ten several Peals on Five Bells to Time and Truth, for a Wager of Five or Ten Guineas: This therefore is to let them know that we Five Norwich Ringers, whose Names are under-written, do accept their Challenge: And pursuant thereto we desire them to meet us at the Red-Lion in Bunnill in Norfolk, on Monday the 2d of April next insuing, at 10 a Clock in the Fore Noon, and to bring their Ten Peals pricked at Length with them; there to article and put down the Money, and ring for it the same Day.

Robert Crane.	Edward Crane.
John Harvey.	John Webster.
William Callow.	

Norwich, April 7.

I am credibly informed, That the Challenge lately given by the Garboldisham Ringers to ring 10 Peals on 5 Bells for a Wager, and accepted by the Ringers of this City, has been decided in favour of the latter: They rung for 5 Guineas, and both Sides performed to Admiration, the Garboldisham Ringers erring only in the 9th Peal; and what redounds too to their Credit, was the treating each other with the utmost Civility.

(Extracts from the *Norwich Gazette*, quoted in Morris's *History and Art*, &c. pp. 557-8) (The above advertisements appeared in the *Norwich Gazette* of Sat. 27 January, Sat. 17 March, and Sat. 7 April 1732/3 respectively.)

On Thursday the Society of Ringers, called City Scholars, rung a compleat Peal of 7040 Cinques on the Twelve Bells at St Michael's Cornhill, in Five Hours and Twenty Seven Minutes; being the greatest Performance of the Kind ever known. It is remarkable, that three or four of the Performers are under Twenty Years of Age, and the whole Company that rung this Peal (14 Persons) were very hearty and well after it.

(*Derby Mercury*, Wed 28 Feb 1733 – per C Ridley)

They write from West Wickham in the County of Kent, that on Thursday last, being her Majesty's Birth-Day, the Loyal Ringers usher'd in the same with Ringing of Bells 'till Noon; after which they retired to the Swan Inn in Wickham, where they drank her Majesty's and all the Royal Family's Health in a Bowl of Punch, the largest that ever was seen in that Country [*sic*], and at their own Expence, they having a great Value and Esteem for a Queen Consort.

(*St. James's Evening Post*, Sat. 3 March 1733)

A Gloucestershire controversy

Gloucester, Mar. 24. They write from Stroud, That on Monday last was Rung, in three Hours and 24 Minutes, the whole Peal of Grandsire Tripples, consisting of 5040 Changes, without Dodges, (a Performance never yet equall'd in this County) by the following Persons, commonly called *Stroud's Club*, or *Society of Ringers*, viz. Richard Lloyd 1st, John Lander 2d, Jasper Parke 3d, Richard Bridges 4th, James Chew 5th, Samuel Bird 6th, Thomas Marsh 7th, and Sam. Longden, Tenor.

(*Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 27 March 1733; shorter report, without the names of the ringers, under the by-line 'Gloucester, March 24.' in *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 2 April 1733)

Painswick, March 26. This Day the whole Peal of Grandsire Tripples, consisting of 5040 Changes, was Rung (with the Assistance of one Man) by seven Youths of this Town, who stile themselves the *Beardless Club*, being Lads whose Ages added together amount to no more than 143 Years, of whom the stoutest rung the Tenor, its Neat Weight being 1 T. 6 H. 2 Q. 22 P. and weigh'd himself immediately after, and was but 1 H. 18 P. - N.B. The Members of this Club, tho' Beardless, are not (they say) so Brainless as to pretend they

rung it without Dodges, (as the Society of a neighbouring	<u>1234567</u>
Town did last Week) but say they made a Dodge or Bob every	2135476
Fourteen Changes, which is the most that can be rung with-	2314567
out it, except ringing the same over again, as may be seen	3241657
in the Example in the Margin; By which if you compare	3426175
the first and last together, it is plain they rung but	4362715
fourteen Changes over and over for 3 Hours and 24	4637251
Minutes, and so made the best of their Play round. This,	6473521
say the Youths, is amazing to them, that Men should	6745312
practise an Art so many Years, and yet know no more of it,	7654132
and be so vain as to insert their Names to a Thing for	7561423
Truth, which appears so plain and obvious to the contrary;	5716243
and conclude with saying, it is only their Ignorance can	5172634
excuse them.	1527364
	1253746
	<u>2135476</u>

(*Gloucester Journal*, Tues. April 3 1733)

The satirical Piece of News from Painswick, inserted in our last, was occasion'd by the inadvertant Omission of the word CALLING, which should have been prefix'd to DODGES in a Paragraph from Stroud the preceding Week, relating to a notable Performance of the Society of Ringers there; the Acknowledgement of which Mistake will, we hope, be satisfactory to the said Society.

(*Gloucester Journal*, Tues. April 10 1733)

Painswick, May 19. The Society of Stroud Ringers having (in this Paper of the 27th of March last) given a Challenge to the County in general, by a pretended Performance, and on Wednesday last to the Society of Painswick in particular, by following them to Tedbury [*sic*] to Ring in Opposition to them, where they went for Pleasure, and at the Request of the Town: This is therefore to let the Publick know, That We, the Society of Painswick, in Behalf both of the County and of ourselves, do accept it as such, and will meet them at Tedbury aforesaid, there being their own Number of Bells, and the Place to which they follow'd us; and will raise the Bells, and ring with them any Peal of Grandsire Tripples that was ever rung by either Club before, from One Guinea per Bell to Five, upon an equal Bett; but if they will take us at the Number of Bells we shall propose, and at any other Place, we will make the Bett Ten Pounds to a Crown, for as many Ten Pounds as there are Crowns in Ten Pounds.

Sign'd by the Society of Painswick

(*Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 22 May 1733)

Stroud, May 24. The Society of Ringers at Painswick having boldly challenged that of Stroud to Ring with them at Tetbury; the said Society of Stroud do hereby give Notice, that they will meet them at Tetbury on the 2d of June next, to Ring the whole Peal of Grandsire Tripples, consisting of 5040 Changes, without calling of Dodges, for the Sum of Ten Guineas, proper Judges on each Side being chosen to determine the Exactness of the Performance; and we doubt not, at the Decision of this Trial of Skill, but that all competent Judges will be satisfied, that Painswick Boasters will prove Rhodomontadoes, viz. end in empty Sounds; and that these little Men of Noise will prove to be Children in Harmony.

(*Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 29 May 1733; the *Gloucester Journal* for the following weeks does not contain any report of the outcome of this match - CAW)

Celebrations when a proposed excise duty on tobacco was dropped

Sarum, April 15. Yesterday as soon as we received the welcome News of the Excise Bills being put off, the Bells rung, and in the Evening a Bonfire was made before the Council House ... (*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 14 March 1733 – per C Ridley)

Letters from Nottingham say, that the Tradesmen there were so rejoiced at the News of the Duties on Tobacco being [*sic*] to be raised by way of EXCISE, that several young Men, of different Persuasions in Matters of Religion (some whereof were the Sons of the Aldermen of no small Note) met on Wednesday last in the Evening in the Bellfry of one of the Churches there, and having put the Bells in full Mourning, rung a Peal suitable to the Occasion.
(*Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 27 March 1733)

Bristol, April 14. last Thursday Night, at 11 o'Clock, an Express arriv'd from London with the agreeable News, that the second Reading of the *Tobacco Bill* was postpon'd to the 12th of June.

This Advice has so universally pleas'd the Inhabitants, that the Bells began to sound their Notes by 2 o'Clock on Friday Morning, and continu'd all that Day, Evening, and are still repeating the same; and the Rejoycings on this Occasion have been so very extraordinary, that Barrels of Ale were given to the Populace, large Bonfires made throughout the City and Suburbs (particularly one before the Excise-Office, into which an Effigy was thrown by the Mob and burnt) Firing of Guns, Musquets, &c.

(*Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 17 April 1733; similar rejoicings in Coventry, Gloucester, Sarum, Warwick, Liverpool and Worcester in this and following issues of the *Gloucester Journal*)

Upon receiving the News on Saturday last, of the Excise on Tobacco being dropt, the Principal Traders in this Town, who are Dealers in that Commodity, caus'd all the Bells in each of our Parish Churches to be rung most of the Day, and the Evening concluded with Bonfires, Illuminations, and other Tokens of Joy.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 19 April 1733)

They write from Ludlow, that on May-Day the whole Peal of Grandsire Tripples, consisting of 5040 Changes, was rung there in 3 Hours, 28 Minutes and half, by a Society of old Men (except one aged 21) amounting to upwards of 402 Years.

(*Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 15 May 1733)

This Day is Publish'd, (*Price 1s 6d*)

Campanalogia Improved; or, The Art of Ringing made easy, by Plain and Methodical Rules and Directions; whereby the ingenious Practitioner may, with a little Practice and Care, attain to the Knowledge of Ringing all manner of Double, Tripple, and Quadruple Changes; with Variety of New Peals, upon five, six, seven, eight, and nine Bells. As also the Method of calling Bobs for any Peals of Tripples from 168 to 2520 (being the Half Peal;) Also for any Peal of Quadruples, or Cator's from 324 to 1140. The Third Edition, corrected. Printed for A. Bettesworth and C. Hitch at the Red-Lion in Pater-noster-row. Where may be had, The Seventh Edition, corrected and enlarg'd, of Green's Book of Psalmody. Price stitched 2 s.

(*Fog's Weekly Journal*, Sat. 28 July 1733 – advert; the publication is also noted in similar terms in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for July 1733, p.386; also *Whitehall Evening Post*, Sat. 14 July 1733 and *Fog's Weekly Journal*, Sat. 8 June 1734, both the latter per C. Ridley.)

Last week the young Ringers of Hillingdon, near Uxbridge, rang the whole Peal of Grandsire Trebles, being 5040 Changes, in 3 Hours and about 8 Minutes, to the great Satisfaction of all that heard them.

(*Penny London Post*, Sun. 19 Aug. 1733; see *St. James's Evening Post*, Sat. 17 Nov. 1733, and *Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 17 Nov. – Sat. 24 Nov. 1733, for an identical report.)

The Ringers of Yarmouth when Sir Edmund Bacon and William Woodhouse, Esq; met there, presented them with the following Lines, at their almost universal good Reception.

*We the Ringers of this Corporation,
Well wishers to the British Nation,
With our rough Music will proclaim,
The Great Sir Edmund Bacon's Name.
Go on, Great Sir, and may you rise,
Whilst others mourn their Lost Excise;
And for our good sincere Intention,
We ne'er expect to claim a Pension;
We only ask a little Chink,
The Great Sir Edmund's Health to Drink;
Still add to this one Joint of Meat,
To make the Frolics more compleat:
Afford these Lines but on kind look;
Send us but Meat: we want no C----'e:
Then whilst our Yarmouth Bells can swing,
To Great Sir Edmund's Fame we'll ring.*

(*Newcastle Courant*, Sat. 6 Oct. 1733)

His Majesty has been pleased to give a large Bell to the new Church in Old-street, which is already hung, and Preparations are making for the Consecration of the said Church on Thursday next, being St. Luke's Day; the Presentation of the Living is in the Gift of the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's. (*St. James's Evening Post*, Tues. 16 Oct. 1733)

Yesterday being the Birth-day of the Princess Royal, when she enter'd into the 25th Year of her Age, the same was observ'd throughout this City and Suburbs by ringing of Bells, and other Demonstrations of Joy; amongst the rest, the London Scholars distinguish'd their great Respect to her Royal Highness, by ringing a Peal at St. Michael's in Cornhill of 4928 Changes, which they perform'd in three Hours and three Quarters, without the least Interruption.

(*St. James's Evening Post*, Tues. 23 Oct. 1733; also *Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 20 Oct. – Sat. 27 Oct. 1733, *Read's Weekly Journal*, Sat. 27 October 1733, and *Weekly Register or Universal Journal*, Sat. 27 July 1733, the latter per C. Ridley.)

Last Week the young Ringers of Hillingdon, near Uxbridge, rung the whole Peal of Grandsire Trebles, being 5040 Changes, in three Hours and about eight Minutes, to the great Satisfaction of all that heard them.

(*St. James's Evening Post*, Sat. 17 Nov. 1733)

On Wednesday last there was a Wager of 10£. Rung for at Bunwell, between the Ringers of Bunwell and the Ringers of Carleton, which was won by the former with great Odds; and notwithstanding the great Concourse of People that appeared on each Side, and a great many Wagers laid, there was not the least Disorder.

(Advert in *Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 17 Nov. 1733 – per David Cubitt)

We hear from Wye, that there will be an Addition of two Bells to their ancient noble Ring of Six; one the Gift of John Sawbridge, Esq; the other by Subscription of the Inhabitants, which will make them one of the finest Peals in the Kingdom.

(*Kentish Post*, Sat. 17 Nov./Wed. 21 November 1733)

Yesterday the College Youths rang the Long Peal at St. Michael's Cornhill, of 7000 and odd Changes in some Minutes less than five Hours and a Half, which no Sett of Ringers ever did in that time; They design to try at the Peal of 10,000 Changes next Week, and endeavour to perform that in eight Hours and a Quarter.

(*The Daily Post-Boy*, Wed. 21 Nov. 1733; also *Penny Post London* Fri. 11 Nov. 1733, per C. Ridley; *St. James's Evening Post*, and *General Evening Post*, Thurs. 22 Nov. 1733; and *Read's Weekly Journal*, and *Weekly Register*, Sat. 24 Nov. 1733 - the latter four all starting 'Tuesday last the College Youths ...' Not recorded in the peal book of the College Youths and possibly a hoax.)

York, Nov. 26. On Monday last, *Mr. James Harrison*, of *Barrow*, in *Lincolnshire*, finish'd the Re-hanging of the 12 Bells in the South-West Tower of the Cathedral, according to an Article enter'd into by him with the Venerable Dean and Chapter: This was the first Peal of 12 in *England*; the Tenor or largest Bell being upwards of a Note deeper than the Tenor of any other Peal of 12, is computed to be above Sixty Hundred Weight, and is near Six Feet in Diameter, the 11th is about Fifty two hundred, the 10th about Forty four; the rest, indeed, are not in Proportion to these, in which Disadvantage the Skill of the Undertaker appears very much, for they perform their Revolutions very regularly, and their Clappers are so very well manag'd as to make a most agreeable Harmony: All the 12 hang upon one Surface or Plan, in one Frame. The Inside of the Steeple from North to South is 23 Feet 8 Inches, from East to West 23 Feet 2 Inches. Before this Alteration only Five of the largest hung in one Frame, the other Seven in a Frame above 'em. Several Peals of *Triples*, *Bob Minor*, and *Cators*, have been perform'd upon the said Bells since they were re-hung, by the new Society of YORK SCHOLARS, who also design very shortly to attempt those of *Bob Major*, *Cinques*, and *Bob Maximus*. The Tenor may be rung by one Man for some Time, but two Men can manage it with Ease; all the rest are rais'd and maintain'd by one Man to each for a considerable Time: The whole is compleated to the Satisfaction of the Church, and is agreed, by the most able Judges, to be the best finish'd Piece of Work that has been known in these Parts.

The said *Mr. James Harrison* has also regulated the Chimes upon the said Bells in a very elegant Manner.

He has likewise made an Alteration in the modern Peal of 8 Bells at *St. Martin's, Coning-street*, by which the Practitioners of the Art are sensible of an Improvement beyond Expectation. (*York Courant*, Tues. 26 Nov. 1733; also *Howgrave's Stamford Mercury*, Thurs. 28 March 1734.)

COUNTRY NEWS.

Oxon, Jan. 1. A peal of 5040 Cator Changes were rung at Christ-Church by the Oxford College Youths, in three Hours and twenty-eight Minutes, to the great Satisfaction of the Audience, it being the first Attempt, and the first Time it was completed in this City.
(*London Evening Post*, Sat. 2 Feb. – Tues. 5 Feb. 1734)

A long peal at Cornhill

Yesterday the Society of Ringers called CITY-SCHOLARS, rung a compleat Peal of 7040 Cinques on the twelve Bells at St. Michael's Cornhill, in 5 Hours and 27 Minutes; being the greatest Performance of the Kind ever known. It is remarkable that three or four of the Performers are under 20 Years of Age, and the whole Company that rung the Peal (14 Persons) were very hearty and well after it.
(*Daily Journal*, Fri. 22 Feb. 1734; also *Penny London Post*, Mon. 25 Feb. 1734 and *Derby Mercury*, Thu. 28 Feb. 1733(/4).)

The same Day [Thursday] the Society of City Scholars rung a Peal of Cinques of 7040 Changes, in five Hours and a half, on the 12 Bells at St. Michael's Cornhill, being a larger Number than was ever known to be run [*sic*] before, at one Time.

(*St. James's Evening Post*; *Applebee's Original Weekly Journal*; *Read's Weekly Journal* - all Sat. 23 Feb. 1734. The latter two have 'to be rung' vice 'to be run'.)

FRIDAY, Feb. 22.

Yesterday the Society of Ringers, called City Scholars, rung a compleat Peal of 7040 Cinques, on the twelve Bells at *St. Michael's Cornhill*, in five Hours and 27 minutes; being the greatest Performance of the Kind ever known.

(*Weekly Register: or, Universal Journal*, Sat. 23 Feb. 1734; also *Whitehall Evening Post*, Sat. 23 Feb. 1734 which adds at end 'It is remarkable that three or four of the performers are under Twenty Years of Age, and the whole Company that rung this Peal (14 Persons) were very hearty and well after it. – the latter per C. Ridley.')

The Same Day the Society of City Scholars rung a Peal of Cinques of 7040 Changes, in five Hours and a half on the twelve Bells at St Michael's Cornhill, being a larger Number than was ever known to be rung at any one time.

(*General Evening Post*, Sat. 23 Feb. 1734 – per C. Ridley)

On Monday the 11th Instant the famous Society of Ringers called COLLEGE YOUTHS, rung at St. Mary-le-Bow in Cheapside, a compleat Peal of 5040 Bob Major: It was performed by 11 Men, in four Hours and one Minute, and considering the extraordinary Burthen of those Bells, the Tenor being 5200 lb. Weight, it was allowed by the Generality of Ringers to be the best and greatest Performance that ever was done in this Art: This was the Company who in February 1731 rung, at St. Michael's in Cornhill, 7018 Cinques, and in May 1728, at St. Mary-Bermondsey in Southwark, 10800 Bob Major, being, the longest Peal there ever was rung.

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 23 Feb. 1734; also *London Evening Post*, Thurs. 14 Feb. 1734, which omits 'the 11th Instant', the latter per C. Ridley.)

York, November 6.

On Monday last Mr. James Harrison of Barrow in Lincolnshire, finish'd the re-hanging of the twelve Bells in the South West Tower of the Cathedral, according to an Article entered into by him with the Dean and Chapter. This was the first Peal of twelve in England, the Tenor or largest Bell being upwards of a Note deeper than the Tenor of any other Peal of twelve, is commuted to be above 60 Hundred Weight, and is near 6 Foot Diameter; the 11th is about 52 Hundred; and the 10th about 44; the rest indeed are not in Proportion to these, in which Disadvantage the Skill the of Undertaker appears very much, for they perform their Revolutions very regularly, and their Clappers are so well manag'd, as to make a most Agreeable Harmony. All the twelve hang upon one Surface or Plan in one Frame. The inside of the Steeple from North to South is 23 Feet 8 Inches, from East to West 23 Feet 2 Inches, before this Alteration only five of the largest hung in one Frame, which fill'd the Square of the Steeple, and the other 7 in a Frame above them. Several Peals of Tripples, Bob Minor, and Cators have been perform'd upon the said Bells since they were re-hung by the new Society of York Schollars, who also design very shortly to attempt those of Bob Major, Cinques, and Bob-Maximus. The Tenor may be

rung by one Man for some time, but two can manage it with ease. All the rest are raised and maintain'd by one Man to each for a considerable time. The whole is compleated the Satisfaction of the Church, and is agreed by the most able Judges to be the best finish'd Piece of Work that has been known in those Parts. The said Mr. James Harrison has also regulated the Chimes upon the said Bells in very elegant Manner.

He has likewise made an Alteration in a Modern Peal of Bells in St. Martins, Coning-street, by which the Practitioners of the Art are sensible of an Improvement beyond Expectation.

The abovesaid James Harrison, Bell hanger, and Mill-wright, being the first Author and Practitioner of the great and valuable Improvement in the useful Engines, call'd Mills for Corn, &c. the Amendment is so great that the same Quantity of Water in a Water Mill will grind nearly as much more Corn in the same Time, and is so durable, that they will not want what Millers call Gearing, not above once in 20 or 30 Years, or perhaps longer. But as to Wind Mills, he hath invented the Model of them intire new, the Body of the Mill much lower, the Sails much shorter, so will not be in so much Danger of being blown down, also its Motion more regular in variable wind, and consequently easier to manage, but still will do more Work in a slow Wind than Mills commonly do. And because he is at all times ready to serve his Country, he thought is necessary to communicate this Excellency to the World, that People may avoid being deceived, if any should pretend to Priority in these Practices, y and also to prevent dealing with Novices, who instead of compleating, may in all Probability spoil their Work.

N.B. Any who desire may apply themselves to him by Letter directed as above.

(*Stamford Mercury*, Thurs. 28 March 1734)

On Thursday last, Mr. Henry Wheatley of Egham, near Staines, made a Present of 600 £. to the Parish of Spittlefields, towards the setting up of a new Set of Bells, in the said Church.

(*Daily Journal*, Tues. 16 April 1734)

Mr. *James Harrison*, of *Barrow*, near *Barton*, *Lincolnshire*, Bell-Hanger and Mill-Wright, (who hung the great and noble Peal of 12 in the famous Cathedral of *St. Peter's*, *York*) being the first Author and Practitioner of the great and valuable Improvement made in the useful Engines call'd Mills, for Corn, &c. The Amendment is so great, that the same Quantity of Water to a Water-Mill will grind nearly as much more Corn in the same Time; and is so durable, they will not want what Millers call *Gearing*, not above once in 20 or 30 Years, or perhaps longer. But as to Wind Mills, he hath invented the Model of them entire new, the Body of the Mill much lower, the Sails much shorter, so will be more supportable; also its Motion more regular in variable Winds, consequently easier to manage, but still will do more work in a slow Wind than Mills commonly do. And because these Inventions may be of some Service to those who are desirous to have them, he hath thought it necessary to communicate this Excellency to the World, that People may avoid being deceived, if any should pretend to Priority in these Practices, and also to prevent dealing with Novices, who instead of compleating may in all Probability spoil their Work.

N.B. Any Person that is desirous to employ the abovesaid *James Harrison*, may apply themselves to him by Letter directed as above.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 30 April 1734 - advert)

SUFFOLK.

This is to give Notice to all Gentlemen Ringers that on Friday the 24th of this instant May there will be 6 Pairs of Bucks-Leather Gloves gave free, to be rung for at Michael Wills's at the Sign of the Chequer in Halsworth; and all the Gentlemen who intend to ring for the same, to enter their Names by 11 of the Clock the same Day, or else not to ring for the aforesaid Gloves. The PEALS to be rung are, Grandsire, Old Doubles, and Cambridge Delight; Cambridge Delight to be rung 2d and 4th, to ring for the aforesaid Gloves from the first Toll to the last, and the Halsworth Ringers to be debarred ringing for the same. And all Persons shall meet with civil Entertainment, and a hearty Welcome, from their humble Servant

MICHAEL WILLS.

(Advert in *Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 11 May 1734)

York, May 29.

WHEREAS Mr. Samuel Smith of York, Bell-founder, deceas'd, left in Possession of his Brother, Mr. James Smith, a Workhouse, with two Furnaces, and all Tools necessary for that Work: If any person of the Business will come to settle in York, he shall find the following Encouragement, viz. He shall pay not Rent for the Workhouse, and if a single Man he shall board with Mr. Smith one Year gratis, and shall be furnish'd by him with Bell-Metal, as he may need it, at a moderate Price: If he Performs Work to the Satisfaction of Mr. Smith, he will be bound with him for his true Performance of any Peal of Bells he shall undertake.

Any Person so inclin'd may write to the said Mr. James Smith in Micklegate, York, or to Mr. John Appleby, Brazier, on Snow-hill, London.

(Advert in *London Evening Post*, Sat. 1 June - Tues 4 June 1734; also same paper, Tues. 4 June - Thurs. 6 June, and Sat. 8 June - Tues. 11 June 1734.)

A few Days since dy'd at his House at Staines in Middlesex, Mr. Wheatley, formerly an eminent Throwster in Spittlefields, who lately gave 600 £. towards a Set of Bells to be put up in the Steeple of Christ-Church in Spittlefields, where his Corpse has been since interr'd with the greatest Solemnity and Decency.

(*London Evening Post*, Tues. 2 July - Thurs. 4 July 1734)

To Mr. SAMUEL KNIGHT, Bell-Founder, on his
late Excellent Performance at Stepney.

SOFT as the tuneful Soul is ev'ry Note,
To *Concord* true, from what is *Harsh* remote:
With ev'ry Grace and Harmony replete,
Strong is their Sound, and yet in *Musick* sweet!
Nature with Tone supply'd thy tuneful Heart,
And *Judgment* shew'd *Thee* all the Rules of *Art*:
Tho' thus they join'd thee, each confess alone
The Skill is *Theirs*, but yet the Work's *Thy own*
Such Pow'rs in *Stepney* Bells!—————
That like the Lark when singing in the Air
They strike the Mind, and charm the list'ning Ear:
Amaz'd we stand, 'till Harmony has caught
The swelling Soul, and we're dissolv'd in Thought!
Go on, *Bright Man*, Perfection still pursue, }
Let us more than a * *Rudhall* find in you; }
Merit you've shewn, and Fame alone's your Due. }
To thee the *Muses* shall in *Concord* Sing,
And *Phæbus* listen when thy Bells do Ring.
Old *Time* shall on his Scythe his Head recline,
And with Attention own they Skill divine;
Charm'd by their Musick like a Statue stand,
Add to each *Change* beat Measure with his Hand.
Fam'd *Ringers* shall extol they Name always.
And thy own *Works* sing *Pæans* to thy Praise.

* *A famous Bell-Founder in Gloucester.*

(*London Evening Post*, Thurs. 1 Aug. - Sat. 3 Aug. 1734)

THIS is give Notice to all Gentle-
men and others, that delight in the Mu-
sick in good Bells, that *Daniel Hedderly*, Bell-
Founder, that hath cast into eleven Coun-
ties of this Kingdom to full Content, and also
into five other Kingdoms, is now at *Keall* in
Lincolnshire, where any Parish maybe furnish'd
with the best of Bells, and at reasonable Prices
and will ingage all Peals to be perfect Musick
that he shall cast; as also all sorts of Braces
and Morters of all sorts be had of him,
[and] screw Boxes for Dyers Presses: He designs to be
at *Reall* [*sic*] in Summer, and at *Bawtry* in *Yorkshire*
in Winter. This is he that hath cast Bells after
five other several Founders that could not please,
and was never yet outdone by any One.

(*Stamford Mercury*, Thurs. 8 Aug. 1734)

The Inhabitants of *Stanes* [*sic*] in Middlesex, are raising Subscriptions for a Peal of six Bells; the Tenor, which is to weigh 1800 lb. and comes to 108 £. is given them by the two Knights of the Shire, Sir Francis Child and William Pulteney, Esq;
(*London Evening Post*, 3 Sept. - 5 Sept. 1734; also *Universal Spectator and Weekly Journal*, Sat. 7 Sept. 1734.)

On Saturday last the Society of COLLEGE YOUTHS perform'd an extraordinary Peal of 5040 Bob-Major, on the eight celebrated Bells at Stepney, cast by the ingenious Mr. Samuel Knight, which by all good Judges in the Exercise of Ringing then present, was allow'd to be one of the best Peals of that kind ever perform'd. The said Society were three Hours and about forty Minutes in performing the same, which, considering the great Weight of the Bells, and the Truth of the Compass in Ringing, is thought almost inimitable. The said Mr. Knight is now going to recast a complete Peal for the Parish Church of Edmonton in Middlesex; and Mr. Robert Catlin, who made the curious Frame-work for Stepney, is also to make the Frame for the said Peal.

(*London Evening Post*, Tues. 1 Oct. - Thurs. 3 Oct. 1734)

Northampton, Nov. 4.

Wednesday last being his Majesty's Birth-Day, it was observ'd here with great Solemnity. About five in the Morning the eight new Bells lately put up in St. Peter's Church began to ring, which, with the Bells at the other three Churches, continued most Part of the Day.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 4 Nov. 1734)

On Tuesday last, the 5th of November, being the Anniversary Feast of the Ancient Society of Ringers call'd College-Youths, the same was held, according to Custom, at the Castle-Tavern in Fleet-street, where an elegant entertainment was provided for the said Society. There was a very great Appearance of Gentlemen on that Occasion; and the Evening was concluded with drinking the Healths of all the Royal Family, the honourable Members of the said Society, and others; and an extraordinary Peal of Cinques was perform'd on the Hand-Bells.

(*London Daily Post and General Advertiser*, Thurs. 7 Nov. 1734)

On Saturday last was rung at St. Magnus the Martyr, a compleat Peal of 6012 Cators, by the Society of Ringers called the Eastern Scholars, in four Hours and nine Minutes, which by Judges in that Art, is thought to be a great Performance for so young a Company, being not a Year in that Practice.

(*St. James's Evening Post*, Sat. 30 Nov. 1734; also *Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 7 Dec. 1734 – the latter per David Cubitt)

A new ring of bells for St. Saviour's, Southwark (now Southwark Cathedral)

We hear, that one Day last Week, the Church-Wardens of St. Saviour's Southwark, pursuant to a Power vested in them, by the Vestry of the said Parish, did contract with Mr. Samuel Knight, Bell-founder, and Mr. Robert Catlin, Bell-hanger, to cast and hang a Peal of Twelve Bells, in the Steeple of the said Church, the Tenor to be one whole Note deeper than the famous Tenor in Bow Steeple.

The fine Peal at Stepney was performed, and a new Peal is preparing for the Parish of Edmonton in Middlesex, by the same Hands.
(St. James's Evening Post, Tues. 3 Dec. 1734; Fog's Weekly Journal, Sat. 7 Dec. 1734: also Ipswich Journal, Sat. 30 Nov. - Sat. 7 Dec. 1734.)

On Monday last a Faculty passed the Seals of the Consistory Court of the Lord Bishop of Winchester, to empower the Parishioners to take down the old Bells in the Parish-Church of St. Saviour's Southwark, being eight in Number, in order for their being recast with the Addition of four; so that Twelve Bells are to be hung in their Room.
(Read's Weekly Journal, Sat. 21 Dec. 1734)

On Friday next, about Twelve o'Clock at Noon, the opening Peal of the new Bells at St. Saviour's Southwark [*sic*] will be performed by some of the most eminent Hands; and as this Peal of Bells is by the ablest Judges of ringing thought superior to all the Peals of twelve that have hitherto been cast, it is not doubted but it will afford a great deal of Pleasure to the Auditors.
(London Evening Post, Tues. 19 Aug. 1735)

The new Ring of 12 Bells put up in St. Saviour's Church in Southwark, are judged to exceed all the Rings of 12 in London; and as there is a very particular Disparity in the Weights of the said Bells, I have thought it may not be unacceptable to my Customers to insert them as follows, viz.

Bells	Hundr.	Quart.	Pounds
Treble	8	00	00
Second	8	00	00
Third	7	03	14
Fourth	9	00	10
Fifth	10	00	14
Sixth	11	00	16
Seventh	13	00	14
Eighth	16	00	00
Ninth	20	00	00
Tenth	26	00	00
Eleventh	36	00	00
Twelfth	51	02	00

(Norwich Gazette, Sat. 4 Oct. 1735; also St. James's Evening Post, Tues. 7 Oct. 1735; and Read's Weekly Journal, Sat. 11 Oct. 1735)

On Monday Morning next about Nine o'Clock, they propose to begin to ring at St. Mary Over's in Southwark, an extraordinary Peal of 8000 on the twelve new Bells there, which were lately cast by Mr. Samuel Knight, Bell-Founder in St. Mary Over's.
(Ipswich Journal, Sat. 8 Nov. - Sat. 15 Nov. 1735)

A controversy in York

To the Printer of the York Courant

SIR,

Dec. 2.

IN order to remove the Fears of those well-meaning People, who are Friends to Sir MILES STAPYLTON, and to prevent the Mischiefs which sudden Joy may do to the weak Minds of *Others*; it is very necessary the Publick should be acquainted with the true Reason of that extraordinary Ringing of Bells at *St. Martin's* on *Thursday* last at Midnight. Various Conjectures were made on this Occasion, by their Manner of *Ringing*. A great many People feared some INCENDARIES were got among us, and had set Part of the Town on Fire. In the Morning a malicious Report was industriously spread, that a Club of merry innocent Gentlemen, at a Publick House in the Neighbourhood had turn'd out Sir MILES STAPYLTON from his Seat in Parliament, and therefore the Bells were rung. *Ridiculous!* But it is to be hoped the *Authors* of this scandalous and foolish Reflection will meet with their due Punishment. But what could be the true Reason? Why, a certain Gentleman, who had been celebrated in open Court, for his great Genius in doing those Things which all People who have any Conscience or Modesty, are shocked to think of; this good Man, forsooth, was resolved to convince the mistaken World, by this single Instance, that he was not more K--- than F---l.

N.B. The Truth of this Account will be attested by the Hostler and Bootcatcher, who both were deeply concern'd in this Affair.
I am Yours, &c. [no signature]

(Advert in *York Courant*, Tues. 3 Dec. 1734. Sir Miles Stapylton had recently been returned as MP for York after a heated campaign (during which the *York Courant* reported that, as his rival had been bringing food and drink into York for the electors, it was assumed that Sir Miles Stapylton's supporters had bought up everything in the town already); and there had recently been a country-wide rash of incendiarism, with people receiving threatening notes that, if they did not pay up, their houses would be burned down.)

To the Printer of the York Courant

SIR,

Dec. 9.

Your last Week's Paper was sent to me by a *Hornbook Boy of the Law*, with an Intent to mislead me to think him the Author of an *Advertisement* therein; but I cannot oblige him, for, simple as it is, there are some Words above his Spelling without Council: He desires me to know whether by the *certain, celebrated Gentleman*, was meant the *Lawyer, Civilian, or Steward* of his *Party*. It must be allowed, that the Description answers all Three in every Feature; but only it is not yet well known which of them it was encouraged their trusty Friends the MOB to shout S---n, to threaten to break the *George Windows*, and throng into the Church to confound the Ringing of the Bells. Pray acquaint Mr. WITTALL, the *Advertiser*, that the Design of Ringing the Bells that Night, was not to affront any Body, but meerly [*sic*] a Frolick in some *West Riding* Gentlemen, who being minded to be merry, preferred a Peal of Bells to any other Musick, and press'd the Churchwarden, who was in Company only, to *assure the Sexton that the Ringers should be honestly paid*; which they were: But 'tis likely the next Peal from that Quarter may be more *seasonable*, but not more *agreeable* to the *Advertiser*.

I am, &c. L.B.

(Advert in *York Courant*, Tues. 10 Dec. 1734)

THIS is to give Notice, That there will be Six Hats of Thirty Shillings Value, to be Rung for at Hepworth, and to meet at the White Swan; to be Rung for by four Companies of Ringers, putting in one Shilling a Man, and every Company to Ring three Book-Peals of their own Chooseing. To be Rung for the 1st of January next ensuing, commonly call'd, New-Year's-Day, to meet between Eleven and Twelve o'Clock in the Forenoon, at the White Swan aforesaid, where they shall meet with kind and civil Entertainment.

(*Suffolk Mercury, or Bury Post*, Mon. 16 Dec. 1734 – advert; but see same paper, 23 December 1734 – below.)

Advertisement.

THIS is to certify that the Hats which were mentioned in the last Weeks [*sic*] News to be Rung for at Hepworth, will not be provided, by Reason the Justices will not allow it; but if any Gentlemen Ringers think fit to come and Ring for Pleasure, and take the White Swan for Quarters, they shall be welcome to a good Dinner, Gratis, on New-Years Day.

(*Suffolk Mercury, or Bury Post*, Mon. 23 Dec. 1734)

1735

In Honour of the Nuptials of Mr. Hilton with Miss Lloyd of Fulham, on Sunday last the Society of Fulham Youths rung the whole Peel [*sic*] of Bob-Major, of 10080 Changes, in six Hours and 40 Minutes. Such a performance was never Known upon a Peel [*sic*] of Bells of their Weight. (*Read's Weekly Journal or British Gazetteer*, Sat. 1 Feb. 1735; a peal board was erected to commemorate this performance.)

Gloucester, March 1. This being the Anniversary of her Majesty's Birth-Day, the same was usher'd in with Ringing of Bells, and in the Evening there were Bonfires, Illuminations, and other Demonstrations of Joy.

And in Honour of the said Day, the Society of Ringers of Paynswick rung a Peal of Quadruples, commonly call'd Catons, consisting of 8064 Changes, in 4 Hours and 55 Minutes, being the largest ever rung there before.

(*Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 4 March 1734/5)

We hear from Painswick in Gloucestershire [*sic*], that on the 1st Instant the Society of Ringers there rung a Peal of Quadruples, commonly call'd Catons, consisting of 8064 Changes somewhat within the Space of five Hours.

(*London Evening Post*, Tues. 11 March 1735)

Last Saturday the Society of Ringers belonging to St. Mary de Crypt in this City, held their Feast, and in the Morning rang a Peal of 5040 Changes, viz. 7 times 720, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes.

(*Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 11 March 1734/5)

BECCLES, April 12, 1735.

On the 7th. of this Instant (being Easter-Monday) the whole Peal of GRANDSIRE TREPLES, being 5040 Changes, was rung by the Society of BECCLES SCHOLARS in three Hours and one Minute, being the first and greatest Performance ever done in this Town.

	John Barker	}		{	Treble.
	John Denny	}		{	Second.
	Matthew Debnam	}		{	Third.
Testes	{ William Cutlove	Duncan Duer	}	the	{ Fourth.
	{ William Gurney	John Ward	}		{ Fifth.
		Andrew Field	}		{ Sixth.
		Matthew Clarke	}		{ Seventh.
		Henry Dady	}		{ Tenor.

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 19 April 1735)

Letters from Exeter advise; that last Week arriv'd there from London, Sir Henry Northcote, Bart. Member of Parliament for that City, (in the Country Interest) on which Occasion (amongst other Rejoicings) all the Bells in the Cathedral were rung: It is remarkable, that though there hath been ten Bells many Years, the Ringers never before attempted to ring them all at once: This Ring of Bells is the largest in England, and, according to a moderate Computation, weighs upwards of 27,800 lb. Weight. The Peal was rung by thirty-three Men.

(*London Evening Post*, Sat. 31 May – Tues. 3 June 1735; also *Daily Courant*, Wed. 4 June 1735, and *Read's Weekly Journal or British Gazetteer*, Sat. 7 June 1735, both with by-line 'Exeter, May 30')

Several Workmen are employ'd in making Alterations, and beautifying the Church of St. Dunstan in the East; and 'tis said the Parishioners intend to add some Bells, to make a Peal of Ten in the said Church.

(*London Evening Post*, Tues. 19 Aug. 1735)

Tuesday Morning Mr. William Cole, a noted Church Bell-hanger in Fore-street, went into the Castle Tavern at Cripplegate, and call'd for a Glass of Wine, seemingly in perfect Health, and when the Drawer brought the Wine, he found him dead in a Chair in the Kitchen. (*St. James's Evening Post*; *Whitehall Evening Post*; *General Evening Post*; *London Evening Post* - all Thurs. 2 October 1735; *Universal Spectator*, and *Weekly Journal*; *Weekly Register*, or *Universal Journal*; *Applebee's Original Weekly Journal* - all Sat. 4 Oct. 1735)

I hear that Two new Bells are just cast in Southwark, by the Person who cast the famous Peal of 12 for St. Saviour's, for the Town of Aylesham in Norfolk, in order to make a Peal of 10 Bells there. As the Weight of St. Saviour's Bells in Southwark is very odd in proportion to each other, and yet the Peal so surprizingly harmonious, it is more than probable that the injudicious Proportion of Bells as to their Weight may be the Occasion of so many bad Peals; for Instance the Peal of 6 in St. Giles's in this City, which bears no Proportion with St. Saviour's in Southwark, and is very indifferent; the Weight of which Six is as follows, viz.

Bells	Hundr.	Quart.	Pounds.
Treble	4	00	00
Second	5	02	00
Third	7	00	00
Fourth	9	00	00
Fifth	11	00	00
Sixth	13	02	00

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 4 Oct. 1735; *The St. James's Evening Post*, Tues. 7 Oct., and *Read's Weekly Journal*, Sat. 11 Oct. under COUNTRY NEWS, with by-line 'Norwich, Oct. 4.')

On Thursday last the Society of London Scholars went of [*sic*] at St. Mary Magdalen's, Southwark, for a Peal of 11000 Changes, or Double Eighteen [*sic*], which has never yet been attempted; they rung 5000 but were interrupted by some Persons in Authority; however they intend to make another Trial some Day next Week.

(*St. James's Evening Post*, Sat. 4 Oct. 1735; *General Evening Post*, Sat. 4 Oct. is identical except that it says 10000 Changes)

I am credibly informed that there is a Project on foot for getting 4 new Bells to the 8 in St. Peter's Mancroft, to make the same a compleat Peal of 12; that the same will be done by voluntary Contribution, several Gentlemen having promised to contribute handsomely to the same: And that a Letter is actually sent to Mr. Knight, who cast the famous Ring of 12 for St. Saviour's in Southwark, to know the Charge thereof.

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 18 Oct. 1735)

Last Tuesday the New Bells for Aylsham, in Norfolk, in order to make a Peal of 10 there, were cast by Mr. Knight in Southwark, who cast the famous Peal of 12 for St. Saviour's there.

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 25 Oct. 1735)

On Saturday last, at Half an Hour after Ten in the Forenoon, the Society of College Youths began to ring a Peal of Eight Thousand Cinques and upwards, on the Twelve Bells, at St. Saviour's Southwark, (lately cast by the Ingenious Mr. Samuel Knight) and rung without the least Fault upwards of Seven Thousand; when some Workmen on the Roof of the Church (who its presum'd were curious to see the Ringers) forc'd a Door off the Hinges, got into a lower Loft, and by the Help of a Ladder got up the Clock Case, and into the Belfry, which Noise so disturb'd the Performers, that they were oblig'd to shorten their intended Peal, to one of Seven Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty six; which however is the longest Peal ever rung on Twelve Bells, and allow'd by all Judges of that Art, then present, to be a very great Performance, as it was their first Attempt, and the truest Ringing Ever heard; it was perform'd in Six Hours and a Quarter: the Men were all fresh and well, and had in all Probability compleated their design'd Peal, had they not been prevented by the Disturbance beforementioned; but we hear, notwithstanding this Disappointment, they intend to have another Trial in a very few Days.

(*London Daily Post and General Advertiser* and *General Evening Post*, both Thurs. 30 Oct. 1735, the latter per C. Ridley.)

The Society of College Youths rung the Peal on Saturday last, at St Saviour's Southwark, of Cinques, to the Number of 7760 Changes, which was never done before.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 1 Nov. 1735; also *St James's Evening Post*, Tues. 28 Oct. 1735 and *General Evening Post* Tues. 28 – Thurs. 30 Oct. 1735 – the latter two per C. Ridley)

On Monday Morning next about Nine o'Clock, they propose to begin to ring at St. Mary Over's in Southwark, an extraordinary Peal of 8000 on the twelve new Bells there, which were lately cast by Mr. Samuel Knight, Bell-Founder in St. Mary Over's.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 8 Nov. – Sat. 13 Nov. 1735; this peal was rung on 15 Dec. 1735, for which see below.)

Beccles, October 30

On Monday last 8 Youths of the Society of our Ringers did undertake to ring 5040 Changes on 8 Bells, called Bob-major Quadruples and Triples; which Peal they very curiously performed in 3 Hours and 23 minutes to the great Satisfaction of the judicious Lovers of that Art, (Being never before performed in this Town or Neighbourhood) at the first Time of pulling down for it, and no Bells out of Course: The Eight Youths who did it are as follow viz.

John Barker,	Treble. }	{ John Ward,	Fifth.
John Denny,	Second. }	{ James Gardner,	Sixth.
James Fisher,	Third. }	{ Matt. Clarke,	Seventh.
Duncan Duer,	Fourth. }	{ Henry Dady,	Tenor.

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 1 Nov. 1735)

We hear that Mr. Knight, the famous Bell-founder, is employ'd by the Dean and Chapter of the Collegiate Church of St. Peter's Westminster, to cast 12 new Bells (the Tenor whereof is to weigh 75 Hundred Weight) which are to be hung up at least 40 Feet higher than the former, in the Tower at the West End of the said Cathedral. He is likewise to cast 12 new Bells to be hung in the new Tower of the Parish of St. Margaret's Westminster.

(*St. James's Evening Post*, Sat. 6 Dec. 1735; *Fog's Weekly Journal*, Sat. 13 Dec. 1735; also *Stamford Mercury*, Thurs. 11 Dec. 1735, but without the last sentence.)

On Friday the 28th past was rung on the 12 fine new Bells at the Parish-Church of St. Saviour's in Southwark, by the Society of Eastern Scholars, a Peal of 6012 Grandsire-Cators, which was completed in 4 Hours and 40 Minutes; and considering the extraordinary Weight of the Bells; it was allowed by all Judges in that Art to be a fine Performance for so Young a Company, not being of two Years standing: This was the first compleat Peal ever rung on those Bells.

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 6 Dec. 1735; also *St James's Evening Post*, Tues. 2 Dec. 1735 with '28th of Nov.' vice '28th past', the latter per C. Ridley.)

Yesterday in the Evening was rung by our Town Ringers at St. Mary Tower in this Town, 5040 Changes, being the whole Peal of Grandsire Tribles on eight Bells; the Persons were,

James Kirriage aged 61	8th
Isaac Whitehand	7th
Stephen Bond	6th
George Bond	5th
Stephen Kirby	4th
Robert Hogger	3d
Thomas Bennet	2d
George Weston	Trible

Which was done in three Hours and eleven Minutes by the above said Persons, to the Satisfaction of all the Lovers of that Science.

(*Ipswich Gazette*, Sat. 6 Dec. - Sat. 13 Dec. 1735 - per G.W. Pipe; shorter report, without the ringers' names, in *Ipswich Journal* of the same date; still shorter report in *Daily Gazetteer*, Tues. 16 Dec. 1735, starting 'Friday last the Town Ringers...'; similar report in the *Norwich Gazette* of Sat. 20 Dec. 1735, under the by-line 'Ipswich, December 18' with time given as 3 Hours 11 Minutes and the names in reverse order with 'William Weston' vice 'George Weston.')

Yesterday the Society of College Youths performed on the 12 celebrated Bells at St. Mary Overs in Southwark (cast by Mr. Samuel Knight) a compleat Peal of 8008 Cinques, which, considering the extraordinary Weight of those Bells, and the Manner in which the same was performed, without the least Fault throughout the whole, is justly esteemed by all Judges in the Exercise of Ringing, to be not only a Master-Piece in its Kind, but also thought Inimitable: It was completed in six Hours and 23 Minutes, and the longest Peal ever rang on 12 Bells.

(*St. James's Evening Post*; *General Evening Post*; *London Evening Post*, and *London Daily Post and General Advertiser* - all Tues. 16 Dec. 1735, the latter extract per C. Ridley; similar report in *Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 20 Dec. 1735, under the by-line 'London, December 16', but omitting the time taken; also *Read's Weekly Journal or British Gazetteer*, Sat. 20 Dec. 1735 beginning 'Monday', the latter per C. Ridley.)

The death of Abraham Rudhall

Yesterday se'nnight died at Gloucester, of an Asthma, Mr. Rudhall jun. the most considerable Bell-founder in England, having cast more Peals from five to twelve Bells than any other two Bell-founders ever did: In the Year 1727 he cast that matchless Peal of twelve Bells for St. Martin's in the Fields, which are so remarkably fine that they will sound his Praise to future Ages. He is succeeded in his Business by his Son, Mr. Abel Rudhall.

(*London Evening Post*, Tues. 23 Dec. - Thurs. 25 Dec. 1735; also *Read's Weekly Journal or British Gazetteer* and *Universal Spectator and Weekly Journal*, both Sat. 27 Dec. 1735, each starting 'Wednesday se'nnight...'; also *Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 1 Jan. 1735/6, for which see below.)

Gloucester, Jan. 3

A few Days ago died here, the Celebrated Mr. ABRAHAM RUDHAL, [*sic*] jun. whose incomparable Skill and Ingenuity in Bell-Founding procur'd him the Admiration and Esteem of all who are Judges of Musick. His Loss will be greatly regretted, but that he is succeeded by his Son Mr. ABEL RUDHAL [*sic*], whom he industriously instructed in his own Art, and whose early Knowledge and Performances have already render'd him conspicuous in the Countries [*sic*], which he has serv'd with Bells.

(*Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 6 Jan. 1735/6)

Yesterday Se'nnight died at Gloucester, of an Astma, Mr. Rudhall, jun. the most considerable Bell-founder in England, having cast more Peals from five to twelve Bells than any other two Bell-founders ever did: In the year 1727 he cast that matchless Peal of twelve Bells for St. Martin's in the Fields, which are so remarkably fine that they will sound his praise for future Ages. He is succeeded in his Business by his Son, Mr. Abel Rudall.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 1 Jan. 1735/6)

Chepstow in Monmouthshire, Jan. 3

A Peal of Six Bells cast by Mr. Wm. Evans of this Town, and paid for by a generous Subscription, were on Thursday the 4th of December last finish'd, and rung by six young Men from Bristol, who all agreed that the said Bells, now hung in the Tower of this Parish-Church, are without Exception the best and sweetest Peal, and the most conveniently hung, that ever they heard or rung in their Lives: The said six young Men by their Skill in Ringing, and the fine and agreeable tone of the Bells, gave an universall Satisfaction to the Gentlemen and Inhabitants of this Town and Neighbourhood.

(*Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 6 Jan. 1735/6)

On Monday last the London Youths rang a Peal at St Mary Overy's of 5544 Changes Bob Maximus's, or all Twelve in, (as the Ringers term it) in four Hours and a Half; the longest Peal that ever was known to be performed in that Course. The College Youths about two Years ago came within 300 of them at St Michael's Cornhill.

(*Derby Mercury*, Tues. 6 Jan. 1736 – per C Ridley)

The Dean and Chapter of Westminster have given to the Parish of St. Margaret's, Westminster, of which they are the Patrons, 20 £. towards levelling the Wall in their Church yard, in order to a more open View of the Abby [*sic*]; and likewise 10 £. towards the re-casting and adding to their Peal of Bells for the said Parish; which we are inform'd will be speedily cast by Mr. Knight, Bell founder, who cast the famous Peal of Twelve at St. Mary-Overs, Southwark.

(*London Daily Post and General Advertiser*, Tues. 17 Feb. 1736)

Beccles, February 27.

On Monday last our young Society of Ringers rang 10080 of Bob-major Quadruples and Triples, in 6 Hours and 20 Minutes, to the great Surprize and Satisfaction of all Lovers of Steeple-Harmony: The like is thought not to have been performed by any Ringers in the Kingdom, London and Norwich excepted.

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 28 Feb. 1736)

March 1, 1736. The famous Mr. SAMUEL KNIGHT, Bell-Founder in London, having compleated a Peal of Ten Bells for Aylesham in the County of Norfolk: We the under-written Ringers of Aylesham did, on Her Majesty the Queen's Birth-Day, ring a compleat PEAL of 6048 Changes of CATORS, which we performed in 3 Hours and 42 minutes, and was allowed to be the Best of Ringing; being the first 6048 that ever were rung upon Ten Bells in England, except in London.

William Molster,	Treble	Robert Roofe,	Sixth
John Spurrell,	Second	Jonathan Ulph,	Seventh
Robert Lubbock,	Third	Edward Barns,	Eighth
Robert Scott,	Fourth	Thomas Spurrell,	Ninth
William Whiley,	Fifth	Ralph Spurrell, jun.	Tenor

(Advert in *Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 6 March 1736) (The Queen's birthday was on 1 March.)

[Column headed 'Tuesday's Post'.]

On Monday last the Society of Eastern Scholars rung at Christ's Church, Spittlefields, a complete peal, containing 5120 Changes, Triple-Bob Method, which was compleated in three Hours, fifty nine Minutes: And notwithstanding several eminent Companies have often undertaken this Performance, yet this was the first ever rung on those Bells. This was the same Company that rung the 6000 on the new Bells at St. Saviour's in November last. *G. E.*

(*North Country Journal*, Sat. 6 March 1736; also *Newcastle Courant*, same date.)

Gloucester, March 6. Last Monday being her Majesty's Birth Day, it was celebrated here with the usual Demonstrations of Joy.

The same Day, the Society of Ringers at Painswick rang 10,080 Grandsire Cators in 6 Hours and 27 Minutes; and what is worthy of Observation, it was perform'd by ten Men without any Assistants.

(*Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 9 March 1735/6)

Upon receiving the News by the Post on Monday last that the dissenters had miscarry'd in their Endeavours to get the Corporation and Test Acts repeal'd, Orders were given for ringing all the Bells in each of our Parish-Churches, which was continued most part of the Afternoon, at Night Bonfires were made, ...

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 18 March 1735/6)

Droitwych, March 15. On Thursday last was rung for the first Time, at St. Andrew's within this Borough, a Peal of Eight Bells: the first Three being cast by Mr. Richard Saunders [*sic*] of the City of Worcester, which, for their melodious Notes, and warbling, vibrasive Qualities, give universal Satisfaction to every judicious Auditor, and in their Judgment do equal, if not excel any Peal of Eight in England.

(*Daily Gazetteer*, Fri. 19 March 1736; the bells were dated 1735.)

On Monday last was rung at Wye, by the Wye Ringers, in three Hours and a half, 5040 Grandsire [*sic*] Tripples, being the only Set that ever rung it in the County without the Assistance of Londoners or others.

(*Kentish Post*, Sat. 27 March/Wed. 31 March 1736)

1736: March 29th. Wye ringers rung 5040 Grandsire Tripples in 3½ hours being ye only set yt ever rung it in ye County witho^t ye Assistance of Londers [*sic*] or others. By Mr. Ths. Hudson 1st, Chas. Baker 2, Ths. Jarman 3, Robt. Baker 4, Chs. Miller 5, Ths. Tabraham 6, Lawrence Austen 7, Edwd. Pickenden & John Sharpe 8.

(Diary of Thomas Miller of New Romney, Kent; quoted in the *Ringling World*, 12 June 1981, p. 511)

On Monday the 29th of March, were rung by the Natives, the Inhabitants of Wye in Kent, the 5040 Grandsire Tripples, in 3 Hours 28 Minutes: The biggest Bell is computed at Thirty-two Hundred. Before the 28th of March 1734, there were but Six Bells, at which time they were accounted the best Ring in the County; but by the Addition of Two Trebles [*sic*], they are not inferior to the best Peal in the Kingdom. Tho' these are the best Ring of Eight in Kent, yet the said Change was [*sic*] never performed by the Natives, or Inhabitants of one single Parish.

(*Daily Gazetteer*, Tues. 6 April 1736)

On Thursday last the Village of Pottenham, near Guildford in Surry, suffered very much by Fire, The Steeple took Fire at the Top and burned downward; the Bells fell down and broke, ..., (*Derby Mercury*, Thurs 22 April 1736 – per C Ridley; according to Stahlschimdt, Thomas Lester cast a ring of five bells for Puttenham in 1739-40.)

The augmentation of the bells of St. Peter Mancroft

I am now well assured that Orders are given for Casting Two Trebles, in order to make the Eight Bells in St. Peter's Mancroft a Peal of Ten; and it is said, they will be up before the Assizes. The Harmony of 10 Bells make more than 8, is in Proportion exactly as 3628800 is to 40320; and the Harmony of 12 Bells more than 10, is in exact Proportion as 479001600 is to 3628800; so that 12 Bells are more harmonious over 10, than 10 are over 8. This I have thought fit to mention, because some may be so weak as to imagine that 8 may be as good as 10, or 10 as 12; whereas in Truth 12 Bells only can justly be called a compleat Peal: And should hereafter Two Tenors be cast to those Ten in St. Peter's, in all Probability they will be as fine a Peal as that celebrated new Twelve in St. Saviour's Southwark, now judged the Best in the World. But evidently to demonstrate what I have said above, I shall here give the Number of Changes that can be made upon every Peal of Bells from 3 to 12; and then let the meanest Capacity determine, what Proportion of Harmony 10 Bells can make to a Peal of 12. In the first Place then, 3 Bells have but 6 Changes, 4 Bells 24, 5 Bells 120, 6 Bells 720, 7 Bells 5040, 8 Bells 40320, 9 Bells 362880, 10 Bells 362880, 11 Bells 39916800, and 12 Bells have 479001600.

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 15 May 1736)

I am informed that on Tuesday next, at Four in the Afternoon, being St. Peter's Day, the Ten Bells at St. Peter's Church will be rung for the first Time.

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 26 June 1736 – per David Cubitt)

On Thursday last arrived here from London Two new Trebles for St. Peter's of Mancroft, the Two they lately had having been returned as not agreeable, and it is expected they will be rung this Afternoon: And I hear, that Mr. Newman is actually making the Moulds for to cast the new Bells for St. John's of Madder-Market.

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 10 Dec. 1737)

On Sunday last the society of Union Scholars rang, at the parish church of St. George, Southwark, a complete peal of 5040 Bob Major, in three hours and five minutes, being the first ever performed on those bells.

(*Rayner's Morning Advertiser*, Wed. 28 July 1736 – per C. Ridley)

We hear from Guernsey, that Mons. Brocar [*sic*] (the famous French Bell-founder) has lately cast there eight Bells, which are thought by good Judges to be excellent for their Tone.

(*Daily Post*, Mon. 6 Sept. 1736)

Last Thursday being a Petty-Sessions at Shotisham, the Bells commonly ring at such Times, and several young People went to see the Ringers, amongst the rest a young Man whose Name is Bardwell went up the Belfry when the Bells were set; the Ringers going to ring, pulling down the Great Bell, the young Man standing too near, it fell upon him, broke his Arm in two places, and cut him in his Head so much that his Life is despair'd of.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 11 Sept. 1736' also *St James's Evening Post*, Tues. 14 Sept. 1736 – the latter per C. Ridley.)

We hear from Bath, that a Gentleman of Distinction having received great Benefit by the Use of the Waters of that City, hath lately presented the Mayor and Corporation with a large Union-Flag, forty- two Feet in length, and twenty-one Feet wide, which will be displayed on the Tower of the Cathedral, the 30th of October, being his Majesty's Birth Day: And, we are further informed, that the Inhabitants of Bath are about raising by Subscription, one Hundred and fifty Pounds, for two Bells to be added to the Eight at the Abbey; which we hear are to be cast by the famous Mr. Rudhall of Gloucester, and will be ready to be rung the same Day.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 11 Sept. – Sat. 18 Sept. 1736)

On Monday last, the 15th Instant, at the parish of St. Michael's Coslaney in Norwich was RUNG the whole PEAL of GRANDSIRE TREBLES, consisting of Five Thousand and Forty Changes, in Three Hours One Minute; and though rang by the youngest Company of Practitioners now in this City, was so completely performed as to gain Applause from the chiefest Masters in that Art; even from the Mouths of their greatest Enemies, notwithstanding some of them had before reported that their MASTER could not call the BOBS; the which he did, and not a Bell out of Course: This Peal was found out by JOHN GARTHON of the said City, and rung by Us whose Names are hereunto subscribed.

John Foster,	Treble.	Robert Dyke,	5th.
Joseph Gardner,	2d.	Daniel Taylor,	6th.
Thomas Hurt,	3d.	Simon Maxwell,	7th.
Francis Brown,	4th.	Peter Tylyard,	Tenor.

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 20 Nov. 1736)

Yesterday the Society of London Scholars rang (in four Hours, thirty two Minutes) on the 12 Bells at St. Michael's in Cornhill, a Peal of 5280 Bob-Maximas [*sic*], or 12 in; being the most difficult and compleat that ever was rung, and has been often attempted by other Societies without Success.

(*St. James's Evening Post* and *General Evening Post*, both Tues. 30 Nov. 1736, the latter per C. Ridley; also *Read's Weekly Journal*, Sat. 4 Dec. 1736, starting 'Monday the Society of London Scholars ...'; *The London Tatler*, Sat. 4 Dec. 1736, starting 'On Monday the Society of London Scholars ...' and including '... 5280 Bob-Maximas, or 12 Inn;...'; and *Ipswich Journal*, Fri. 26 Nov. – Fri. 3 Dec. 1736, under by-line 'From the News-Letters November 30.', and with 'Maximus')

On Monday last the London Youths rang a Peal at St. Mary Overy's of 5544 Changes Bob Maximus's, or all Twelve in, (as the Ringers term it) in four Hours and a Half; the longest Peal that ever was known to be performed in that Course. The College Youths about two Years ago came within 300 of them at St. Michael's Cornhill.

(*St. James's Evening Post*; *General Evening Post* and *Daily Post*, al Thurs. 30 Dec. 1736; also *Derby Mercury*, Wed. 6 Jan. 1736(7).)

COUNTRY NEWS.

Dover, Dec. 28. This Evening a compleat Peal of 5040 Bob-major was rung by the Dover Company in three Hours and four Minutes, without the Assistance of an Ashford Man, or any Stranger whatever; and what is most observable, this is the first Performance of this Kind that has ever been done by any Company of this County.

(*Whitehall Evening Post*, Tues. 4 Jan. 1737; also *Kentish Post*, Wed. 29 Dec./Sat. 2 Jan. 1736/7, with the additional sentence: 'N.B. It hath always been a Maxim in this Company not to publish any false Peals.' *St. James's Evening Post*, Tues. 4 January 1737, starting 'They write from Dover, that a compleat Peal of 5040 Bob-major ...')

Q; *When were Bells first invented?*

A. The great Bells which are used in Churches, are ascribed to the Invention of *Paulinus*, Bishop of *Nola*, a City in *Campania*, A. D. 400, and from that City and Country they have been called both *Nolæ* and *Campanæ*. 'Tis most certain, there is no genuine *Greek* or *Latin* Word for them of the Classic Ages: Smaller Bells were very long before in Use. We read of them in the Pentateuch, where Directions are given about the Furniture of the Ark, Altar, &c. and the Priests Garments; and indeed it was morally impossible that Men should grow great Artists in working Metals, and not invent a Musick from the Striking of them. The *Greeks* say, *Pythagoras* took the Hint to invent Musick from the alternate chiming of Hammers. Let who will be the Inventors of Bells, our Countrymen (according to the Genius of the Nation) have improved them beyond all other People, being the greatest Artists in the World; both for Casting and Ringing of them. We doubt not that the *London* Scholars on the one Side, and College Youths on the other, contend for Fame with the same Ardour that inspired the *Grecian* Competitors for the *Olympic* Prizes. We have met with some *French* Writers, who call our Country *l'Isle Sonant*, i. e. the Ringing Island. The *French* themselves have a remarkable Piece of History concerning Bells. The Historian says, that a City being besieged by *Clotharius*, the Bishop caused the Bells to Ring to call the People together, which unusual noise terrified the Army of the Besiegers to that degree, that they broke up the Siege, and betook themselves to Flight: This was in the year 610, and is a plain Proof that Sets of Church Bells were very scarce at that time. The Word *Tintinnabula*, which we find mentioned in Classic Writers, manifestly signifies only small Bells: It is a Word formed from the Sound *tint tin*, as *tara tantara* for the Sound of a Trumpet.

(*Weekly Oracle or Universal Library* – monograph 1736, page 207 – per C. Ridley)

1737

I HEAR, THAT THE Inhabitants of St. Peter's Parish, (as the most extraordinary Mark of their Affection towards the present Administration) have been at great Pains and Expense, to set their Chimes at the tune of that remarkable Song of the HOGAN of HOUGHTON; and it is very observable, that this great and commendable Design was finish'd, and brought to Perfection, on the very same Day that the joyful News arrived of his Majesty's landing at Lowstoff; and was then play'd off in all its Harmony, and will continue to be so every 4 Hours, to the great Delight and Satisfaction of all the Citizens in general, and the Friends of the HOUGHTON FAMILY in Particular.
(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 22 Jan. 1736/7 – per David Cubitt) (Note. 'St Peter's' was Mancroft: the 'Administration', Sir Robert Walpole's: the 'Houghton Family', that of Sir Robert's at his newly-finished Houghton Hall, Norfolk: his Majesty's landing at Lowestoft, Suffolk, after a dangerous storm at sea. The *Mercury* favoured the Whigs.)

I hear from Harleston, That thro' the Generosity of the neighbouring Gentry, the Chief Inhabitants and others, and the Address and Indefatigable Industry of Mr. JOHN SAWER their Churchwarden, a Subscription is just filled for the adding of two new Trebles to their present Ring of Bells; which when finished, under the Direction of the said Mr. Sawyer, by Mr. Richard Felps [*sic*] of White-Chapel, it is not doubted but it will be one of the Compleatest Peals of Eight Bells in England.
(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 5 Feb. 1737)

On Tuesday last were rung at St. Michael's Coslaney in this City, by 8 of St. Peter's Ringers, 5120 Changes of *Imperial the Third*, in 3 Hours and 30 Minutes; and considering the difficulty of the Composure it is judged to be the longest and best Peal that ever was performed by that tedious Method.
(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 26 Feb. 1737)

From the General Evening-Post, Feb. 26.

.....

On Thursday last the Society of Union-Scholars rang at the Parish Church of St. Martin in the Fields, in three Hours and ten Minutes, the first true and compleat Peal of 5040 Grandsire Trebles, which had been thought an Impossibility by the greatest Proficients in that Exercise, but was compos'd by Mr. John Denmead, a Member of the said Society.
(*Kentish Post*, Sat. 26 Feb./Wed. 2 March 1736/7; also *General Evening Post*; *St. James's Evening Post* - both Sat. 26 Feb. 1737; similar report in the *Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 5 March 1737, under the by-line 'London, March 1'.)

On Tuesday next a large Peal will be rung on the new Bells at St. Giles's in the Fields, between the London Scholars and the Ringers of that Parish for a Wager of 50 Guineas.
(*St. James's Evening Post*, Thurs. 3 March 1737; also *Weekly Journal or British Gazetteer*, Sat. March 1737, the latter per C. Ridley)

Taunton, April 1. This Morning about 10 o'Clock our Assizes ended; we had less Business than usual on the *Nisi Prius* Side, only 43 Causes were entered, and several of them were afterwards withdrawn.

On Wednesday a Cause was try'd between a Set of *Sherborne Ringers*, Plaintiffs, and one *Perret and Baker*, Defendants. The Plaintiffs brought their Action for Six Prize-Shirts which they had won at a Ringing-Match at *Mudford*, and which the Defendants refus'd to deliver to the Plaintiffs, and a Verdict was given in Favour of the Plaintiffs against both the Defendants.
(*Sherborne Mercury*, Tues. 5 April 1737)

Last Monday was Rung at Painswick by the Society of Ringers there, a Peal of 1206 [*sic*] Grandsire Caters, in 7 Hours and 55 Minutes, and was so compleatly done, to the Satisfaction of a numerous Auditory and many good Judges, that it is thought to be the most excellent Performance in that Art that was ever yet accomplish'd.
(*Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 26 April 1737)

At Painswick, in the County of Gloucester, was rung by the Society of Ringers there, on the 18th of April, a Peal of Grandsire-Caters, consisting of 12006 Changes in seven Hours and fifty five Minutes, which is thought by many good Judges (who came there from Places on Purpose to hear it) to surpass any prior Performance in that Art.
(*St. James's Evening Post*, Thurs. 5 May 1737; *Read's Weekly Journal*, Sat. 7 May 1737)

At the Sessions held for this City on Thursday last John Foster, for deceitfully getting the Book belonging to the Company of Ringers, and refusing to return it, was fined two Marks (after delivering the Book in Court) and to be committed till paid.
(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 7 May 1737)

The following Persons being Prisoners in his Majesty's Gaol the Castle of Lincoln, intend to take the Benefit of the late Act for Relief of Insolvent Debtors.

...

Daniel Hatherley, late of Bawtree, in the County of York, Bell-founder.
(*London Gazette*, Tues. 12 July - Sat. 16 July 1737)

On Monday last the Society of London Youths rang at West-Ham in the County of Essex, a complete Peal of 11088 Bob Major, or all eight in, which was completed by eight Men only, in seven Hours and eleven Minutes, being the longest Peal that ever was rung, and is allow'd by all Judges to be the greatest Performance ever done in that Exercise, the Tenor weighing 2500 lb. The Bells were cast by Mr. Samuel Knight, and hung by the famous Mr. Robert Catlin, the most ingenious Man of this Age.

(*St. James's Evening Post*, Thurs. 13 Oct. 1737; also *Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 20 Oct. 1737, still beginning 'On Monday last...')

On the 15th Instant the whole Peal of *Grandsire Tripples*, containing 5040 Changes, was rung by the Society of Ringers at St. Michael's in Coventry, in three Hours and nine Minutes; which was the first Time it ever was rung in that City.

(*Reading Mercury: Or, London Spy*, Mon. 21-28 Nov. 1737; also *Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 21 Nov. 1737)

Two new bells for St. Laurence's, Norwich

Two new Trebles are cast by Mr. Newman of this City, to make a Peal of 6 Bells at the Parish Church of St. Laurene [*sic*]: he is also going to cast Two Trebles for the Parish Church of St. John at Madder Market, in order to make a Peal of Six Bells there: The Parish of St. Giles too are about Bettering their bad Peal of Six, which it is hoped will in Time be done by making a good Peal of Eight, as it is the most commanding Steeple in this City.

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 26 Nov. 1737)

The 2 new Bells cast for the Parish Church of St. Laurence, by Mr. NEWMAN of this City, are admirably well performed; and the other 4 being made perfectly Tunable to them, principally by the Directions of Mr. TOWLER, they are allowed by All to be so compleat and agreeable a Peal of Six, that they now talk of getting 2 more to make a Peal of 8.

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 3 Dec. 1737)

Carleon (*sic*) in Monmouth/b (*sic*). Nov 25. Upon the News of the Death of Her Majesty, to express our Concern, the Bells were muffled, and several mournful Peals were rung, suitable to the Melancholy Occasion.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs 1 Dec 1737 – per C Ridley)

Last Week Mr. Thomas Newman, Bell-Founder in Norwich, Cast and Finish'd a Peal of Six Bells at Palgrave near Diss, to the entire Satisfaction of the Inhabitants and others.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 10 Dec. 1737)

Saturday night last being the Time appointed for solemnizing her late most Excellent Majesty's Funeral, by order of the Worshipful John Gisbourne, Esq; Mayor of this Borough, all the Bells in each of our Parish Churches were rung in Mourning for a considerable Time, on that melancholy Occasion.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 22 Dec. 1737)

Gloucester, Dec 17. This Evening the Great Bell of every Church in this City, was tolled from Five 'till Eleven o'Clock on Account of her late Majesty's Funeral.

Northampton, Dec 19. Saturday Night being appointed for the Interment of her late Majesty, the Bells at the Churches in this Town were muffled, and mournful Peels were rung, suitable to the melancholy Occasion.
(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 29 Dec 1737 – per C Ridley).

On Monday the 26th Instant the compleat Peal of Grandsire Tripples, containing 5040 Changes, was performed by the Wingham Youths in two Hours fifty Minutes, without the Assistance of any other Person.
(*Kentish Post*, Wed. 28 Dec./Sat. 31 Dec. 1737)

We hear from Somersham in Huntingdonshire, that on Saturday Night the 17th past the Great Bell was toll'd there six Hours, and afterwards a Dumb Peal of 300 Changes was rung, on account of the Interment of our late most Gracious Queen Caroline.
(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 2 Jan. 1737-8; also *Kentish Post*, Sat. 7 Jan. 1737-8)

A peal of Grandsire Triples at Ludlow

Ludlow, Jan. 21. Yesterday the whole Peal of Grandsire Triples was rung here in three Hours and twelve Minutes, in Honour of the Prince of Wales's Birth-Day, (this City being his Royal Highness's Seat for the Principality). The Performance was the more extraordinary by Reason of the Largeness of the Bells, the Tennor being near 2600 Wt. and exceedingly long draught, and a Boy rung the Treble, about 12 or 14 Years of Age.

(*Read's Weekly Journal or British Gazetteer*, Sat. 28 Jan. 1738)

They write from Ludlow, that Friday last being the Anniversary of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales Birth-day, 'twas there observ'd with the utmost Demonstrations of Joy. The Morning being usher'd in with Ringing of Bells, the whole Peal of Triples was rang in 3 Hours and 11 Minutes, the Tennor [*sic*] being near six and twenty hundred Weight. The Gentlemen din'd at the Crown, and in the Evening met at the Town-Hall, where they drank Plenty of Wine and Punch, the King, Prince and Princess's Healths, and all the Royal Family's, together with the Hon. Henry Arthur Herbert, Lord Lieutenant of the County; the Windows were illuminated with Candles, and several Bonfires in different Places. Mr. Henry Karver, gave a Ball to the Gentlemen and Ladies, together with an elegant Supper. Coffee and Tea for the Ladies, Wine and Punch for the Gentlemen; in short, such Rejoicings has not ever been known on the like Occasion.

(*Daily Gazetteer*, Tues. 31 Jan. 1738)

On Monday last was rung at the Parish Church of Hillingdon in the County of Middlesex, by the Society belonging thereto, a complete Peal of 5120 Union Bobs, commonly call'd Oxford Tripple Bob, in three Hours and 26 Minutes which was never perform'd before by any Country Ringers.

(*Read's Weekly Journal or British Gazetteer*, Sat. 11 Feb. 1738; also *Derby Mercury*, Wed. 16 Feb. 1737(8), with date-line 'LONDON, February 9'.)

This is to acquaint the Public, That on Monday the 13th of this Instant February at Rednall in Norfolk was rung the Peal of Bob-Major, consisting of 5040 Changes, without any Bell out of Course, in the Space of Three Hours and an Half, being the first that ever was rung in that Town since the Peal was completed.

N.B. The said Peal was performed to Admiration by a chance Company, who (though old Workmen at that Science) thought little of the Performance; but certainly it was done by Us.

1, John Foster. }	{ 5, Stephen Bareaway.
2, John Collett. }	{ 6, Thomas Taylor.
3, John Wright. }	{ 7, Samuel Field.
4, John Field. }	{ 8, John Lawn.

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 25 Feb. 1738 - advert)

Last Monday the Society of Union Scholars rung at St Mary Overy's in Southwark a compleat Peal of 5040 Bob Major Royal; it was perform'd in 4 Hours and 10 Minutes, and by ten Men only, tho' they are the largest Peal of Bells in London, the Tenor weighing 52 C. Weight.

(*Derby Mercury*, Wed 1 March 1738 – per C Ridley)

On Wednesday last the 8th Instant being the Day on which the Glorious and Immortal Queen ANNE came to the Crown, was rung at St. Peter's of Mancroft in this City (a City famous throughout the whole Kingdom for good Ringing) a Peal of Grandsire Cators, containing 12600 Changes by Nine Men and Two Youths who rung the Tenor; the first of which Youths rang above 8000, and the other finished the Peal; which they completed in 8 Hours and 11 Minutes, without any Bell being out of Course, and approved and confirmed by many well-experienced Ringers who were Abroad (hut within Hearing) and made their Observations of all the Leads as they rang: This was the greatest Number of Changes ever rung here before, and was performed by the Persons whose Names hereafter follow, viz.

Thomas Melchior,	Treble. }	{ Thomas Blofield,	7th.
William Pettingale,	2d. }	{ Edward Crane,	8th.
John Gardiner,	3d. }	{ Christopher Booty,	9th.
Thomas Barrett,	4th. }	{ James Jarrom, }	
Robert Crane,	5th. }	{ Robert Liddiman }	Tenor.
William Poter, [sic]	6th. }		

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 11 March 1738; also *Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 11 March 1738, which gives the time as 8h. 15m., and the ringers of the 6th and second tenorman as Porter and Lyddiman respectively.)

On Thursday the 9th Instant the whole Peal of *Grandsire Trebles*, containing 5040 Changes, was completed by the young Society of Ringers at the Parish Church of St. Margaret's, Leicester, to the great Satisfaction of the Hearers, in three Hours and twenty-one Minutes, by the following Persons, viz. *Thomas Drakley, Thomas Storrah, William Reynold, Livewell Orton, Robert Bass, Joseph Woodhouse, and John Harrison*. What is remarkable, the Bells are very heavy, and a long Pull, and the Performers of the Peal are no more in Weight than Eight Hundred Twenty and Six Pounds.
(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 20 March 1737/8)

A new tenor bell for Bow

Last Tuesday the Tenor at Bow Church in Cheapside, which was accounted one of the finest Bells in England, was crack'd as they were ringing about Nine o'Clock at Night.
(*Stamford Mercury*, Thurs. 15 June 1738; similar report in *Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 17 June 1738, the latter per David Cubitt)

On Saturday last Mr. Tobias Benton, Bell-Hanger and Engine-Maker, in Fore-street near Cripplegate, who succeeds the late Mr. Cole, took down the Tenor Bell belonging to the Parish Church of St. Mary le Bow (weighing 4909 lb. and which was unfortunately cracked some Time ago) in order for it being [sic] recast by the ingenious Mr. Phelps [sic] of Whitechapel.
(*Read's Weekly Journal*, Sat. 29 July 1738)

London, October 12.

Yesterday the new Tenor of Bow Church was brought on a Carriage, and hoisted into the Belfry. It weighs 5958 lb.
(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 14 Oct. 1738)

Friday 7-Night the fine new Bell, commonly call'd Bow Bell, which was lately cast by Mr. Thomas Lester, Successor to the late Mr. Phelps, of Whitechapel, deceas'd, was placed and affix'd in the Steeple of the Parish Church of St. Mary le Bow, in a curious Manner by Mr. Tobias Benton, Bell-Hanger, in Fore-Street, near Cripplegate, to the great Satisfaction of the Inhabitants of the Parish, and all true Judges and Lovers of Ringing.
(*Read's Weekly Journal*, Sat. 21 Oct. 1738)

The death of Mr. Phelps, of Whitechapel

Yesterday died Mr. Phelps, a Bell-Founder in Whitechapel, having followed that Business upwards of forty Years.
(*London Evening Post*, Thurs. 17 Aug. - Sat. 19 Aug. 1738)

DIED.—At his House in Whitechapel, Mr. Phelps, the noted Bell-Founder: He had followed the Business upwards of Forty years, and acquir'd a plentiful Fortune with a fair Character.
(*Old Commonsense or The Englishman's Journal*, Sat. 26 Aug. 1738)

LONDON, Aug. 19.

....

Yesterday died the ingenious Mr. Phelps, the noted Bell founder, in Whitechapel, having followed that Business upwards of 40 Years, and acquir'd a plentiful Fortune with an unblemish'd Character. He was a Man universally esteemed by all who had the Pleasure of his Acquaintance: And, we hear, that by his Will he has bequeath'd to his Foreman, M. [sic] Thomas Lester, for his great Care and Fidelity, [having serv'd him upwards of 16 Years] all his Utensils in Trade, together with his Lease, and a great Part of his Stock, and Money sufficient to carry on the Business; his said Foreman, for some Years past having had the chief Management of the Business committed to his Care.
(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 24 Aug. 1738)

Wednesday the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Rochester came to Town from his Palace at Bromley in Kent, when the Bells in the new Steeple in Westminster-Abbey were rung for the first Time, by the London Scholars.
(*Read's Weekly Journal*, Sat. 2 Sept. 1738)

The augmentation of the bells at St. Giles's, Norwich

I am credibly informed, that one Day next Week the Two Trebles will be cast for making a peal of 8 Bells in St. Giles's, and that it is expected they will be rung for the first Time on Monday the 18th Instant.
(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 9 Sept. 1738)

Last Tuesday two Trebles were cast by Mr. Thomas Newman of this City, in order to make a Peal of Eight Bells in our Parish Church of St. Giles: They are now at Work in Hanging them up in the Steeple of the said Church, and it is generally expected that they will be fit to be rung on Monday next.
(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 16 Sept. 1738)

The two Trebles for St. Giles's are cast, to the great Credit of Mr. Newman, the Bell Founder, and I am informed will ring this Evening at 5 a Clock.
(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 23 Sept. 1738)

The Two new Trebles for St. Giles's here are so curiously hit by Mr. Newman the Founder, and the rest so greatly improved by the Direction of Mr. William Goddard, that Every body must acknowledge them to be the most Tuneable Peal of Eight in this City.
(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 30 Sept. 1738)

The great Bell at West-Chester is just cast, by Mr. Samuel Knight in Shoe Lane Bell Founder; her Weight being but 3200, and within a Quarter of a Note as deep as the late famous Bow Tenor, whose Weight was allowed to be 5200: She is thought, by all impartial Judges who have heard her, as fine a Bell for that Weight as was ever cast; which is a Demonstration to what that Art is Improved, when near two Fifths of the Expense is saved.
(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 18 Sept. 1738 – per David Cubitt; also *Kentish Post*, Sat. 9 Sept./ Wed. 13 Sept. 1738, source stated to be '*General Evening Post*, Sept. 9.')

Gloucester, Sept. 16.

They write from Ross, that on Monday the 11th Inst. was Rung, a compleat Peal of 5040 Grandsire Tripples, by the Society of ROSS YOUTHS; being the first Time it was ever done in Herefordshire. 'Twas completed in three Hours and four Minutes.
(*Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 19 Sept. 1738.)

We are inform'd from Coventry, that on Monday Morning last one William Leigh going to ring the Bell at Four o'Clock, as usual, at St. Michael's Church, unfortunately fell out of the Steeple upon the Leads, and was so terribly bruised, that he died in a short Time.
(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 13 Nov. 1738)

On Monday the 27th past was rung at Ludlow in the County of Salop, by eight Persons only, the whole Peal of Grandsire Tripples, being 5040 Changes, in three Hours and nine Minutes; also a

Peal of Bob Major, concluding with another peal of Plain Bob Tripples; which Performance, according to the Opinion of very good Judges of the Art, was exceedingly just. The Tenor is upwards of a Ton and quarter. And Yesterday the same Persons were to ring 5040 Bob Major. (*London Evening Post*, Sat. 2 Dec. 1738 – Tues. 5 Dec. 1738; there was no subsequent report of a peal of Bob Major being rung. Also *Derby Mercury*, Thurs, 7 Dec. 1738, under by-line 'LONDON, Dec. 5.)

On Thursday the 30th of November last was Rung at Wye, by a young Society of Ringers there, the whole Peal of 5040 Gransier [*sic*] Tripples, upon those large Bells, in three Hours and twenty Minutes compleatly. (*Kentish Post*, Sat. 9 Dec./Wed. 13 Dec. 1738)

On Thursday the 7th Instant was rung at Boston in the County of Lincoln by eight Persons only, the whole Peal of Grandsire Triples, being 5040 Changes in two Hours 54 Minutes, which Performance, according to the Opinion of very good Judges in that Art, was exceeding just. The Tenor 23 Hundred and a Half. (*Stamford Mercury*, Thurs. 14 Dec. 1738)

1739

Extracts from the Chronicles of John Cannon Excise Officer and Writing Master, Part 2 (1734-43), edited by John Money, Oxford: British Academy 2010. - per C. Ridley.

p. 379. February 1739. Glastonbury.

20 Feb 1739. The same evening waited on the Mayor, Justice & Churchwardens on a controversy between the Sextons and one Robert Wollan about the bells & chimes, the said Wollan and some fellows aleading [*sic*] & and would insinuate that my scholars did always ring the school bell (the treble) & and very often overthrew a bell, thereby damaging the wheels, ropes & chimes. On the contrary, I justified my scholars & and plainly set forth that the matter in dispute was occasioned by the parcel of idle & loose fellows (& naming to them several) which did the fact, & that the said rude fellows would often oppose & obstruct my boys at ringing the said school bell. In the end, the Magistrates & Officers crediting my words more than their clamours & false suggestions, I having set for the danger they exposed the said bell, wheels, etc., to by the filleting & putting stops to sally the said bells, which being seconded by Mr Joseph Bartlett, & the same not being approved by the aforesaid gentleman, they agreed to view what was only necessary to be done the 22nd following ordering Wollan and others to attend them at the same time.

Last Monday the Society of Union Scholars rang, at St. Mary Overy's in Southwark, a complete Peal of 5040 Bob Major Royal; it was performed in four Hours and ten Minutes, and by ten Men only, though they are the largest Peal of Bells in London, the Tenor weighing Fifty-two Hundred Weight.

(*Common Sense or The Englishman's Journal*, Sat. 24 Feb. 1739; also *Kentish Post*, Wed. 21 Feb./Sat. 1738/39, and *Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 1 March 1738, the latter per C Ridley.)

Last Monday the Society of Union Scholars rang at St. Mary Overy's in Southwark a compleat Peal of 5040 Bob Major Royal; it was perform'd in 4 Hors and 10 Minutes and by ten Men only, tho' they are the largest Peal of bells in London, the Tenor weighing 52C. Weight.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 1 March 1738[9])

They write from Daventry, that on Friday last was rung on the new Peal of eight Bells there, by the Kettering Ringers, the Half Peal of *Grandsire Tripples*, containing 2520, in one Hour and 29 Minutes, with several Peals of *Bob Major*. The Peal of Bells was cast by Mr. Thomas Eayre of Kettering, and is esteemed by all true Judges of Musick to be as compleat a Performance of that Kind as most in England.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 26 Feb. 1738/9)

DEATHS.

.....

Mr. Bowman, of Drury-Lane theatre, aged 88, who had the honour to performs several times before King Charles II, and with whom that Monarch often drank a bottle.—He was the oldest Player, he oldest Singer, and the oldest Ringer in England.

(*Scots Magazine*, March 1739; also *Caledonian Mercury*, Mon. 2 April 1739, under date line 'LONDON, March 27.', beginning Last Week died, ...' and ending 'He was a Man of god Character, facetious, agreeable, and well respected.')

On Monday last the Society of Eastern Scholars rung at St. Dunstan, Stepney, a complete Peal of 5040 Bob Major in three Hours and thirty six Minutes. This is the first complete Peal. [*sic*]

(*Read's Weekly Journal*, Sat. 3 March 1739)

A new ring of bells for St. Margaret's Church, Westminster

The Parish of St. Margaret Westminster have agreed this Week with Mr. Samuel Knight, Bell-Founder, and Mr. Robert Catlin, Bell-Hanger, both of Shoe-Lane, Holbourn [*sic*], to new cast and hang the eight Bells for the Steeple of the said Church; they have likewise agreed with the Parish of St. Michael at St. Alban's in Hertfordshire for a Peal of six, and with the Parish of St. Sepulchre's in London for a Peal of ten.

(*London Evening Post*, Thurs. 15 March – Sat. 17 March 1739)

The Parish of St. Margaret, Westminster, have agreed with Mr. Knight, a Bell-Founder of Shoe-Lane, to new cast the eight Bells for the Steeple of St. Margaret's Church.
(*London and Country Journal*, Tues. 20 March 1739)

Tuesday was rung in Peal for the first Time, in honour of his Majesty's Birth-Day, the eight new Bells at St. Margaret's Westminster, purchas'd by the voluntary Subscriptions of the Inhabitants of the said Parish; and the Churchwardens, several of the Vestrymen, and others, met and dined together at the Crown Tavern in New-Palace Yard, where in the Evening they caus'd a large Bonfire to be made, and gave a Barrel of Beer to the Populace, and concluded the Day (after repeating the Health of his Majesty, the Royal Family, and many other loyal Healths) with the greatest Decency and Chearfulness [*sic*].

(*Read's Weekly Journal*, Sat. 3 Nov. 1739)

Thursday, Nov. 1.

A new Peal of Eight Bells, cast by Mr. Knight, are put up in St. Margaret's Church in Westminster, which were tried on Tuesday last being His Majesty's Birth-Day. They are said to be the most musical Bells in England.

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 3 Nov. 1739 – per David Cubitt)

We hear from Oxford that there are two new Bells added to the Peal at Magdalen College, which makes the third Peal of Ten in that City, and one of the finest in England. They were given by — Freeman, Esq; formerly Gentleman-Commoner of that College, and cast, one by Mr. Rudhall and the other by Mr. Knight in Shoe-Lane, whose Ancestor cast the six largest.

(*London Evening Post*, Thurs. 15 March – Sat. 17 March 1739; the present treble and second bells of the ring of ten were cast by Abel Rudhall in 1740 and 1739 respectively, and their donation by William Freeman is recorded in the inscriptions. If Samuel Knight did indeed cast the treble in 1739, it was recast the next year.)

On Monday last was rung for the first Time, a Peal of eight Bells, at Croyden [*sic*] in Surrey, which were highly approved of by all that heard them. They were recast by Mr. Lester, in Whitechapel, who was Foreman and Manager under the late Mr. Phelps when that Musical Peal of St. Michael in Cornhill was cast.

(*Read's Weekly Journal*, Sat. 24 March 1739; also *Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 31 March 1739, under the date-line 'Monday March 26.' The latter extract per David Cubitt)

LONDON, March. 24.

....

Last Week died, in the 88th Year of his Age, Mr. Boman, belonging to Drury-Lane Theatre, who had the Honour to perform several times before King Charles 11. It is remarkable of him, that he was the oldest Player, the oldest Singer, and the oldest Ringer in England. He was a Man of a good Character, a facetious agreeable Companion, and well respected.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 29 March 1739; also *Kentish Post*, Sat. 24 March/Wed. 28 March 1739 and *Caledonian Mercury*, Mon. 2 April 1739; shorter version in *Scots Magazine* for March 1739, both the two latter with the added clause 'with whom that Monarch oft[en] drank a bottle.')

The same Day [Tuesday last] the Inhabitants of St. Leonard Shoreditch, agreed for a Peal of eight Bells which Mr. Lester, Bell-Founder, of Whitechapel, who cast that musical Bell Bow Tenor.

(*Read's Weekly Journal*, Sat. 31 March 1739)

Yesterday died at his House in Shoe-Lane, Mr. Franklyn, a wealthy Bell-Founder.
(*Daily Post*, Tues. 3 April 1739)

Monday, April 2.

On Wednesday the Inhabitants of St. Leonard Shoreditch agreed for a Peal of Eight Bells with Mr. Lester, Bell-Founder in Whitechapel, who cast that musical Bell Bow Tenor.

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 7 April 1739 – per David Cubitt)

We are told by a Gentleman from Sheffield that on Thursday last there were great rejoicings in that Town, by Ringing of the Bells and at Night Bonfires and Illuminations, on Account of their having obtained a Licence for preaching in their new Church there; which has for many Years past been almost finish'd.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 10 May 1739)

On Monday the 4th of June, Six Pair of GLOVES will be RUNG for at CODDENHAM, given by Mr. George Cooper at the Crown: Each Ringer to enter his Name by One o'Clock on the said Day, or be excluded; and that Company that Rings the Peals of Grandsire and Old-Doubles best, according to the Opinion of such Judges as shall be appointed, shall have the Prize.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sats. 19 & 26 May 1739)

Canterbury, May 30. We hear from Hythe, that on Thursday last, about Eleven o'Clock, the Steeple of their Church fell down; and that they have been very busy since in digging out the Bells, being six in Number. About Ten Persons were present when it fell, waiting for the Keys in the Church-Porch, to go up the Steeple for a View; but some delay being made in bringing them, they all happily sav'd their Lives, and had no other Damage then [*sic*] being terribly frighten'd.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 9 June 1739; also *Derby Mercury*, Thurs 7 June 1739, the latter per C. Ridley.)

A new ring for Christ Church, Dublin

Dublin, June 5. ... Last Saturday a Peal of eight new Bells were landed here from Bristol for the Use of Christ-Church.

(*Weekly Miscellany*, Sun. 10 June 1739; also *London Daily Post and General Advertiser*, Tues. 12 June 1739, and *London and Country Journal*, Wed. 20 June 1739.)

IRELAND.

Dublin, June 9. ...On Wednesday as they were hoisting up at Christ Church in this City, the Eight Bells which were lately cast in Gloucester City, by the famous Bell-Founder, Mr. Abel Rudhall, and just landed, a sad Accident happen'd. As they had raised the Tenor into the Steeple above 30 Foot high, the Iron Hook of the Pully broke, so that it fell and cut off the Foot of one Masden, a Box-maker, and tore the Flesh off the Hand of another, broke down one Side of the State-Stairs going into the Governor's Gallery, and a Piece was broke out of the Edge of the Bell: It would have been all broke to Pieces if its Fall had not been deaden'd by the Stairs and two Boards on the Flags, on which it fell and cut the Boards and Flags in Pieces, and broke one Part of the Stair-Case down. It would have killed a great Number of Persons, if they had not the Moment before ran to the West-Door of the Church to see the second big Bell coming into it. It weighs about 27 Hundred Weight.

(*Daily Gazetteer*, Sat. 16 June 1739; also *Newcastle Courant*, Sat. 23 June 1739, beginning 'On Wednesday,...')

IRELAND.

Dublin, June 12. Yesterday being his Majesty's Accession to the Throne, the same was observ'd with all Demonstrations of Joy, and with a particular satisfaction by the first Ringing of a new Set of eight Bells, lately cast by the famous Mr. Rudhall at Gloucester, for the Cathedral of Christ Church. The Occasion of the Day, and the great Pleasure this whole City had in hearing so compleat a Set so excellent in their Tone and Harmony, that all were charm'd they being allow'd by the best Judges of Music, to exceed all in this Kingdom, and equal to the best in England; for which the Citizens and all Lovers of Musick are greatly oblig'd to the Right, Rev. the Dean, and to the Rev. the Chapter of Christ Church, at whose Expence [*sic*] they were put up and fix'd in their Stocks and Frames, after the newest and most improv'd Method in England; by an excellent Artist, Mr. Baker, Bell-hanger, who came with the Bells for that Purpose.

(*London Evening Post*, Tues. 3 July - Thurs. 5 July 1739; much shorter version, *Newcastle Courant*, Sat. 14 July 1739.)

On Thursday the 6th Instant, the East Side of the Steeple of the Parish Church of Bawdeswell in Norfolk, a Town about Ten Miles distant from this City, fell down to the Ground, and the Ring of Five Bells fell with it; It has beat down almost the whole Body of the Church to the Ground, excepting the Chancel.

(*Norwich Gazette*, Sat. 15 Sept. 1739; also *Derby Mercury* 20 Sept 1739 (per C. Ridley), *Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 22 Sept. 1739, *Gloucester Journal*, Tues. 25 Sept. 1739, and *Ipswich Journal*, Thurs. 20 Sept. - Thurs. 27 Sept. 1739.)

Next Thursday will be rung, at St. Leonard's Shoreditch, a new Peal of eight Bells, cast by Mr. Lester, Successor to the late famous Mr. Phelpps [*sic*] of Whitechapel.
(*Daily Post*, Tues. 9 Oct. 1739)

On Saturday last was rung at Battle in Sussex, by a Company of Ringers from Wye in Kent, the whole Peal of 5040 Gransire [*sic*] Triples upon their new Bells, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes.
(*Kentish Post*, Sat. 6 Oct./Wed. 10 Oct. 1739)

We hear from Leicester, that on Tuesday the 23d Instant the celebrated Bells of St. Margaret's in that Town were compleated a Peal of Ten, to the general Satisfaction of All. And on the 5th of November next (being a Day appointed) the Curious may have the Pleasure of hearing the said Bells.
(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 29 Oct. 1739)

We hear from Coventry, that on the 29th of Nov. last the whole Peal of *Grandsire Tripples*, containing 5040 Changes, was rung at the Parish Church of St. Michael in three Hours and ten Minutes, by a Society residing in that City, it being the second Time it was done there.
(*Northampton Mercury*, Mon. 17 Dec. 1739)

Yesterday died at his House in Shoe-lane, after a long illness Mr. Samuel Knight, Bell-Founder, who cast the fine Peal of Bells at St. Mary Overy's, and is succeeded in his business by Mr. Rob. Catlin, who carried it on with him upwards of seven Years.
(*General Evening Post*, Thurs. 6 Dec. - Sat. 8 Dec. 1739)