

RINGING.

ON Friday, January 8, 1790, A PEAL of BELLS will be opened at NAYLAND, by a company of Ringers from Hitcham; when the company of all gentlemen ringers will be esteemed a favour, by their humble servant,
WM. KENINGALE, Vine, Nayland.

☞ Dinner at Two o'clock.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 26 Dec. 1789 – advert.) [The fourth bell had been recast by W. & T. Mears.]

Mr. Wm. Edwards, mason, who died at Coventry a few days since, has bequeathed ..., 100£. to the ringers of St. Michael in that city who are to ring a peal once a year in remembrance to him.
(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 1 Jan. 1790)

PROVINCIAL DING DONG.—The Knaresborough ringers on New Year's Day, performed the celebrated Holt's triples in two hours and 52 minutes, with amazing accuracy and distinction.
(*Argus*, Thurs. 7 Jan. 1790)

The ancient club held on Saturday nights at the Bull inn, in this place, is recently revived.—Mr. Lyon, aged near 90 years, is the President.—He enjoyed greatly (on the club being opened) his being crowned with the large tankard called Old Surly, which he and five of his namesake Lyons, drank out in the year 1718, after having rung a capital peal of changes at St. Mary's church.—All who know the President will be pleased to hear, he retains his faculties in great perfection.
(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 22 Jan. 1790, in the news items relating to Stamford)

Monday a peal of 6 fine bells (part of them being new cast and hung by Mr. Tho. Osborne of Downham, Norfolk), were opened at Wilby in this county, by the Brockdish and Wilby company of ringers, with the peals of Cambridge Surprise, treble, and court bob. A dinner was provided at the principal inn, and the day spent with the greatest harmony.
(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 23 Jan. 1790)

Two contrasting peal reports!

On Tuesday last was rung at Great St. Mary's Church in this university, a true and complete peal of that judicious composition OXFORD-TREBLE-BOB, consisting of 6000 changes, which were performed with great accuracy in 4 hours and 15 minutes, by the following gentlemen:

Treble, by Mr. Cooper, jun.	6th,	Mr. Day,
2d, Steers,	7th,	Swan,
3d, Smith,	8th,	Cooper, sen.
4th, Lawson,	9th,	Spencely,
5th, Hazard,	Tenor,	Bowtell.

Called by Mr. Spencely.

M. MURFIT, M.A. Minister.

SAMUEL SMITH, / LEWIS APSEY, } Churchwardens.

It is worthy remark, that, exclusive of the merits of this performance, it was bravely finished, in despite of the inhuman act of some person unknown, who scattered sand on both the gudgeons of the *tenor-bell*, (which, in weight, swings upward of 30 hundred) thereby *intending* to increase the labours to such a degree as might prevent any man from undergoing the exercise.

May strength of body and mental powers equally co-operate, in all cases, to defeat the wicked designs of artful men!

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 20 Feb. 1790; short report, *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 27 Feb. 1790.)

PROVINCIAL DING DONG.—On Tuesday se'nnight was rung at Great St. Mary's church, in the University of Cambridge, a true and compleat peal of the judicious composition, Oxford Treble-Bob, consisting of 6000 changes, which were performed with great accuracy in four hours and fifteen minutes.—The weight of the tenor upwards of 30 hundred.
(*Argus*, Mon. 1 March 1790)

Saturday se'nnight died, aged 33, Mr. John Want, an ingenious member of the society of ringers, belonging St. Peter's Mancroft. A solemn muffled peal was rang at his funeral. (*Bury and Norwich Post*, Wed. 3 March 1790)

MR. CHRISTOPHER PENNINGTON of Stoke Climsland, in the county of Cornwall, respectfully acquaints the public, that in consequence of the decease of his brother, JOHN PENNINGTON, the BELLFOUNDRY BUSINESS will be carried on by him and his Son, at Stoke Climsland aforesaid; where, and at Exeter and Aveton Gifford, they have established compleat founderies for the purpose of carrying on the said business in all its branches.

Orders in the bellfoundry line will be carefully attended to, and punctually executed, by addressing a letter to Christopher Pennington, at Stoke Climsland.

February 20, 1790.

(*Sherborne Mercury*, Mons 8 & 15 March 1790)

Three reports of a lost peal

On Sunday evening last eight of the Society of Change Ringers of Doncaster struck off the bells with an intent to ring the whole peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes: but, unfortunately, after ringing three hours and nineteen minutes, and coming to the 5010th change, the seventh bell cast the rope out of the wheel, which totally put a stop to the performance when they had only 30 changes to ring to compleat the whole. Three weeks ago they attempted the same peal: but one of the performers, who rung the second bell, by accident got the rope round his wrist, which flung the rest out of their proper courses, and they were obliged to stand after ringing 3192 changes. (*Sheffield Advertiser*, Fri. 19 March 1790)

On Sunday evening last, was rung at Doncaster in Yorkshire, by eight of the society of change ringers of that town, 5010 of Grandsire Triples, in three hours and nineteen minutes. The attempt was for the compleat 5040, but the performers were prevented achieving the remaining thirty changes by an accident of the seventh bell casting the rope out of the wheel at 5010. (*Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 20 March 1790)

DING DONG.—On Sunday se'nnight was rung at Doncaster in Yorkshire, by eight of the society of change ringers of that town, 5010 changes of Grandsire Triples, in three hours and nineteen minutes. The attempt was for the compleat 5040, but the performers were prevented achieving the remaining 30 changes by an accident of the seventh bell casting the rope out of the wheel at 5010. (*Argus*, Tues. 23 March 1790)

On Monday last, was rung at Shiffnal, by the Albion Society of that place, a compleat Peal of Oxford Treble Bob, in four hours, containing 6272 changes, being the first of that method ever rung on, those bells, and the most ever rung in the county.

The above peal is the most changes in 16 courses, with the 6th twelve times each way. (*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Fri. 26 March 1790)

Last week, was rung at Shiffnal, by the Albion Society, of that place, a compleat Peal of Oxford Treble Bob, in four hours, containing 6272 changes, being the first of that method ever rung on those bells, and the most changes rung in the county. The above peal is the most changes in 16 courses, with the 6th 12 times each way (*Wolverhampton Chronicle* Wed. 31 March 1790)

At the BELL INN in MIDDLETON.

TO BE GIVEN GRATIS,

FIVE Pair of GLOVES, to be rung for on the said parish bells on the 6th of April next, by not less than Three companies of Ringers, who will on the same day partake of a good ordinary, made ready at Two o'clock; where the company of such gentlemen will meet with a hearty welcome from their most obedient humble servant to command,
JOHN SPATCHET.

☞ The peals to be rung are Old Doubles and Grandsire.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 27 March 1790 - advert)

BELL FOUNDING.

Edward Arnold

BEGS Leave to inform the Public, That he casts CHURCH BELLS at his FOUNDRY in LEICESTER, and hangs them on a NEW CONSTRUCTION, which is found to ease the Ringers, and cause less Friction to the Steeple;—makes CHURCH CLOCKS and CHIMES; also ENGINES to EXTINGUISH FIRE, and Garden ditto, with a continued Stream:—the Utility of the latter is such, that in Case of Fire, two Men may take it up a Passage or Stair-Case, and prevent the dreadful Consequences which often ensue, particularly where no Fire Engines are kept. Likewise makes WEIGHING MACHINES for Turnpike Roads.

E. ARNOLD returns Thanks for Favours received, and hopes to merit a Continuance of them.-- Orders in the above Branches will be strictly attended to, and the Favour gratefully acknowledged

By their humble Servant,

Edward Arnold.

N.B. Of whom also may be had, now ready to fix up, a good EIGHT-DAY CLOCK for a CHURCH, and a Thirty Hour ditto. These Articles are worth the Attention of a Parish where a Clock is wanted, as not being new, will be sold accordingly.

(Advert in *Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 15 April - Thurs. 22 April 1790, and two succeeding weeks.)

Ashton-under-Line, 19th April 1790.

HARMONY.

Regardless of his Harp, Apollo here is found,
Charm'd with the solemn Bells harmonious sound.

On Monday the 19th of April, 1790, at the parish church of Ashton-under-Line, near Manchester, was opened a complete peal of ten new Bells, cast by Mr. Rudhall of Gloucester. Being the first peal of that number in the county of Lancaster, rendered the meeting as complete as possible - at which time (after the opening of the bells) the Sacred Oratorio of Judas Maccabeus, with other select music, was performed under the direction of Mr. Buckley, of Manchester - Mr. Nicholson, of Liverpool, and Mrs. - Shipley, with all the principal performers were engaged. - Between the second and third acts an Organ Concerto by Mr. Buck-ley, and a Solo on the German Flute by Mr. Nicholson.

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 23 April 1790)

On Tuesday last was rung at Shiffnal, by the Albion Society of that place, a complete peal of New Treble Bob, containing 5088 changes in three hours and six minutes, being the first peal of the method ever completed.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Fri. 30 April 1790; also *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 8 May 1790 – the latter per David Cubitt)

BELL and BRASS FOUNDRY,
WHITECHAPEL, LONDON,
(Late LESTER, PACK and CHAPMAN)
THOMAS MEARS respectfully acquaints his
Friends and the Public, that the Business of the above
FOUNDRY is now and will in the future be carried on entirely in his
own Name.

Those Gentlemen, who will please to favour him with their
Commands, may be assured of having him executed with the
greatest Punctuality and on the most reasonable Terms, which
will be gratefully acknowledged by their

May 3, 1790 Obliged and most humble Servant.

☞ Old Church Bells bought or exchanged.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Fri. 30 April/ Tues. 4 May 1790 - advert.)

Monday was rung at St. Mary's, Gateshead, by the Union Society of Ringers, belonging to
this town and Gateshead, a complete peal of 5040 changes, grandsire tripples, in three hours and twenty
minutes; the bobs were called by the junior member.

(*Newcastle Courant*, Sat. 15 May 1790)

The opening of the bells at Boxford, Suffolk

RINGING.

BOXFORD BELLS will be opened by the Laven-
ham Company, on MONDAY, May 24. The company
of any ringers will be esteemed a favour,

By their humble servant, RICHARD BORHAM.

☞ A good ordinary will be provided at the Swan.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 15 May 1790 - advert)

A correspondent says, an account having appeared in a provincial paper, that the bells, in the
parish of Boxford, Suffolk, would be opened on Monday last, the 24th inst, by the Lavenham ringers,
and that other ringers were invited; accordingly the Sudbury Society of ringers paid them a visit, and
were very ill treated by the Lavenham ringers, who gave them a challenge; the Sudbury Society agreed
to accept the said challenge, and offer to ring against the Lavenham, at Boxford, six different peals
[two?] guineas, at any time they fix.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 28 May 1790) [The [two?] occurs near a margin that is in shadow on the
microfilm; it might be 'ten'.]

AMERICAN NEWS.

A Bell foundery has been established at Hartford in Connecticut. ...

(*London Chronicle*, Thurs. 20 May - Sat. 22 May 1790)

The opening of the new ring at Adderbury

RINGING.

ON Monday the 14th of this Instant, June, will
be opened at Adderbury, in Oxfordshire, by the Society
of Oxford Change Ringers, A PEAL of EIGHT BELLS,
cast by Mr. JOHN BRIANT, at his Foundery at Hertford.—
Weight of the Tenor Twenty-five Hundred.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 5 June 1790)

On Monday Se'nnight, a new Peal of eight Bells, cast and hung by Mr. John Briant, of Hertford, were opened at Adderbury, in Oxfordshire, by the Oxford Society of Gentlemen Change Ringers. They are allowed by unquestionable Judges, both for Tone and Tune, to be a most excellent Ring of Bells. Weight of the Tenor 26Cwt.—The Fineness of the Day and the Novelty of the Scene, brought a greater Concourse of People to the Village than ever was known together by the oldest Inhabitants.—It may not be unworthy of Remark, that the Bells were rung round by eight Men, all Inhabitants of Adderbury, whose Ages together amount to 657 Years.—On the following Day, a very pretty new Peal of five Bells, cast by the same Founder, was opened at Hanwell, a Village in the same Neighbourhood.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 26 June 1790)

At the ANGEL INN, PEASENHALL.

To be GIVEN GRATIS,

5 Neat Waistcoat Pieces to be rung for on the Parish bells, on FRIDAY next, the 18th inst. by not less than Three Companies of Ringers; the peals to be rung are Old Doubles and Grandsire; where the company of all gentlemen ringers and others will meet with a hearty welcome, and their favors [*sic*] gratefully acknowledged, by their most obedient, and ever humble servant, SAM CLOUTING.

☞ Dinner on the table at Two o'clock.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 12 June 1790 - advert)

Extract of a letter from Edinburgh.

“The church of St. Andrew’s, in the New Town, has been lately supplied with a very numerous chime of bells.

This is a novelty in Scotland, and gives equal offence to the fanatics and the free-thinkers of our metropolis.

The former regard it with abhorrence, as a sacrilegious approach to the abominations of the *Scarlet Whore*, while the latter behold this puerile and useless improvement with a smile of contemptuous pity.

The ringers are exercised for several hours, during two or three evenings in every week, and being in the very first rudiments of execution, the noise which they make would be sufficient to discompose the organs of an ass.

Several families in the neighbourhood are actually preparing to leave George’s-street, on account of this preposterous nuisance.

Do the Magistrates imagine that the din of all the bells in Europe can add fervour to the zeal of the sincere Christian?—or would even a bombardment itself drown impressions of an opposite nature?

Instead of lavishing the City’s money on steeples and bells, and other purposes equally frivolous and useless, let them, as Swift advises, “knead up a layer of *stille* with a layer of *dulce*.”

They cannot, indeed, afford to erect one City gaol, but let them at least endeavour to lessen the horrors of the infernal abyss, which at present disgraces the name of the Scottish nation.”

(*Public Advertiser*, Thurs. 17 June 1790)

A correspondent informs us, the Ringers of Knighton, to express their attachment to the losing candidate at Radnor, refused two guineas each to ring for the success of his opponent; and that men were absolutely sent to and lured from a town at several miles distance to ring in their stead. Such conduct in a bad cause is obstinacy, and in a good one, laudable perseverance.

(*Pugh’s Hereford Journal*, Wed. 7 July 1790)

RINGING.

On MONDAY next, the 12th of July,

A NEW PEAL of EIGHT BELLS will be opened at ASH next SANDWICH, at Ten o’Clock in the Forenoon, by the Canterbury Ringers.

* * An Ordinary at the Ship Inn at Two o’Clock.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Tues 6 July - Fri. 9 July 1790 - advert)

On Tuesday evening was rung at St. Matthew's Church, Walsall, by seven of the Union Society of that place, and one of the St. Martin's youths, of Birmingham, a complete peal of bob majors, containing 6160 changes, the time exactly four hours
(*Wolverhampton Chronicle*, Wed. 21 July 1790)

On Monday the 5th July instant, four of the senior and four of the junior members of the society of change-ringers of this town, rang a true and complete peal of 5040 grandsire triples, at St. Martin's church. The time of ringing was 3 hours and 21 minutes.
(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 30 July 1790)

On Sunday last, as Mr. Brown, miller, at Lichfield, was amusing himself with the ringers, at Shenstone church, near that place, he was overpowered by the great bell, and carried up with great velocity, by the rope, to the ceiling of the belfry, from whence he fell down on the floor upwards of thirty feet; he was taken up very much bruised and quite insensible, put into a bed, and carried home in a cart; but fortunately having the immediate aid of a surgeon, there is a prospect that he may recover, although it cannot at present be discovered, whether or not he has any broken limb.
(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 29 July - Thurs. 5 Aug. 1790; also *Sheffield Register*, Fri. 6 Aug. 1790.)

RINGING.

ON MONDAY next, the 9th Instant, will be rung at ASH, and on TUESDAY the 10th at SANDWICH, by the LENHAM Gentlemen, 5040 OXFORD TREBLE BOB—to go off each Morning at Nine o'Clock.

N.B. An Ordinary will be provided at the RED LION, Ash, at Two o'Clock on MONDAY, and at the ROSE INN, Sandwich, at Two o'Clock, on TUESDAY.

(Advert in *Kentish Gazette*, Fri. 30 July – Tues. 3 Aug. 1790; also Tues. 3 Aug. - Fri. 6 Aug. 1790. No follow-up reports have so far been found.)

WANTED IMMEDIATELY,

ANY Quantity of BELL-METAL, not exceeding three ton weight. Gentlemen, or Churchwardens, having old bells to dispose of, may have a good price for them by applying to EDW. ARNOLD, BELL-FOUNDER, in Leicester, before the 18th instant.

Bell-foundry, Leicester, 2d Sept. 1790.

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 3 Sept. 1790 - advert)

The opening of Soham bells

R I N G I N G

A Most melodious PEAL of EIGHT BELLS, in the Key of E, is now compleated at SOHAM in this county, by THOS. OSBORN, BELLFOUNDER, at DOWNHAM in NORFOLK; and to be opened on THURSDAY, the 9th day of SEPTEMBER next, when the company of Gentlemen Ringers will be esteemed a favour, By their humble servant,
JOHN REDGRAVE, at the CROWN INN, SOHAM.

(Advert in *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 4 Sept. 1790; also *Norfolk Chronicle* of the same date, the latter quoted in the *Ringling World*, 2 Feb. 1990, p.115; similar advert in *Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 4 Sept. 1790.)

ON Monday last, at Soham, in the county of Cambridge, was rung, upon a New Peal of Eight Bells, a complete Peal of FIVE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED and TWENTY Changes of TREBLE BOB, in Three Hours and Thirty-three Minutes (being the first attempt) by the following Soham Ringers,

THO. TEBBIT,	!	EDW. TEBBIT,
LUKE GOLDSBROW,	!	ROB. SILVER,
ROB. TEBBIT,	!	THO. TALBOT,
JOS. FINCH,	!	THO. BROWN.

N.B. The Peal was called by Tho. Tebbit, who rung the Treble; Tho. Gautrey, the Time Keeper in the steeple [*sic*].

(Advert in *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 30 Oct. 1790)

Some time ago, the large bell of the Cathedral of Glasgow was broke, and afterwards sent to London to be refounded; within these few days it has been returned, bearing the following inscription:—

IN THE YEAR OF GRACE MCCCCCLXXXVIII
Marcus Knox, a merchant, zealous for the interests of the reformed religion, caused Me to be fabricated in Holland, for the use of his fellow citizens of GLASGOW, and placed with solemnity in the tower of their Cathedral - My sanction [*sic*] was announced by the impress on my bosom.

Me audita vocitas doctrinam sanctum et diseas.
and I was taught to proclaim the hours of unheeded time. CXCIV years had I sounded these awful warnings, when I was broken by the hands of inconsiderate and unskilful men. In the year MDCCXC I was cast into the furnace, refounded at London, and returned to my sacred vocation.

— Reader! —

THOU, ALSO SHALT KNOW A RESURRECTION -

— May it be unto eternal life! —

Thomas Mears, London, fecit, 1790.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 7 Sept. 1790)

SUDBURY, Sept. 10.

.....

Last week a young man went up St. Gregory's steeple, in this town, with some of the ringers, to unmuzzle the bells after ringing a dumb peal, and inconsiderately taking hold of the wheel of one of the bells, to raise himself, the bell slipp'd off its stay, and fractured his skull in a terrible manner, of which he died in a few days.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 11 Sept. 1790)

BELL-RINGING.

To the PRINTER of the St. J. CHRONICLE.

SIR,

Bath, Sept.

MUCH has been said in the publick papers lately relative to the nuisance (and a sad one it is) of post bells: but are not Church bells equally offensive? for however necessary it may be, to give notice, by bells, that Divine Service is commencing, surely it is unnecessary to disturb wantonly the peace of such who are languishing in misery, or at the hour of death.

I speak feelingly, and particularly in favour of the number of Invalids, lying sick in this *great hospital*, yes, Mr. Baldwin. I say this *great hospital*; for Bath, amidst all its amusements, is nothing more than one great hospital, in which there is scarce a single lodging-house, which has not a sick, a feeble, or a spiritless stranger. At the instant I am writing, my head is distracted with a peal of bells; on enquiring the cause, I could obtain no satisfactory reason for such an uproar! I was told, indeed that Lord —— was just dead! But surely they did not ring for the departure of a generous, noble-spirited benevolent man, nor to insult his afflicted Lady! In short, it is the fashion to ring *into* the town, all who come in a coach and six; and it is my sincere wish, that all such comers who encourage bell-ringing, may go out in a hearse and six. I would not by saying thus much deprive the ringers of a bounty from such as can afford to entertain them: but it should be for their silent, not noisy welcome. Our Mayor I hope, will give us proof of his humanity, by silencing the *bells*, I don't mean the *female belles*; but

those accursed brasen [*sic*] instruments, the tones of which to the sick and dying, are often as painful as the iron bar is to the limbs of those who are broken alive on the wheel. When the keepers were knocking off the fetters of the criminals in Newgate, that were to be hanged, some time before Dr. Dodd's execution "every blow (said the terrified Doctor) struck my frame, like unto an electrical shock." And so perhaps, does the tolling of a bell, to those whose death they may suppose, is next to be so announced. If any man can tell me what good bell-ringing can do, in proportion to the evil occasions, let the bells ring incessantly. But if he cannot, may all the encouragers of the art of bell-ringing be tolled out of the world for the last twenty-four hours of their life, is the sincere wish of

An enemy of unnecessary noise, and wanton bell-ringing.

(*St. James's Chronicle or the British Evening Post*, Sat. 25 Sept. - Tues. 28 Sept. 1790)

We hear that Mr. Hadderly [*sic*], bell-founder of Nottingham, has taken down the old bells at Matlock, in this County, in order to make them a compleat peal of six.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 30 Sept. 1790)

LINCOLN, OCT. 7.

.....

On Saturday se'nnight was opened at Beckingham, in this county, a new peal of 5 bells, cast by Mr. Osbourn [*sic*], of Downham, in Norfolk, by a society of change ringers from Bassingham. Ten different peals were performed without ever stopping, and struck in so masterly a manner, that gives credit to the performers, and great satisfaction to all the hearers, who were very numerous.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 8 Oct. 1790)

JOSEPH INSHAW, of Birmingham, Toy-maker, returns Thanks to his Friends for past Favours, and respectfully informs them and the Public at large, that his late Partner, Benjamin Hinksman being dead, he hath taken his Son-in-Law, Mr. William Rushton, of Birmingham, Bell Founder and Toy-maker, into Partnership, and that they intend carrying on the Trades of Toy-makers and Bell Founders, in Partnership together, and humbly solicit their Patronage. All Orders will be thankfully received and punctually executed. And all Persons indebted to the late Firm of Inshaw and Hinksman, will please to pay the same to the said Inshaw and Rushton, or one of them, by whom all Debts owing by the said late Firm will be discharged.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 11 Oct. 1790 – advert, per Chris Pickford)

WANTED IMMEDIATELY,

ANY Quantity of BELL METAL, not exceeding Three Ton Weight.

Gentlemen, or Church-Wardens, having old Bells to dispose of, may have a good Price for them, by applying to E. ARNOLD, bell-founder, in Leicester.

Bell-foundery, Leicester, 11th October, 1790.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 15 Oct. 1790 - advert)

On Saturday the 22d of October, was opened a new peal of five bells, at Stoke-Albany, in this county, cast by Mr. Robert Taylor, of St. Neots; and are allowed by judges to be a very good peal of bells.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 6 Nov. 1790)

BELL-RINGING.

The science of Bell-ringing has been but lately introduced into this country; and, until last year, that a peal of bells were put up in St Andrew's Church in this city, no such thing was known here.

For some time, the sounds were so unmelodious, from the ignorance of the ringers, that the bells were considered a nuisance.

By the attention and perseverance of an English gentleman, who has been some time in this city, and has, by example as well as precept, condescended to instruct the performers, the ringing of church-bells is now brought to as great perfection here as in England, much to the satisfaction of the *amateurs* of that kind of music.

(*Caledonian Mercury*, Thurs. 11 Nov. 1790)

There was a capital ringing at Kensington a few days ago, which consisted of 8440 treble bobs, upon eight bells. It began at eleven in the forenoon, and ended a little past four.

(*Public Advertiser*, Thurs. 18 Nov. 1790)

RINGING.

ON THURSDAY, December 2, 1790, will be opened a PEAL of SIX BELLS at Monks Eleigh, in Suffolk. The old peal of Five allowed to be one of the best peals in the county. The new bell, the founder has promised to have a sweet tone. ☞ A good Ordinary will be provided at the Swan Inn, and the company of all gentlemen ringers will be esteemed a favour by their humble servant

J. STRIBLING.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 27 Nov. 1790 - advert.)

To such a degree is the spirit of party carried, in a borough town between Ripley and Godalming, that upon the death of a person in the interest of one member, the bell tolls as it is customary and after the funeral they muffle the bells and ring a sorrowful peal, as a mark of respect to the memory of their departed friend; but when an enemy dies, immediately after the body is deposited in the earth, they ring a merry peal as a demonstration of their joy. - O tempora! O mores!

(*Reading Mercury & Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 13 Dec. 1790)

THE BELL-FOUNDING BUSINESS

lately carried on by Mr. WILLIAM BILBIE, deceased, and SONS, of Chewstoke, in the county of Somerset, will be continued at the Foundry in Chewstoke aforesaid, by his sons, THOMAS and JAMES BILBIE, who request of their late father's friends and the public a continuance of their favours.

N.B. Church Clocks, Chimes, &c. made, mended, and repaired.

(*Western Flying Post*, Mon. 20 Dec. 1790 - advert)

The 23d ult. a peal of six maiden bells were rung out at Blisland, in Cornwall, and gave much satisfaction to a great number of persons who assembled to hear them. They were cast by Messrs. Pennington.

(*Western Flying Post*, Mon. 3 Jan. 1791)

Monday last was rung by St. Peter's Company, at Leeds in Yorkshire, An Abstract of a Peal of Union Treble Bob, consisting of Ten Thousand and Eighty Changes, which was performed with great Exactness, in six Hours and fifteen Minutes, being the largest Number of Changes ever rung on this Peal in England, was [*sic*] composed by one of the said Ringers.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 4 Jan. 1791; similar reports in *Sheffield Register*, Fri. 31 Dec. 1790, *Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 6 Jan. 1791 and *Lincoln, Rutland & Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 7 Jan. 1791)

On the 31st of December, a society of Ringers at Blisworth, rung 45 six-scores, in 3 hours and 40 minutes; which number of 5-bell peals, amounts to 5400 changes, being double the number that has been completed at that place in the memory of the oldest inhabitant.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 8 Jan. 1791)

1791

RINGING at DEDDINGTON, OXFORDSHIRE.

ON Tuesday January 3d, 1792, will be opened a Compleat PEAL of SIX BELLS, (by a Society of Gentlemen from Oxford) cast by Mears, late Lester, Pack and Chapman, of London. On which Bells every Gentleman Professor of Ringing may have an Opportunity of displaying his Abilities in that ingenious and Athletic Art.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 31 Dec. 1791- advert)

On Monday last was rung, with great Exactness, in six Hours and 15 Minutes, by St. Peter's Company at Leeds, an Abstract of a Peal of Union Treble-Bob, consisting of 10,080 Changes, being the greatest Number of Changes ever rung on this Peal in England: It was composed by one of the above Company.

(*York Courant*, Tues. 3 Jan. 1791)

On Monday last was rung at our Parish Church by St. Peter's Company, an abstract of a peal of Union Treble Bob, consisting of ten thousand and eighty changes, which was performed with great exactness in six hours and fifteen minutes, being the largest number of changes ever rung in this peal in England. It was composed by one of the above Ringers.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 4 Jan. 1791 - per D. Cubitt; also *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 8 Jan. 1791, beginning 'On Monday se'nnight', with 'Leeds Parish Church' vice 'our Parish Church' and 'on this peal' vice 'in this peal', the latter report per Gareth Davies.)

CAMBRIDGE, Jan. 7

...

Last Saturday being the annual ringing feast at Hough on the hill, near Grantham, in the county of Lincoln, five ringers of the above place, on account of some ill language proceeding from a neighbouring society, and in order to try their own merit, undertook to ring 60 different peals of changes, on five bells, containing in the whole 7200 changes, which they performed in a very clear, distinct, and correct manner, delightful to the hearers, and creditable to the performers.

(*Evening Mail*, Mon. 10 Jan. – Wed. 12 Jan. 1791; also *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 8 Jan. 1791, the latter per Gareth Davies.)

On Monday was rung by Christ Church ringers, an abstract of a peal of Grandsire Cators, consisting of 5040 changes in 3 hours and 35 minutes; being the first ever rung in this city.

(*Felix Farley's Bristol Journal*, Sat. 15 Jan. 1791)

On Monday Morning, 31st of January, a very musical peal of six new bells (cast by Mr. George Hedderley, bell founder, in Nottingham) was opened at the parish church of Trowell, near Nottingham, by the Trowell ringers - after which several peals were rung by different companies assembled on the occasion. - The bells are esteemed exceedingly compleat, and give universal satisfaction.

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 11 Feb. 1791)

An eighteenth century hoax

Tuesday afternoon was interred in the church-yard of St. Matthew, Bethnal-green, the remains of Mr. George Gross, the celebrated composer of church-bell music, and many years beadle of the Society of Cumberland Youths. His productions of real double and treble bob royal, are standing monuments of his unparalleled abilities. The procession was singular and solemn, the corpse being followed by all the ringing societies in the metropolis and its environs, each sounding small bells with muffled clappers, accompanied by those of the church ringing a dead peal; which produced a most solemn effect on the eyes and ears of an innumerable concourse of spectators. Mr. Gross was the person who composed the whole peal of Stedman's triples, 5040 changes (till then deemed impracticable); for the discovery of which, the citizens of Norwich had advertised a premium of fifty pounds, which was paid to him about three years since, by the Society of St. Peter's, Mancroft, with the highest encomiums on his superlative merit.

(*London Chronicle*, Thurs. 3 Feb. – Sat. 5 Feb. 1791; shorter reports, based on this false report, were published in *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 12 Feb. 1791, and *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 19 March 1791, for which see below.)

The body of Mr. George Cross [*sic*], a celebrated composer of church-bell-music, was interred on Tuesday se'nnight at Bethnal Green. He has left fifty pounds, the reward paid him for the composition of a remarkable peal of Stedman triples, 5040 changes, by the Ringers of St. Peter's Mancroft, in this city, whose bells and performers are esteemed the first in England, to pay the expenses of ringing Shoreditch bells annually, on his birth-day and funeral day, for ever.
(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 12 Feb. 1791 – per David Cubitt)

Tuesday se'nnight was interred in the church-yard of St. Matthew, Bethnal-green, the remains of Mr. George Cross, the celebrated composer of church-bell music, and many years beadle of the Society of Cumberland Youths. His productions of real double and treble bob royal, are standing monuments of his unparalleled abilities. The above Mr. C. composed the whole peal of Stedman's triples, 5040 changes (till then deemed impracticable); for the discovery of which, the citizens of Norwich had advertised a premium of 50£. which was paid him about three years since, by the Society of St. Peter's Mancroft, with the highest encomiums on his superlative merit.
(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 19 March 1791)

On Monday last was rung at All-Saints-church, by a young company of ringers called Bristol Youths, a true and complete peal of grandsire trebles, consisting of 5040 changes, in three hours and twenty-seven minutes.
(*Felix Farley's Bristol Journal*, Sat. 19 Feb. 1791)

On Wednesday evening last a complete peal of 5040 changes bob-majors, was rung at Long-Melford, by the company of youths belonging to that place, in three hours and three minutes, which is deemed a very capital performance.
(*Bury and Norwich Post*, Wed. 2 March 1791; also *Sheffield Advertiser*, Fri. 11 March 1791, beginning 'Last week...')

The opening of the new ring of bells at Thetford, Norfolk

ON Wednesday, March 9th, will be opened at THETFORD, a NEW PEAL of EIGHT BELLS, cast by Mr. OSBORNE, of Downham, and erected in St. Peter's New Steeple.

An Ordinary provided at the George Inn.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 5 March 1791 – advert; similar advert in the *Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 15 March 1791)

RINGING

A Fine New Peal of EIGHT BELLS, the Tenor weighing near twenty hundred, in the key of F. Cast by Mr. OSBORN, of Downham, will be opened at St. Peter's New Church, Thetford, on Wednesday next, March 9.

A good Ordinary will be provided at the George Inn.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 5 March 1791 – advert, per David Cubitt,)

A peal of eight bells, cast by Mr. Osborn, of Downham, for St. Peter's New Church, at Thetford, will be opened on Wednesday next, on which occasion the ringers of St. Peter's, in this city, will exert their extraordinary abilities. The Church has been completely repaired and beautified, and an elegant and finely executed window of stained glass erected at the east end. The spirit and liberal endeavours to beautify and improve this once famous city reflect the honour on the parties concerned.
(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 5 March 1791 – news item, per David Cubitt)

This day the company of ringers belonging to St. Peter's Mancroft will open the new peal of bells at the new-erected church of St. Peter's, Thetford, with part of that mysterious peal called Stedman's Triples, and they purpose continuing there on Thursday, for the gratification the lovers of that art.

(*Bury and Norwich Post*, Wed. 9 March 1791)

On Wednesday last, at Thetford, a fine peal of eight bells, cast by Mr. Osborn, of Downham, was opened by the Soham Company; the next day the ringers belonging to St. Peter's in this city rung a variety of peals, which gave great satisfaction to the people of that town.
(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 12 March 1791; quoted in the *Ringing World*, 14 Dec. 1990, p.1187)

On Wednesday se'nnight a new peal of 8 bells, cast by Mr. Thomas Osborn of Downham, for St. Peter's new church, Thetford, were opened. There was a large company of ringers from different parts of Cambridgeshire, Suffolk, and Norfolk; and the bells are allowed to be a very fine peal in the key of F. The church has been completely beautified, and an elegant and finely executed window of stained glass erected at the East end. The spirited and liberal endeavours to beautify that once famous city, reflect the highest honour on the parties concerned. As an addition, we hear Counsellor Mingay intends presenting the parish with an iron pallisade [*sic*] round the church yard, and a handsome chandelier.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 19 March 1791; also *Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 12 March 1791, beginning 'On Wednesday a new peal of 8 bells...')

On Saturday last was rung at Thetford, upon that musical peal of 8 bells, lately cast by Mr. Osborn, of Downham, 5040 changes of bob majors, in 3 hours and 20 minutes, by the Thetford company, who never rung in a peal of 8 until the above bells were hung in March last. The tenor was rung by John George Stern, who called the peal. On Sunday the Bury ringers rung the same bells to the satisfaction of the town in general, and next morning attempted to ring 5040 changes of bob-majors in 3 hours and 3 minutes, which they proved could be performed in that time, but were prevented by a pillar of the church putting a stop to their proceedings.

(*Bury and Norwich Post*, Wed. 14 Sept. 1791; a report of the successful peal, in similar terms, appeared in *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 17 Sept. 1791.)

BURY, March 2.

On Wednesday evening last, a complete peal of 5040 changes of bob-majors, was rung at Long-Melford, by a company of youths belonging to the tower, in three hours and three minutes—which is deemed a very capital performance.
(*Evening Mail*, Fri. 4 March - Mon. 7 March 1791)

On Monday morning last was rung on that weighty and deep toned peal of ten bells, at St. Mary's church, in Nottingham (by a band of the Nottingham Society), a compleat peal of 5040 changes of True double Bob royal, ten in, which performance continued three hours and 47 minutes, and was the first long peal of *double bob royal* ever rang at that place. - The two former peals of ten in lately rung there, consisting, one of 5040 *plain bob royal*, and the other of 5080 Oxford *Treble Bob Royal*.

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 11 March 1791; also *Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 11 March 1791; *Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 12 March 1791, which says '(by a band of the Sherwood society in that town)'; also *Sheffield Advertiser*, Fri. 11 March 1791, beginning 'On Monday evening was rung...', as far as 'at that place', and giving the weight of the tenor as 34 cwt. 2 qr. 8 lb.; shorter version also in *Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 17 March 1791, starting 'On Monday se'nnight...')

The opening of the new ring of bells at Hanley, Staffordshire

The new peal of eight musical bells, cast by Mr. Edward Arnold, bell founder and bell-hanger, in this place, and lately put up in the new chapel at Hanley, in the county of Stafford, was opened there on Monday 28th of February last.—Three sets of ringers, one from Leicester, who were change ringers; another from Stoke on Trent; and a third from Newcastle; alternatively rang several musical peals upon the bells, which were allowed by every person who heard them to be very harmonious and of a pleasing tone, and do the founder great credit.

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 11 March 1791; also *Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 18 March 1791, which states that the opening took place on 'Monday se'nnight.')

The new peal of eight musical bells, cast by Mr. Edward Arnold, bell-founder and bell-hanger in Leicester, and lately put in the new chapel at Hanly, Staffordshire, was opened there a few days since, when great rejoicings were made on the occasion. The bells were allowed by every person who heard them to be very harmonious, of a pleasing tone, and do credit to the founder.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 17 March 1791)

The new Peal of eight musical Bells, cast by Mr. Edward Arnold, Bell-founder and Bell-hanger, in Leicester, and lately put up in the New Chapel at Hanley, in the county of Stafford, was opened there on Monday the 28th of February, in the following manner: First, a grand procession of the trustees and principal inhabitants walked from the Market-Hall, with a select band of music playing before them, and three flags flying, to the Chapel, from whence they went up to the Tower, and the ceremony of naming the Tenor Bell, was performed by one of the chapel-wardens breaking a bottle of wine against it, and giving it the name of *Marquis*, in honour of the Most Noble the Marquis of Stafford, who was a very liberal subscriber to the Chapel, and whose name was cast upon that Bell. — Three sets of ringers, one from Leicester (who were change-ringers) another from Stoke-upon-Trent, and a third from Newcastle, alternately rang several musical peals upon the bells, which were allowed by every person who heard them to be very harmonious, and of a pleasing tone, and do the founder great credit.—An elegant dinner was provided at the Market-Hall, which was attended by most of the Gentry in the neighbourhood. After it, the King, Queen, and Royal-Family, with several other loyal toasts were drunk. In the evening bonfires and illuminations, with fire-works were exhibited, and the day concluded with the utmost harmony, order and decorum.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 19 March 1791)

At Barnsley was rung on Shrove Tuesday by the society of Ringers, a complete five thousand and forty changes of Grandsire Tripples, in two hours and fifty-five minutes, which was done in twelve minutes less time than ever it was done there before.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 15 March 1791)

NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT. On Tuesday last was rung, at St. Mary's church, Carisbrook, in the Isle of Wight, a complete peal of Grandsire Tripples; consisting of 5040 changes, in three hours and five minutes, by the union society of Newport.

(*Hampshire Chronicle*, Mon. 14 March 1791)

R I N G I N G.

THIS is to give notice to all gentlemen Ringers, that there will be given by John Bolton, at the sign of the Bull, at Wargrave, Berks, on Wednesday the 25th of May 1791, Six Good Hats to be rung for on Wargrave Church Bells; the set that rings the best round peal to have the hats; each peal to continue 15 minutes; and no set will be allowed to ring for the above prize that resides in more than one parish. Each set to provide their own umpire, and the umpire of the winning set to be entitled to the 7th hat. None to ring or be an umpire but what dines at the ordinary, which will be on the table at one o'clock, and begin ringing at three.—The bells are in good order and free for trial; but no trial peal on the day of ringing.

N.B. No Wargrave man to ring or be an umpire.

(Advert in the *Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mons. 21 March, 2 & 16 May 1791)

Extraordinary Instance of Strength.—The tenor of Bow Church, in this City, always rung by two men, was lately rung through the whole peal of an Oxford treble bob of ten in, and of 5,040 changes, by a person of the name of Pilgrim, by trade a dyer, and one of the Society of College Youths. Bow tenor, that weighs upwards of 1600 [*sic*] weight, is supposed to be the heaviest but one in England.

(*Morning Chronicle*, Fri. 1 April 1791)

.....

April 3d, for a wager of ten guineas, the tenor of Bow Church, in Cheapside, (Always rung by two men,) was rung through the whole peal of Oxford treble of ten in, and of 5040 changes, by a person of the name of Pilgrim, by trade a dyer, and one of the society of college youths. Bow tenor is supposed to be the heaviest but on in England.

(*Sporting Magazine*, p 28, 1796, in a list of extraordinary sporting performances. Per Graham Scott.)

RINGING.

This is to give NOTICE.

THAT on Easter Monday next, April 25, 1791, will be rung for at WYE, in Kent, ten pair of the best BUCKSKIN GLOVES and FAVORS, free for any set of Ringers; to ring the best peal of One Thousand and Eight Bob Major Changes the first Time of trying—these men to be deemed the winners.

N. B. The steeple to be opened at nine o'clock in the morning.
Dinner on the table at two o'clock, at the FLYING HORSE, in Wye.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Fri. 1 April - Tues. 5 April 1791 - advert.)

On Monday last a true peal of TEN THOUSAND AND EIGHTY changes of TREBLE BOB eight in (which continued seven hours and one minute) was completely rung at the Trinity Church in Sheffield, by a select band of the Change Ringers in that town. The company had attempted the peal in the morning, and rang 3584 changes when a mistake occurred, - however at ten minutes before ten o'clock in the forenoon each performer resumed his station, and commenced the peal again, and finished at nine minutes before five o'clock in the afternoon, without any further mistake, and in a masterly manner, to the satisfaction of a great number of hearers, so that the whole number of changes rang that day amounted to 13,664 - The above 10,080 is the utmost extent of practical changes that can possibly be obtained in the treble Bob System (on eight bells) without having changes over again.

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 8 April 1791; also *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 16 April 1791; shorter reports in *Sheffield Register*, Fri. 8 April 1791, which stated the 'The weight of the tenor bell is 33 cwt., and was rung by T. Babb and two pullers.'; *Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 12 April 1791, *Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 15 April 1791, *Adams's Weekly Courant*, Tues. 19 April 1791, and *Hereford Journal*, Wed. 20 April 1791. Repeated in *Sporting Magazine*, May 1797, beginning, incorrectly, 'On Monday the 27th of March, ...' with no indication that it did not refer to 1797.)

On Monday morning, at Trinity church, ten of the society of Sheffield Ringes [*sic*] attempted to ring 10,080 changes of Union Treble Bob, eight in. They began at 15 minutes past six o'clock, and continued till three quarters after eight; but, a mistake having happened, after ringing 3584 changes, they were under the necessity of setting the bells. However, being determined to complete the peal, after a little refreshment they set to again, in changes, at ten minutes before ten o'clock, and completed the 10080 at 31 minutes past four in the afternoon; in the whole, 7 hours and 1 minute. The number of changes rung on that day amounted to 13664. The time the bells were in changes was exactly 9 hours and 31 minutes. Weight of the tenor 33 cwt. which was rung by Thomas Babb and two pullers the whole time. The peal also was called by T. Babb.

(*Sheffield Advertiser*, Fri. 8 April 1791)

To be Rung for,

On THURSDAY APRIL 28, 1791,

SIX HATS, value FIVE SHILLINGS each, by any Company of Ringers, the best in Three Peals, on Five Bells; [?to] compleat Peal any where near. The hats to be given gratis by WILLIAM HILLS, at the Anchor at South Benfleet [?Ex] .

Dinner will be on the table precisely at two o'clock and the [?peal] to be fixed on the day of ringing.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 15 April 1791 - advert)

The News of the Royal Assent being given to the Selby Bridge Bill, was received at that town with the greatest demonstrations of joy. - The Ringers of Selby distinguished themselves by ringing two peals on the occasion, both of which they performed in a manner that gave much satisfaction to the inhabitants.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Mon. 25 April 1791)

On the 11th Inst. the Peal of Crown Bob, was completely rung through, in 14 Minutes, at Trinity Chapel, Salford, by the junior Set of Ringers at that Place, being only their second Trial at that intricate Peal.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 26 April 1791)

On Easter Monday, Chesterfield's celebrated ringers made an effort to ring what is called the *Long Peal*: but, after proceeding about quarter of an hour, they were at default. In order to consult whether they should resume the task or not, they adjourned to a public-house; and, after having regaled plentifully of cold ham, beef, and ale, they returned to the church, and began afresh. But the second trial was not of so long a duration as the first: for in ten minutes they were out again. This was a very vexatious piece of business: for notwithstanding they had, previous to the undertaking, been at the great trouble and expence of laying several cart loads of sods upon the floor over the bell-chamber, for the purpose of hearing the more distinctly; yet their grand scheme was unaccomplished at last.—Several gentlemen of the town, to complete the day's business, rung a *dumb peal*—to the tune of which most of the inhabitants fell asleep!

(*Sheffield Advertiser*, Fri. 29 April 1791)

A new peal of five bells, cast by Mr. Headerley of Nottingham, was compleated and put at Hathern, in this county, on Tuesday the 26th ult. They were the same day opened, and are allowed by judges to be as complete a peal for sweetness of tone as ever was heard, and do the founder great credit.

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 6 May 1791)

Friday last were rang at Holbeach, in this county, by the society of ringers there, 5040 bob-majors, with great exactness and propriety, in three hours and twenty-nine minutes—(Treble) 1st. John Baxter; 2d. George Stuart, jun.; 3d. John Eland; 4th. John Stuart, sen.; 5th. William Christian; 6th. William Clark; 7th. Tho. Johnson; (tenor) 8th. John Parker
(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 6 May 1791; short report, *Sheffield Advertiser*, Fri. 13 May 1791.)

On Tuesday evening was rung at Aubourn [*sic*], Wilts, a compleat peal of grandsire tripple, consisting of 5040 changes, by the Union Society of that town, in a masterly manner, and to the satisfaction of a great number of hearers, it being their first attempt.

(*Reading Mercury & Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 9 May 1791; also *Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 7 May 1791 – which omits the last five words.)

On Easter-Monday last, was rung in celebration of a wedding at Heathfield church, a peal on six bells, by six tradesmen, near relations, and all of the same christian and surname, i.e. John Harmer.
(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 23 May 1791; repeated in the *Kentish Gazette*, Fri. 20 May/Tues. 24 May 1791; also *Sporting Magazine*, May 1796, in a list of notable sporting performances.)

Same day [Sunday] were interred the remains of Mr. John Roberts, of Wangford, carpenter. The deceased having been one of the ringers, several dumb peals were rung upon the occasion.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 28 May 1791)

On Wednesday was rung at Wakefield Church, by the Ringers there, a complete new peal of tripples, consisting of 5040 changes, in eight courses, with the greatest exactness and distinction; the time was three hours and 25 minutes. It was performed in commemoration of an act of Parliament being passed for building a new Church at Wakefield..

(*Leeds Mercury*, Tues. 31 May 1791; the reference is to St. John's church, the foundation stone of which was laid on 3 Nov. 1791)

RINGING.

THIS is to give notice, to all Gentlemen RINGERS, that there will be given, by WILLIAM BROMLEY, at the sign of the BULL, and WILLIAM PERKINS, at the sign of the WHITE HART, at SONNING, Berks, on Wednesday the 6th of July, 1791, Six Good HATS, of 12s. value each, to be Rung for, on the six middle bells, at Sonning church; the set that rings the best round peal to have the hats; each peal to continue 15 minutes; each set to provide their own umpire, and the umpire of the winning set to be entitled to the 7th hat. None to ring or be an umpire but what dines at the ordinary, which will be provided at the two afore-mentioned houses, for the better accommodation of the company.—The dinner to be on the table at one o'clock, and begin ringing at three; the bells are in good order, and free for trial, but no trial peal on the day of ringing.

☞ No Sonning man to ring or be an umpire.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 6 June 1791 - advert)

At the opening of eight bells at Doncaster on Monday last, the Society of Ringers from Sheffield honoured the town with their presence, and opened the peal of bells with Oxford Treble Bob (eight in) and meant to compleat 5120 of the peal. After they had rung in 2 hours 19 minutes, 3520 changes, they got out, by the performers changing bells, and put a period to the peal, which was struck so true that it was impossible for any set of eight men in this kingdom to beat.—It is supposed by the best judges of metal, that Doncaster bells are the best peal in this county; the treble and tenor not to be equalled in England!

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Tues. 21 June 1791)

The opening of Bishop's Stortford Bells

RINGING

At Bishop Stortford, Herts, on Monday next, July 11th will be opened by the Chelmsford Society, A Peal of Eight Bells.

Mr. BRIANT of Hertford, Founder.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 8 July 1791: advert)

RINGING, at BISHOP STORTFORD,
ON MONDAY, the 11th of July, will be opened,
by the Chelmsford Society, a PEAL of EIGHT BELLS,
re-cast by JOHN BRIANT, Hertford.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 9 July 1791 - advert)

Bishops Stortford, Herts. July 14. On Monday a peal of eight bells was opened by the Chelmsford Society with a touch of treble bob consisting of 864 changes; a mixed company then rang some bob major, after which the Cambridge company rang grandsire tripples. In the afternoon the Chelmsford Society began a peal of Oxford treble bob, and after passing upwards of 3000 changes, fine ringing to the satisfaction of a great many hearers, they declined the peal.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 15 July 1791)

STAMFORD, July 13.

On Tuesday died at Bourn, Mr. Norman Smith, master of the Six Bells inn:—he being a ringer and a singer, he was sung and rung from his house to the church and grave. His wife was churched, and child Christened, on the same day.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 16 July 1791; also *Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 15 July 1791, and a similar report in *Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 16 July 1791.)

The opening of a new ring of bells at Romsey Abbey

Mon. last a new peal of 8 bells, cast by Mr. Thomas Meares [*sic*], of Whitechapel, late Lister [*sic*], Pack & Co. was opened at Romsey, by the Society of College Youths from London, with a peal of Oxford treble bobs, consisting of 5248 changes, being the extent of 13 courses which was completed in 3 hrs. 29 mins. with that accuracy which ever distinguished the performances of that company, and to the entire satisfaction of the inhabitants of the town, as well as to a numerous assemblage from different parts of the country.

(*Hampshire Chronicle*, Mon. 25 July 1791)

On Monday the 18th ult. a new and excellent set of eight church bells, cast by T. Mears, Whitechapel, London, was opened, at Rumsey [*sic*], Hants, by the Society of College Youths from London, with a peal of Oxford Treble Bob, which consisted of 5248 [*sic*], being the extent of 13 courses, and was completed in three hours and 29 minutes, with that accuracy which generally distinguishes the performances of that Foundry [*sic*], to the entire satisfaction of the inhabitants of the town, and a numerous concourse of hearers.

(*Kentish Chronicle, And Canterbury Journal*, Tues. 2 Aug. 1791)

Lewes, Mon. Aug. 29

The fine toned, old bell, which formally graced the tower of the broken church of St. Nicholas, in this town, and which has not been heard since it solemnly announced the death of our late King, we are glad to find, is now in a fair way of being rescued from that state of *silence* in which it has so long shamefully rested. - Public spirit and generosity seem, at length, awakened to its uses.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 29 Aug. 1791)

The opening of the new ring at Clerkenwell

A new peal of bells, lately cast for the new church at Clerkenwell, was opened on Monday by three different peals, and by as many sets of ringers. The bells are of a superior cast, and afforded so much satisfaction in the trial, that a supper was provided for the ringers at the expence [*sic*] of some of the principal inhabitants.

(*Public Advertiser*, Fri. 9 Sept. 1791; also *Kentish Gazette*, same date.)

On Tuesday was opened at Clerkenwell Church, a new set of fine-toned bells, consisting of eight. In the course of the day three peals were rung upon them: the first a peal of Triple Bobs, or Oxford Unions, by the Society of College Youths; the second, Grandsire Tripples, by the old Cumberlands; and the third, by the young Cumberland Youths, was Grandsire eight in.

(*E. Johnson's British Gazette and Sunday Monitor*, Sun. 11 Sept. 1791; none of these 'peals' seem to have been recorded in relevant peal books elsewhere, and the inference is that these were not of a length of 5000 or more changes, and that the word 'peal' was used in a non-technical sense for a shorter length.)

Tuesday the 6th ult. was opened at St. James's Clerkenwell, a new fine toned peal of eight bells, since which time the Societies of Cumberland and College Youths had been trying their strength and skill to attain the first peal on those bells, which was on Monday last accomplished by the Cumberland Youths, ringing a true and compleat peal of 5120 bob major, in three hours and 21 minutes.

(*Bath Journal*, Mon. 3 Oct. 1791; this confirms the date of the peal discussed above.)

Sunday evening last the ringers of this town [Bury] completed a peal of changes of 5040 changes of bob-majors, in 3 hours and 8 minutes, which was allowed by numerous judges of the art to be the truest striking ever heard upon the bells.—The tenor was rung by Thomas Gurney, who called the peal.

(*Bury and Norwich Post*, Wed. 21 Sept. 1791)

Cambridge, Oct. 5.

... On the 22d ult. the ringers at Lawshall, completed a peal of 5040 changes on 5 bells, in 3 hours and 20 min.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 7 Oct. 1791)

To RINGERS, and others.

A PEAL of five Bells newly repaired, and fresh hung, will be opened on Monday next the 17th of October, at Layer-de-la-Haye. A dinner will be provided at the sign of the Fox at Two o'clock; and the company of the lovers of ringing, and others will be esteemed a favour, by their humble servant

JOHN CLARK.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 14 Oct. 1791 - advert)

Monday last was rung at St. James's-church, by the Bristol Youths, a true and compleat peal of Grandsire trebles, consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 hours and 30 minutes, being the second rung by this company.

(*Felix Farley's Bristol Journal*, Sat. 22 October 1791)

The opening of a new ring of bells at Great Swaffham, [Swaffham Prior] Cambridgeshire

ON MONDAY next, A PEAL of SIX BELLS, cast by Mr. BRYANT, of Hertford, will be opened at Great Swaffham, Cambridgeshire.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 29 Oct. 1791 - advert.)

Campanology.—The London Society of College Youths, rang a complete set of Grandsire Quatours [*sic*], at St. Mary's Tower, in Cambridge, on Monday last, consisting of 70,002 [*sic*] changes, which they completed in four hours and three quarters. The tenor swings upwards of 3,500 weight.—The same day a musical peal of six bells, cast by Mr. Bryant, of Hertford, were opened at Great Swaffham.

(*Evening Mail*, Wed. 2 Nov. - Fri. 4 Nov. 1791; the opening of Great Swaffham (Swaffham Prior) was reported in the *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal* of Sat. 5 Nov. 1791 for which see below.)

At the opening of the new peal of Six Bells, at Great Swaffham in this county, on Monday last, very great praise is due to the Soham Youths, who raised the Bells, and in a very superior stile of ringing rung the following peals, viz. Plain Bob, Treble Bob, Court Bob, and Double Bob, and fall'd them again without stopping or even a clash.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 5 Nov. 1791)

Speldhurst church, burnt down by lightning, as mentioned in our last, was struck and took fire, in the middle of the day; but the inhabitants being in want of both engines and water, they could make no attempts to extinguish it. The church was of great antiquity, and the damage sustained by its loss, is estimated at two thousand pounds. The bells, it is said, were entirely melted.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 31 Oct. 1791)

On Monday last was rung, by the ancient society of Cambridge-Youths, at Great St. Mary's Tower, in this town, a true and complete Peal of *Grandsire Quatres*, consisting of 7002 changes, composed by a gentleman of London, and very lately presented to that society, by which it was performed with great accuracy in four hours and three-quarters, according to the following order:

<i>Treble</i> , Mr. Widnell,	6th. Mr. Day,
2d. - J. Cooper,	7th. - Hazard,
3d. - Coe,	8th. - G. Cooper,
4th. - Lawson,	9th. - Spencely,
5th. - Steers,	<i>Tenor</i> - Bowtell.

Called by Mr. Spencely.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 5 Nov. 1791; another version in *Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 4 Nov. 1791.)

On Saturday morning the 5th instant, was rung at Sheffield, by six ringers of the society in that town, a person from Knaresbro, and a youth from Doncaster, 5040 changes of bob-major, in three hours and 45 minutes. Weight of the tenor 33 cwt, and was rung singly by a youth under 21 years of age.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 17 Nov. 1791)

On Wednesday last was married, at Monmouth, Mr. Edward Jones, Millwright, to Mrs. Thomas, of the Crown and Sceptre Inn, of that place—On which occasion the ringers went through a peal of five thousand and forty changes, which was never performed there before. (*Hereford Journal*, Wed. 21 Dec. 1791; Mrs. Thomas had not been a widow long, as the death of her husband was reported in the *Hereford Journal*, Wed. 8 June 1791)

Sunday the 18th ult. was completely rung through, at Middleton, by the change ringers of Salford, the four following peals, viz. Oxford Treble Bob 360 - College Pleasure 360 - College Treble 360 - and Crown Bob 360 - in all 1440 changes, in the course of an hour, the tenor being 1400 lbs. weight. (*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 3 Jan. 1792)

RINGING at DEDDINGTON, OXFORDSHIRE.

ON Tuesday January 3d, 1792, will be opened a Compleat PEAL of SIX BELLS, (by a Society of Gentlemen from Oxford) cast by Mears, late Lester, Pack and Chapman, of London. On which Bells every Gentleman Professor of Ringing may have an Opportunity of displaying his Abilities in that ingenious and Athletic Art.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 31 Dec. 1791 - advert)

Sunday last, being New-Year's Day, the morning was ushered in with ringing of bells. At All Saints Church, a Society of young Artists rung a true and complete peal of 5040 Bob-majors, which they executed in a masterly stile, in three hours and twenty minutes. The amateurs of bell-ringing allow it to have been a capital performance. - If a defect in the tenor, which produces a discord at all times, was to be repaired, All Saints Church might boast of as fine-toned and musical a set of bells, as can be found in any other city in England, the Metropolis only excepted.

(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 5 Jan. 1792)

On New Year's Day was rung by the Company of Ringers at Lenham, 1792 of Bobmajor, the Date of the Year. This company have rung together 30 years; their ages are four hundred and twenty two.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Fri. 6 Jan. 1792; also *Kentish Chronicle*, Tues. 10 Jan. 1792, and *Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 13 Jan. 1792 with by-line 'Cambridge, Jan. 11.')

A controversy about the ringers from Soham, Cambridgeshire

ELY, JAN. 7th, 1792.

Sundry encomiums, Mr. Printer, have hereto been passed upon the Soham Youths in your paper, for their skill in Ringing; and I suppose, flushed with success, and it may be a little puffed up with pride, they came over to Ely on Old Christmas-Day last, in order to give a Total Eclipse to our Ely Ringers: but unhappily for the poor youths, they were miserably disappointed, their performance at Ely on that day, being but very moderate indeed.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 14 Jan. 1792 - a letter to the printer)

To the Printer of the CAMBRIDGE CHRONICLE

SIR,

SOHAM, Jan. 17, 1792.

Several of your readers and friends at Soham will think themselves obliged to you, if you will be so kind as to insert the following (in answer to what appeared in your last week's paper) in your paper this week.

The sarcasm in your last week's paper, Mr. Printer, upon the Soham Youths, was as illiberal as unmerited; It is true some of them had been paying their devotions rather too fervently at the shrine of the roseate God Bacchus, but not so as to incapacitate them from ringing in a very masterly stile 900 changes of *Norwich Court*, 500 of *Steadman's Triples*, and 1000 of *Treble Bob*. But the reputation of the Soham Youths is established upon too firm a base to be shaken by so insignificant a sneer; nor could they think of *eclipsing* the Ely ringers, who are already *Sub Umbra*, but rather of *outshining* them; as the abilities of the Soham to the Ely ringers are in comparison as Sol's Meridian Rays to the glimmering of a Taper. However, the Soham Youths on Saturday last, at Ely, gave a convincing proof of their abilities, by ringing a complete peal of 5120 changes of *Treble Bob* in as neat a manner as can be rung upon eight bells, in 3 hours and 33 minutes.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 21 Jan. 1792)

[hand] *The letter on the Ely ringers—Agricola—and Academical Elegy,—are received.*

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 31 March 1792)

The Letter to the Soham Ringers, and Academical Elegy—in our next.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 7 April 1792)

To the PRINTER of the CAMBRIDGE CHRONICLE.

In your Paper of the 21st of January last, a letter appeared grossly reflecting on the abilities of a worthy Society of Men, who are sneer'd at by the Appellation of the *Eclips'd Ely Ringers*: - Now as merit ought always to be applauded on that side where the candidates for such applause are truly entitled to it, it appears necessary for a disinterested person to set this matter in a clear light to the public.

The *Soham Youths* boast of their reputation being established on too firm a basis, to be shaken by an insignificant *sneer*, and of their abilities exceeding the Ely Ringers in as great a degree, as Sol's Meridian Ray's [*sic*] outshining the glimmering of a Taper; as a proof of which, they mention their ringing a compleat peal of 5120 changes of Treble Bob, in as neat a manner as can be rung on eight bells, in 3 hours and 33 minutes. Instead of which, they should have informed the public that they rang 5120 changes in a *wide slovenly* manner, in 3 hours and 51 minutes; a difference of 18 minutes! But the Ely Ringers (altho' they are *sub umbra*) on the Anniversary of our Gracious Queen's Birth-day, did really outshine the Meridian Rays of these vain boasters, by ringing in a close harmonious stile, a peal of 6048 changes of Bob Majors, in 3 hours and 38 minutes, (a performance truly worth commendation); and thereby not only *partially* eclipsed but totally darkened the glittering title these gentlemen pleased to assume.

And it is hoped they will not hereafter aspire so high as to think themselves worthy to be compared to Phoebus in his Meridian Brightness, but humble themselves and confess Pale Luna for their Goddess, who (we are taught) receives her faint glimmering light from the more exalted Rays of her glorious Brother.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 14 April 1792)

A CARD

From the SOHAM to the ELY RINGERS.

We most sincerely congratulate our Neighbours of Ely, on the *wonderful* progress they have made in the art of Ringing, as by a paragraph in your paper of 14th April it appears they have. A striking instance this of the great effect of 10 years perseverance in practice, 6048 changes of *Bob Major*, vulgarly called *Plain Bob*, astonishing! But we regret that this *amazing* performance had not been elsewhere than in Ely, in order that men of such consummate abilities might have appeared to greater advantage; but we suppose it was their *invincible modesty* which prevented them from stepping out of their own Steeple, to shine forth abroad; and in order to assist them in shaking off this *modesty*, and that such bright luminaries may give light to those that sit in darkness, we friendly invite them over to Soham, and upon their repeating this *astonishing* performance upon Soham bells, we hereby promise to treat them with a *dozen of wine and a greasy chin*.

We beg leave to correct a small mistake in the paragraph alluded to, (which we attribute to the hurry in drawing it up, being only one quarter of a year in doing) "a difference of 18 minutes;" we assert that our performance at Ely, was exactly in the time and manner as set forth in your paper of the 21st of January last.

SOHAM, May 7, 1792.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 12 May 1792)

On Monday last was rung at Ashford, in three hours and fifty six minutes, a compleat peal of 6000 Bob Major, being the first peal of that sort ever rung by the Ashford Society.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Fri. 27 Jan. 1792)

Death by accident of one of the old ringers of Leeds, Kent

A few days since, as Mr. Masters, one of the Company of Ringers, at Lenham, was in the act of ringing, he caught hold of the rope above the solly [*sic*], and the bell being an [*sic*] end, he was carried up to the ceiling, and thrown down senseless. He was one of the old Company of Leedes [*sic*] ringers.

(*Kentish Chronicle*, Fri. 27 Jan. 1792)

On Sunday evening last was buried at Leeds, Mr. Richard Masters, Cordwainer, one of the old set of change ringers. - His brother ringers rung several changes on the Leeds Bells muffled, in respect to a worthy character and a good ringer.

(*Kentish Chronicle*, Fri. 3 Feb. 1792)

On Tuesday evening last was rung, by a select number of the Society of College Youths, at the parish church of St. Martin's in the Fields, a compleat peal of 5088 Stedman Cinques, in four hours and five minutes, being their second performance on that truly curious principle. This admirable composition, and the correct stile in which it was performed, gave infinite satisfaction to very numerous hearers, and judges of the first abilities – and although the achievement of such performances rests at present entirely with the College Youths, it is much to be wished that it were more generally practised by the professors of this ingenious art in other parts of the kingdom.

(*Public Advertiser*, Sat. 4 Feb. 1792; also *St. James's Chronicle or the British Evening Post*, Thurs. 2 Feb. - Sat. 4 Feb. 1792.)

Hand Bells for Newark

Colonel CROSBIE, one of the Representatives of Newark, has lately presented the ringers of that place with a set of hand-bells of considerable value.

(*Gazetteer and New Daily Advertiser*, Mon. 6 Feb. 1792)

A few days ago the ringers of Newark received a valuable and complete set of exquisitely fine toned hand bells, and [sic] gift of William Paxton, Esq.

(*Sheffield Advertiser*, Fri. 6 July 1792)

Monday was rung at St. James's-church, by the Bristol Youths, a true and exact peal of grandsire tripples, containing 1792 changes, being the date of the year.

(*Felix Farley's Bristol Journal*, Sat. 11 Feb. 1792)

On Friday the 27th of January died, aged 65, William Hill, of Croyland, Lincolnshire, sexton, who had been blind upwards of 20 years. What is very remarkable, he could dig graves with as much propriety and accuracy as many who can see, and point out the particular spot of any family's interment. He could not only point out in the church any thing worth notice to strangers, by also lead them to any part of the town. He was a thatcher by trade, which profession he followed since he lost his sight. He was also cryer of the parish, and an auctioneer; and if his ringing was worth notice, he was as perfect as most people in a five-bell peal, and in hand-bells he was capital, and taught many to ring. He was also a capital singer.

(*London Chronicle*, Sat. 11 Feb. - Tues. 14 Feb. 1792; also *Scots Magazine*, Wed. 1 Feb. 1792, *Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 11 Feb. 1792, and *Morning Chronicle*, Mon. 13 Feb. 1792; shorter versions, *Bath Chronicle*, Thurs. 16 Feb. 1792, *Chester Courant*, Fri. 17 Feb. 1792, *Reading Mercury*, Mon. 20 Feb. 1792 and *Derby Mercury*, Wed. 23 Feb. 1792.)

On Saturday the 28th ult. upon hearing that the long contested Braham cause was finally determined in favour of John Revett, Esq; long may he live in health to enjoy the same, is the ardent wish of the Wilby Ringers, who immediately assembled and rang the following complete peals, viz. Plain Bob, Court Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, College Treble Bob, College Pleasure, Cambridge Surprise, Stedman's Slow Course, that critical peal which the Norwich ringers boasted they rang, upon opening Tibbenham [sic] bells, and the 18 score of Crown Bob; and were amply rewarded for the same by Mr. John Bayles, who rents a farm in Wilby, late the property of Mrs. Braham, deceased. This company consists of six Chenerys, who rung London Surprize, and are able to ring with any combined company. (*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 18 Feb. 1792; for an earlier reference to 18 score of Crown Bob rung at Wilby, see below.)

On Shrove Tuesday, the young change ringers of this town, with the assistance of one of the senior members, rang a compleat peal of 5040 Grandsire Tripples at St. Margaret's church, in three hours and thirty one minutes. The performers were:

Wm. Parsons	Treble.	Joseph Smith	6th.
Wm. Liquorish	2d.	John Gill	7th.
Henry Clarke	3d.	John Manton	}
Thomas Wills	4th.	and	} Tenor
William Hunter	5th.	E. Arnold, Jun.	}

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 2 March 1792)

On Thursday se'nnight there were very merry doings at Bitford in this county, upon their receiving a ring of six fine bells for their church. The bells, attended by a band of music playing "God save the King," were drawn by the populace to the chancel; after which the people of the place and neighbourhood were regaled by Mr. Osborn, with ale, &c. in painted barrels, with loyal toasts printed on them, which all the people in bumpers drunk; and after much singing and dancing, the populace quietly dispersed.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 5 March 1792) [This was Bidford, and Mr. Osborn was a churchwarden, not the founder. The bells were cast by John Rudhall.]

TO be RUNG for, at South-Wraxall, near
Bradford on Easter-Tuesday, April 10th, 1792,
An Ordinary at the King's Arms, at two o'clock.
SIX SILVER PUNCH LADLES—Umpires to be
chosen by the company present, to direct the ringing.

(*Bath Chronicle*, Thurs. 8 March 1792 - advert)

On Monday was rung at Wakefield Church, by the society of ringers there, an abstract of Bob Major, consisting of 5040 changes compleat, in three hours and a half, being the first time it was ever rung in Wakefield; it was performed with proper distinction and great applause.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Mon. 12 March 1792)

HIGH WYCOMBE.

APRIL 10.

Amongst the variety of persons who came into this delightful part of the country, we were particularly gratified on Sunday last by a visit of a select party of the Society of College Youths from London, who entertained the inhabitants of the Town in a most agreeable manner, by performing on the ten bells at the church, a true and complete Peal of Grandsire Catons, consisting of 5111 changes, in three hours and 42 minutes, to the great satisfaction and justly merited applause of a numerous and genteel assemblage of hearers, which the novelty of the performance had collected together on the occasion; being not only the first peal ever completed on those bells, but the first time that changes were ever before rang on them.

(*Star*, Wed. 11 April 1792)

On the evening of the 8th instant, a party of the Society of College Youths rung at All Saints, High Wycombe, Bucks, a maiden peal of Grandsire Catons, consisting of 5111 changes, which they completed in three hours and forty-two minutes, and in that masterly stile for which they are peculiarly famous.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 16 April 1792; also *Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 14 April 1792.)

The augmentation of the bells of Hinckley, Leics.

BELL-FOUNDERS.

AT a VESTRY held at HINCKLEY, in the county of Leicester, it was unanimously agreed, to have the SIX BELLS belonging to the said parish church to be new cast, and with additional metal to form a complete set of EIGHT BELLS. Proposals for that purpose, will be received and considered by the Parishioners; an application by any Bell-Founder in person, or by letter (post paid) to the Church-Wardens, on or before the 8th of May next ensuing.

HINCKLEY, April 18, 1792.

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 20 April 1792 - advert)

We learn from Hinckley that a subscription has been set on foot by the gentlemen of that place to defray the recasting of two of the old bells, and purchasing two new ones in addition. A gentleman well known for his mechanical abilities has likewise engaged to set up an entire new set of chimes.

(*Leicester Journal*, Sat. 5 May 1792)

Mr. Arnold of this Town is the gentleman engaged to cast the new set of bells for Hinckley.
(*Leicester Herald*, Sat 12 May 1792)

HINCKLEY, LEICESTERSHIRE

A Peal of eight bells, completed by Mr. EDMUND [*sic*] ARNOLD, Bell-founder and Bell-hanger, Leicester, will be opened, by the Society of Change Ringers of Leicester, on Tuesday, August 28, 1792. The company of all Change Ringers, and Gentlemen who are fond of that amusement, will be esteemed a favour.

There will be Ordinaries provided at the principal inns.

THOMAS TOWLE, Churchwarden.

(*Star*, Thurs. 23 Aug. 1792 - advert)

HINCKLEY,—LEICESTERSHIRE.

A PEAL of EIGHT BELLS, completed by Mr. EDWARD ARNOLD, (BELL-FOUNDER and BELL-HANGER, Leicester) will be opened by the SOCIETY of CHANGE-RINGERS of LEICESTER, on Tuesday next the 28th of August. The Company of all Change-Ringers, and Gentlemen who are fond of that Amusement, will be esteemed a Favor.

There will be Ordinaries provided at the principal Inns.

THOMAS TOWLE, Churchwarden.

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 24 Aug. 1792 - advert)

On Tuesday last, a Peal of Eight bells, completed by Mr. Edward Arnold, of Leicester, for the Parish Church of Hinckley, in this county, (the tenor whereof is in F, weighing 19 cwt) was opened by the Society of Change Ringers of this Town, when a variety of peals were rang in the hearing of a great number of persons assembled on the occasion, who expressed the greatest satisfaction at the pleasing and harmonious tone of them. After which a respectable meeting of the Inhabitants of the town, with the society, dined at the Bull's Head Inn, where the day was spent with the greatest harmony and good humour. And on Wednesday morning, the above mentioned society rang a compleat Peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in three hours and twenty one minutes which was allowed, by the best judges, to be a most excellent performance; at the conclusion whereof, the Society walked in procession from the church, through the whole town of Hinckley, (preceded by a band of Music) to the above Inn. - The bells are hung upon a new construction and do the greatest credit to Mr. Arnold, as an artist in his profession.

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 31 Aug. 1792)

The celebrity of Mr. Arnold, of this place, received a respectable addition at Hinckley Fair, on Monday last.—A peal of Eight Bells, just completed by that Gentlemen [*sic*] were opened by the society of Leicester Change Ringers, with the united applause of every true judge of that species of Harmony.

(*Leicester Herald*, Sat. 1 Sept. 1792)

LEICESTER, *May* 9, 1792.

EDWARD ARNOLD,
BELL-FOUNDER,

BEGS leave to inform the Public, that, in addition to his present business, he has lately erected an
IRON-FOUNDRY,
NEAR THE WEST-BRIDGE,

Where he intends prosecuting the branch of CASTING IRON to its utmost extent.

A business of this nature, he doubts not, will prove highly advantageous and convenient to this town and county, from the very great expence of carriage that attends the articles, (*which the Purchaser will save*), and from the advantage of its being situated on the spot, in executing orders with exactness and dispatch.

He continues to make in the most approved manner, at his
BELL-FOUNDRY,

Church Bells.
Chapel ditto.
Turret ditto.
House ditto.
Hand ditto.
Church Clocks and Chimes.
Engines to extinguish Fire.
Garden Engines.
Weighing Machines.

Electrical Conductors, for
defending churches, houses, &c. against the destructive effects of Lightning, on the most philosophical principles.
Church and House Bells hung.

(Advert in *Leicester Journal*, Fri. 11 May 1792 - repeated 18 and 25 May 1792; also *Northampton Mercury*, Sats. 19 & 26 May 1792.)

On Saturday se'nnight in the evening was rung at Wakefield Church, by the ringers there, on laying the first stone for a new street, a new peal of tripples, consisting of 5040 changes, in three hours and 45 minutes, which was allowed to be executed in a very complete manner.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Mon. 21 May 1792; similar report in *York Courant* of the same date, where the peal was 'allowed to be capitally executed.')

On Monday last the Albion Society of Shifnall completed the first attempt, a peal of 5040 plain bob triples, in three hours and five minutes, without a single, being the first ever rung in the county.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Fri. 25 May 1792 - quoted in the *Ringing World*, 19 February 1982, p.149)

Proposed prize ringing at Warfield, Berks.

RINGING at WARFIELD, Berks.

ON Monday June 18th, A very handsome SILVER CUP will be given to that company of Five Men (all of the same parish) that Ring the best Round Peal on Warfield Bells, each peal to continue ten minutes. Five good HATS to the second best peal, and Five Pair of Good GLOVES to the third best; two under pullers allowed; not less than six sets to ring. Each company to pay five shillings entrance before they make trial, which will be all the expence attending it; each company to provide an umpire. - The bells are in good order and free for trial, on Tuesdays and Fridays, from three o'clock in the afternoon till nine; and on Sundays, after divine service. No company to ring more than ten peals on trial, excepting one say peal on the day of ringing.

To begin ringing at five o'clock in the afternoon, and to abide strictly by the articles which will be stuck up in the belfry.

☞ No Warfield man to ring.

(*Reading Mercury, and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 28 May 1792 - advert)

The Ringing for a Silver Cup at Warfield, which was advertised to take place on Monday next, is put off to Monday the 25th instant.

(*Reading Mercury, and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 18 June 1792)

On Monday, May 28th inst. was rung at Kingsnorton, a true and complete grandsire peal, eight in, consisting of 5104 changes, which was completed in 3 hours and 5 minutes, by the St. Peter's youths of Aston.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 2 June 1792)

On Monday last the society of ringers at Ealand [*sic*] near Halifax, rung a complete peal, consisting of 5040 changes (on six bells) in two hours and fifty-two minutes.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Mon. 11 June 1792)

On Monday last was married, at Bottesford, Mr. George Hedderley, bell founder, of Nottingham, to Miss Sills, an agreeable young lady of the former place.

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 22 June 1792)

At Long Crendon, in the County of Bucks, was rung, on Sunday the 24th of this Month, a complete Peal of 5040 Bob Majors, in three Hours and ten Minutes, by eight Youths of that Place.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 30 June 1792)

The opening of the new ring of bells at Hathern, Leicestershire

A PEAL of FIVE BELLS to be opened.

On WEDNESDAY, the 18th of July, 1792, will
be opened,

A PEAL of FIVE BELLS,

At the PARISH CHURCH of HATHERN in the County of Leicester,
Completed by Mr. EDWARD ARNOLD, Bell-Founder,
and BELL-HANGER, of Leicester,

There will be TWO FREE PRIZES, to be rung for by three, or more, Sets of Ringers—five Ringers to each set; and no Person to ring in any more than one Set of Ringers.—A GOLD-LACED HAT to be given to a Set of five Ringers to raise the five Bells, and ring three different Peals of 120 Changes each Peal, and to fall, or cease the Bells, in the best Manner of any five Ringers present.—FIVE HATS to be given to another Set of five Ringers to raise the five Bells, and ring three different Peals of 120 Changes each Peal, and to fall, or cease the Bells, in the second-best Manner of any five Ringers then present, except those that ring the best.—There shall be no less than three Sets of Ringers to make the Trial for both Prizes. If only two Sets appear to make the Trial, they only ring for the GOLD-LACED HAT; and if only one Set appear, they ring three Peals in the best Manner they can, and have the FIVE HATS for their Trouble.—There will be proper Persons appointed to make Minutes of the ringing.——
To begin to ring exactly at eleven o'Clock.

☞ There will be an ORDINARY provided at the Plough Inn—
Dinner on the Table at two o'Clock.

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 13 July 1792 - advert)

On Wednesday last, the Peal of five Bells at Hathern, completed by Mr. EDWARD ARNOLD, of this town, was opened by the Ringers of Sibley and Barrow, to the great satisfaction of all the hearers. Both Societies rang in a very capital manner.—the prize of a *gold-laced Hat*, was decreed by the judges appointed to determine, to be given to the Sibley Society.

After the ringing was over, they adjourned to the Plough Inn to dinner, and the day was spent with the greatest harmony.

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 20 July 1792)

FRIENDSHIP AND HARMONY

WE the CHANGE - RINGERS of BARROW-
UPON-SOAR, think ourselves not well used in
Respect to the Prizes we rang for at Hathern, and we
are willing to ring the same Peals over again on the same
Bells, or at three different Churches on five Bells (the
Tenor not under G.) for the Sum of FIVE GUINEAS,
or for any Sum that the SILEBY RINGERS, or any other
in the County, may propose --the most Peals, and the
best on five Bells, as above-mentioned.

(*Leicester Journal*, Fris. 31 Aug. and 7 Sept. 1792 - advert)

To the Dastardly (G)Ringers of *Barrow*,

THIS is to inform you, That WE the FIVE Change-Ringers of Sileby, read your Advertisement, where you seem to relate something about ill Usage, which it was impossible you could receive from us, because there were three eminent Judges fixed upon, to determine it. WE think it a Piece of Ignorance in you, to challenge the whole County, to ring you upon Bells, that are just your own Pitch. But as you challenge Sileby in particular, WE will ring you at a fair Proposal, which is this:—As your Tenor is upon G, and Sileby E, WE will ring both, and six on another betwixt them, and ring you, and ring you the same three Peals as we rung at Hathern (when WE took the Prize from you), for what Sum you please to mention: and then WE will endeavour to give both you and the County Satisfaction.

N.B. If you will not accept of this fair Challenge, WE hope the County will compare you to a LOSING-LIKE Set of People.

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 21 Sept. 1792 - advert)

To the HOSTILE Ringers of
SILEBY,
IN
REPLY to their SCURRILOUS
LANGUAGE

THIS IS TO INFORM YOU, That WE the CHANGE-RINGERS of BARROW, read your Advertisement; but as we are sensible of the ill Language with which you address us, we think it not worth much Notice, - but as you seem to make it public to the World, that we are fearful of Ringing against you, (our sole Motive being to be Friendly) we will convince the World that we are not afraid of Ringing with you, upon the Letters E, F and G, the most Peals, and the best; though you seem to signify we are only capable of Ringing on the Letter G, we will meet you at LEICESTER, and six on the Three Letters before mentioned, at either of the Ten Bell Churches, for what Sum you please, and leave it to the LEICESTER GENTLEMEN, (Change-Ringers).

The SILEBY Ringers seem to boast and swell much about taking the Prize from Hathern; it's true they did, but the Judges and other People were very well convinced, that the Performance was so equal, that they could hardly determine it, and if there had been but one Prize, it must have been rung for over again, - We think ourselves ill used, by not receiving the Second Prize; on which Account you may well remember, we challenged to ring you the same Peals over again for FIVE GUINEAS. - The World may think your last Advertisement was a very fair one, but this we know, that the SILEBY Ringers have had much Practice on light Bells, and the BARROW Ringers none on heavy ones. Common Sense ought to convince the World, that your's is not a fair Proposal; as any Man, that is a Master of a heavy Weight, can better govern a lighter. - Now we hope the SILEBY Ringers will be convinced, and the World likewise, that we are willing to ring against them, in all the Art of Ringing. - by the most Peals, and the best performed, - for whatever Sum they chuse to mention.

As for Sileby boasting, of ringing Peals three,
If they accept this Proposal, we'll let the County see,
That we are Masters of the Art, of ringing through
Plenty of different Six Scores, and harmonious too.

Barrow, October 2, 1792.

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 5 Oct. 1792 – advert; this page is missing from the digitised version, so the text cannot be laid out in the approximate style of the original.)

To the pretended ill-used RINGERS

AT

BARROW-UPON-SOAR.

WE, the Change-Ringers of SILEBY, read your Address to us, in the LEICESTER JOURNAL, wherein you challenge us to ring at either of the Ten Bell Churches in Leicester, upon the Letters E, F and G;—we suppose you have first asked Leave of the Minister and Churchwardens belonging to the said Churches, to let you ring us there; if not, you have acted as imprudently in that, as you did by asserting Falshoods in your Address,--- but as you say either of those Churches, we suppose you are, so obliging as to give us the Liberty to chuse. *We do hereby give you Notice*, that we accept the Challenge, according to your Proposal; and are ready to meet you at the Church of St. MARGARET, to ring with you for any Sum you chuse to mention, and as soon as you please; when we hope to give Satisfaction to you and ourselves, and likewise to the County at large, *which you have been so imprudent to Challenge*:— But as you have displayed such an extensive Knowledge in the ground work of Music, we must insist upon you to find out those THREE compleat Peals of Five Bells in E, F and G, at the afore-said Church; we say compleat, because we suppose your *over-nice* Musical Ears will not admit to any Thing which is not so. We beg Leave to ask Mr. H-, when E is the Key Note, and F and C is Sharp, what Key he is pleased to call that? and when the Key Note is F, and F and C is Sharp, what Key he is pleased to call *that*? and when the Key Note is his old favourite G, and F and C is Sharp, what Key he is pleased to call *that*?—We do not say you do wrong by complaining of ill Usage at HATHERN: it was a very hard Case indeed, that you could neither win a Prize, nor *beg* one: You say we are HOSTILE, we deny the Charge, the word HOSTILE is applicable to yourselves only,--- as you disagree and fight each other about which is the best Ringer, and hath got the most Money,

*For H. said to L. I have FIFTY in Store,
And all that I will lay, if we e're ring them more;
But L. said to H. this is naught but your Strut,
You've but a few HALFPENCE wrap'd in a Hose Foot.
You say we are hostile, but here you must hush,
It was H. gave L. Battle with Piss-pot and Brush;
As for Envy and Strife, we have none for to try,
We all live in Friendship, and in U-ni-ty:
So we wish you'd be wise, and not quite so Cocket,
Or you'll soon RING the Money all out of your Pocket.*

☞ Gentlemen, (if we may use the Expression) we think it will be as foolish in US to continue this Paper War (as some People term it) as it was in YOU to begin it, - therefore decline troubling the Public with any more of it; but we are, and always shall be ready to answer you at *Sileby*, to your own Satisfaction, on any Subject you propose to us.

(Leicester Journal, Fri. 26 Oct. 1792 - advert.)

Last week an excellent New Clock, with a compleat Set of Chimes, made by Mr. Briant of Hertford, was put up in the Tower of the Church at New Woodstock, in this County, much to the Satisfaction of the Inhabitants of that Town, and the Credit of the Artist.

(Jackson's Oxford Journal, Sat. 14 July 1792)

The opening of Brant Broughton

RINGING.

ON MONDAY, July 23, a NEW PEAL of SIX BELLS, will be opened at BRANT BROUGHTON, in the County of Lincoln. The Tenor weighs Fifteen Hundred; in the Key of F. sharp. Cast and hung by THOMAS OSBORN, at Downham, in the County of Norfolk.

Six Hats will given to the Company who ring the best round Peal for Thirty Minutes.

THOMAS OSBORN begs to inform Church-wardens, and others, that will continue at Broughton near a Fortnight. Orders sent to him at Mr. AULSEBROOK'S, Red Lyon, Brant Broughton, either in the casting or hanging Branches, will be executed in the best Manner, and on the most Reasonable Terms.

BRANT BROUGHTON, 12th July, 1792.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 20 July 1792 - advert)

NEWARK, JULY 26.

...

Broughton new peal of bells was opened on Monday last, when the Beckingham ringers rung the best round peal, and obtained the prize from many competitors. A very numerous assemblage of amateurs in the science of ringing bestowed great commendation on Mr. Osborn, whose well-earned credit as a bell-founder, will suffer no diminution by this late exertion of his skill.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 27 July 1792; similar report, *Norfolk Mercury*, Sat. 11 Aug. 1792.)

A new peal of bells was opened at Broughton, in Lincolnshire, on Monday last, when the Beckingham ringers rang the best peal, and obtained the prize from many competitors. - A very numerous assemblage of *amateurs* in the science of ringing bestowed great commendation on Mr. Osborn, whose well-earned credit as a Bell-founder; will suffer no diminution by this last exertion of his skill.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 11 Aug. 1792)

Wednesday last as the bells were ringing in Wymondham church, the tenor, weighing 24 cwt. broke from the stock, fell on a large balk, came through that floor, and rested on another balk, very providentially for the people under it, of whom there were upwards of twenty, besides the ringers.
(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 28 July 1792; quoted in the *Ringling World*, 17 Jan. 1992; shorter report in the *Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 6 Aug. 1792, with by-line 'London, Aug. 12.')

The hanging of Gabriel, the Lewes Town Bell

GABRIEL, our great town bell, which has been silent ever since the death of our late King, is this morning to be fixed in the tower built for that purpose, at the entrance of our new market-place; the idea of first filling it with *punch* is therefore given up.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 30 July 1792)

GABRIEL, our old Town Bell is positively to be hung tomorrow Morning, in a handsome Tower erected for that purpose, at the entrance of our new Market-Place. The above Bell was cast in the reign of Henry the eighth whose bust it bears, and has not been heard since the death of our late King, for whose funeral it was tolled, and soon after taken down with the old Tower (a part of the broken Church of St. Nicholas) that contained it.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 15 Oct. 1792)

OLD GABRIEL was on Tuesday last conducted to our Tower, and very safely placed in the highest apartment thereof, where he soon after proudly proclaimed his own exaltation and excellent tones not to be equalled by any bells of more modern founderies. Various were the opinions of the people respecting the weight of this ancient bell, which was unknown till last Tuesday, when it was weighed, and proved much lighter than was expected, the utmost that it could preponderate, without the clapper, being no more than 17cwt. 3qrs. 2½lbs. The above bell from the portion of silver it contains, is said to be worth two shillings the pound.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 22 Oct. 1792; the *Sussex Weekly Advertiser* was published in Lewes, and it is consequently Lewes town bell that is referred to.)

On Tuesday se'nnight was opened by the society of Change Ringers of this town, a peal of Five Bells, at Hartshorn, in the county of Derby, to the great satisfaction of all hearers; three of the Bells were cast, and the peal entirely new hung by Mr. E. Arnold Bell-founder and Bell-hanger of this place.

(*Leicester Herald*, Sat. 11 Aug. 1792)

A dispute over prize ringing

WHEREAS a Prize Ringing was rung for at Bury on the 21st inst. August, by several Sets of Change Ringers.

Therefore this is to give Notice,

That the Senior Set of Change Ringers at Middleton are ready to ring any Set of Change Ringers, that did ring Changes for the Prizes on that day, for any Sum of Money, upon just and honourable Terms.

Witness our hands,

Wm. Partington	Jno. Bamford,
Saml. Searle,	Jno. Fitton,
Willm. Collinger,	Jno. Steventon.

This will be no more advertised.

Middleton, Aug. 30, 1792.

(*Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, Sat. 1 Sept. 1792 - advert)

Salford, September 3, 1792.

WHEREAS an Advertisement appeared in Mr Wheeler's paper, on *Saturday* last, In the Form of a Challenge, from the Ringers of *Middleton*, that they would ring any set of Ringers, who rung for the Prize at *Bury*, on the 21st of *August* last. We whose Names here-under-mentioned, being the Ringers at *Salford*, was at *Bury* that Day, and gained the first Prize.

Therefore this is to give Notice,

That *Salford* Ringers will ring them on honourable Terms, or any Terms they please, or for what Money they please. As Witness our Hands,

John Dane, | Simeon Worrall, | John Downes,
Isaac Grundy, | Henry Rothwell, | Jas. Hollingworth

N.B. Please to send Word the Time and Place we are to meet, in order to settle Matters, and it will be duly attended to. Direct for *Salford* Ringers, to be left at the *Royal Oak*, near the Chapel, *Salford*.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 4 Sept. 1792 - advert; 'Mr. Wheeler's paper' was *Wheeler's Manchester Chronicle*, qv)

Lately died at Folkingham, in Lincolnshire, Mary Foster, a maiden, aged 73. - By her own desire, her remains were enclosed in a white deal coffin, and carried by four taylors, with six young maidens to hold up the pall. The bells chimed to church, where an anthem was sung, taken from the 7th Chapter of Job; and after the service was over a merry peal was rung.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Mon. 1 Oct. 1792)

On Thursday se'nnight, being the anniversary of the King's accession, was rung at Keighley, by the Society of Ringers of that place, 5040 changes, in two hours and fifty-seven minutes, every 720 with 15 bobs, *with the sixth into the hunt and out of the hunt*, containing the following peals—Morning Star, Westminster, Durham, York, Ely, Carlisle and Chester; upon which method, it is presumed, they were never before performed in England.
(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Mon. 5 Nov. 1792)

On Monday last, being the anniversary of Gunpowder-Plot, was rung by the St. Peter's Company of this town, an abstract of Oxford Treble Bob; consisting of 5088 true changes, in fifteen courses; it was performed in the proper style of true ringing, in three hours and thirteen minutes.
(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Mon. 12 Nov. 1792)

On Monday last was rung at St. Michael's Coslany, by a select company, 1792 changes of that ingenious Peal call'd *Norwich Court Bob*, the masterly performance of which did great credit to the company and afforded much pleasure to those who understand and admire that art.
(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 24 Nov. 1792 – quoted in the *Ringling World*, 17 Jan. 1992, p.51, where it states that the report was also published in the *Norfolk Chronicle* of the same date '...as far as the word "Bob" and then concluded: for regular striking, the ingenuity of the peal, and being the date of the year, gave great satisfaction to all judicious hearers, who delight in that ingenious art.')

On Monday evening last was rung on the musical peal of eight bells at St. Mary's in this town, by the Junior members of the Union Society, a peal of Bob Major, containing 5040 changes in forty-three courses only. This curious composition which contains the most harmonious courses of the peal, was completed with very fine striking, in three hours and thirty minutes.
(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Fri. 30 Nov. 1792)

On Thursday the 15th instant, a new peal of six musical bells was opened at Horbury new church, when ringers from four of the neighbouring towns assembled on the occasion; and it being agreed to ring peals of 720 changes, the ringers from Wakefield, Mirfield and Darton, each took their turn at the ropes, when it was allowed by the umpires, that the Wakefield ringers performed in the most masterly and correct manner.
(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Mon. 26 Nov. 1792)

**BENNETT AND ELLIS,
BRASS AND BELL FOUNDERS,**

Inform their friends and the public in general,

THAT they have completed their BRASS and BELL
FOUNDRY, where they manufacture, in a superior manner,
all kinds of brass-work for cotton machines, of every description;
compleat suits of clock-work, viz. Approved brass movements, clock
bells, cast from the best London patterns; steel pinions, wrought
work, and clock weights for eight-days clocks and thirty-hours ditto;
large brass cog wheels; steps, bushes, &c. for mills and engines;
electric conductors, with wind dials. Braziers may be supplied with
all their copper castings.

Bells, of all dimensions, not exceeding 400 pounds weight; also
house and dinner bells, of all sizes.

All orders, left at P. ELLIS's, ironmonger, Eastgate-street, Chester,
or at the foundry, in Boughton, will meet due attention.

The full value for all old metals, at either of the above places.

T. M. BENNETT continues to carry on the IRON-FOUNDRY
and WHITE-SMITH's BUSINESS as extensively as usual.

(*Chester Chronicle*, Fri. 21 Dec. 1792 – advert, per Chris Pickford)

Last Wednesday was rung at Chelmsford by their company, a compleat peal of 1792 changes of Oxford Treble Bob, being the date of the present year; and likewise at different times and in various ways of calling it in bob major.
(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 28 Dec. 1792)

On Friday last was rung at the parish church of Hinckley in this county by the Society of Youths of Aston, near Birmingham, a true and complete peal, consisting of 5264 changes of Bob Major, which was completed in 3 hours and 20 minutes, being the first peal ever rung there in that method.

(Leicester Journal, Fri. 4 Jan. 1793)

1793

We have the following account from the Leeds Youths: That on the first of January 1793, They rang at Leeds 5040 Bob Major in 3 hours and 12 minutes. Treble Samuel Grayling aged 82: 2d Thomas Barham 70: 3d Abraham Barham 77: 4th William Davis 65: 5th John Hunt 70: 6th Thomas Lacey 65: 7th James Barham 67; The tenor by Jonathan Freeland 81: The whole of their ages together making 577 years.

It is remarkable that this peal compleats the hundredth, rang at several places and none less than 5040 in each, by James Barham, one of the above named Youths. They also rang December 25th, 1792, at the same church 5088 Oxford tripple bob, in 3 hours and 17 minutes, and the next day, the same peal at Lenham in 3 hours and fourteen minutes.

(*Maidstone Journal*, Tues. 8 Jan. 1793; similar report in *Kentish Gazette*, Fri. 11 Jan. 1793. Report to the same effect for peal at Leeds - but not including the other two peals - *Sporting Magazine*, Feb. 1793.)

Yesterday evening the Cumberland Society of Ringers paid a tribute to the memory of the late unfortunate Louis XVI. by ringing a funeral peal at the parish church of St. Bride's, Fleet-street. (*London Packet or New Lloyd's Evening Post*, Fri. 25 Jan. - Mon. 28 Jan. 1793)

On Sunday last was rung at Spilsby, in this county, (by John Haw, Thomas Martin, John Baker, John Holderness, William Hall, and John Holden, all of the same place) eight six bell peals, consisting of 5760 changes, in three hours and twelve minutes, which was never known to be performed before in so short a space of time, and deserves much credit, as they rung with great exactness all the while.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 1 Feb. 1793)

The Society of Cambridge Youths rung a mourning peal upon the bells of Great St. Mary's church last Friday evening, for the death of the much-lamented Louis XVI.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 2 Feb. 1793)

CAMBRIDGE, Feb. 19.

.....

Thursday night a peal of Grandsire Catons was rung on Great St. Mary's ten bells, consisting of 5039 changes, which were completed in 3 hours and 27 minutes.

(*Bury and Norwich Post*, Wed. 20 February 1793; similar report in *Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 22 Feb. 1793, where the time was said to be 9 hours and 27 minutes!)

On Saturday evening, the 16th instant, was rung at Christ Church, Spitalfields, by ten selected persons from the Society of College Youths, a complete peal of 6280 Oxford Treble Bob, ten in, in four hours and thirty-seven minutes, being the greatest number of changes ever rung on those bells. The accurate and masterly style of ringing continued throughout the whole of the performance, and gave unanimous satisfaction to numerous and able judges of this ingenious art who attended to hear it.—

N.B. The tenor of these grand, melodious bells weighs 44 cwt. and was rung by one person only. (*Public Advertiser*, Thurs. 28 Feb. 1793; similar, but slightly shorter, report in *St. James's Chronicle or the British Evening Post*, Tues. 26 Feb. - Thurs. 28 Feb. 1793.)

BELL-FOUNDERY.

ON Tuesday the 19th of February, a Peal of Five new Bells were excellently rung at DRAX, in the County of York, by Howden, Snaith, and Hembrough Ringers, which are very harmonious and handsome, and give great Satisfaction to the Parishioners. — They were cast and hung by JAMES HARRISON, of Barton-upon-Humber; in Justice to whom, and the Public, we feel it our indispensable Duty to give this Testimony.

JOHN JACKSON, Minister.

JOHN PULLEIN,	}	
WILLIAM HEMBROUGH,	}	
THOMAS DICKINSON,	}	Churchwardens
JOHN HARDWICK,	}	

(*Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 1 March 1793 - advert)

On Monday the 9th inst. the Society of Cumberland Youths rung at St. Saviour's, Southwark, a compleat peal of Cumberland Treble-bob Maximus (twelve in) consisting of 5232 changes, in four hours nine minutes, being the first ever rung in that method.

(*London Packet or New Lloyd's Evening Post*, Mon. 11 March - Wed. 13 March 1793)

On Monday evening, was rung upon the Musical Hand-bells, at *Handel's Head*, in Burgess-street, in this town, a complete peal of 5148 changes of Grandsire Cinques, in three hours and 28 minutes, by the following persons—William Lee, John Denton, Joseph Grayson, John Morley, John Grayson, and John Taylor; the peal was called by John Denton.

(*Sheffield Register*, Fri. 29 March 1793)

On Monday last was rung at St. Martin's church in this town, a complete peal of 6000 Oxford treble bob maximus, in four hours and twenty-two minutes, by twelve of the St. Martin's youths.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 15 April 1793)

On Monday, April 17, the society of Cumberland Youths rung at Christ-church, Spitalfields, a true peal of Oxford treble bob royal, consisting of 6360 changes, in four hours and fifty-one minutes.

(*Sporting Magazine*, May 1793 p.59)

May 9, 1793

To RINGERS.

Six Hats will be rung for at Southminster, by any three companies with five or six bells, on Whitsun-Tuesday next. Dinner will be ready at 2 o'clock at the Fox and Hounds, Southminster, Essex.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 10 May 1793 - advert)

Died on Thursday, at Wirksworth, Mr. John Burton, baker. His wife, who was pregnant of her seventh child, was so agitated when she heard the doleful sound of the passing bell, that she miscarried and on Saturday evening, while the bell was tolling for the funeral of her departed husband, she expired. This silly custom of tolling bells ought to be abolished.

(*Leicester Herald*, Sat. 11 May 1793)

R I N G I N G.

THIS is to give notice, to all Gentlemen Ringers and others, that on Wednesday, May the 15th, 1793, there will be RUNG for on WHITE WALTHAM CHURCH BELLS, a SILVER QUART CUP. The company that rings the best round peal, to be entitled to it.—FIVE HATS for the company that rings the second best peal, and one for their Umpire.—FIVE PAIR of good GLOVES for the Company that rings the third best peal, and a Pair for their Umpire.—Likewise FIVE PAIR of GLOVES for the Company that rings the fourth best peal, and a Pair for their Umpire.—FIVE RIBBONS for the Company that rings the worst peal (cast peals excepted), and One for their Umpire.

Each Company with their Umpire to belong to one, and the same parish, and each Company to pay Five Shillings, and their Umpire One Shilling entrance. Each prize peal to continue 15 minutes; each company to be allowed ten essay peals, and no more. No essay peals on the day of ringing for the prizes (except two peals for any Company that enters on the above mentioned day), and no ringing for the said prizes, except six Companies enter for the same.

A good dinner will be provided by William Tustin, at the sign of the Coach and Horses, White Waltham, Berks, and no person will be permitted to ring, or be an Umpire, except he dines at the same; which will be on the table at one o'clock, and to begin ringing at three o'clock.

N.B. Each Company will be allowed one under puller. The bells are in good order, and free for essay peals, at any time (Sundays excepted), previous to the day of ringing.—☞ No White Waltham man to ring, or be an Umpire.

(Advert in *Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 13 May 1793)

We are informed, that at a meeting of the Rev. Henry Zouch, General Tottenham, Mr. Maude, Mr. James Steer, and Mr. Lee, five of the Commissioners appointed by the act for building St. John's Church, in Wakefield, held at the White Hart there last Saturday, it was determined that a set of eight bells should be purchased for that church, and upwards of four hundred and fifty pounds was immediately subscribed by them, and a few other gentlemen, towards defraying the expence. (*Leeds Intelligencer*, Mon. 20 May 1793)

Thursday last the 23d instant was rung by the Society of Boughton under the Blean, at the sign of the White Horse in Boughton street, a complete peal of Five Thousand, Bob Maximus, in three hours and three quarters, on a peal of twelve excellent Hand-Bells. Also, after dinner, a peal of Seven Hundred, Bob Minor, in Octave, the bells being fixed together in pairs, an Octave from each other, there being a bell a tone above the peal for that purpose. (*Kentish Gazette*, Fri. 31 May 1793; reported also in *Sporting Magazine*, June 1793 pp. 188-9.)

A visit to Hinckley by the St. Peter's Youths, Aston, Birmingham.

We hear from Hinckley, that on Whitmonday the St. Peter's Youths of Aston, near Birmingham, will be there to ring a complete peal on the eight bells, in the newest method, which is expected to surpass every performance of the kind ever done at that place before, when the lovers of the grand and noble art of ringing will be highly gratified. (*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 17 May 1793; similar news item in *Leicester Herald*, Sat. 18 May 1793)

On Whitsun Tuesday was rung at the Parish Church in Hinckley, Leicestershire, a true and compleat peal of grandsire eight-in, consisting of 5088 changes; it was compleated in three hours and ten minutes, by eight of St. Peter's youths, of Aston, near this town; and on Wednesday last was rung by the same society, a true and compleat peal of bob major, consisting of 5376 changes, which was compleated in three hours and twenty minutes.
(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 3 June 1793)

On the 29th of May, a compleat peal of bob triples was rung at Ryegate, Surrey, of 5040 changes in three hours and 20 minutes, without any fault or mistake whatsoever; the man that rang the treble is 79 years of age.
(*Sporting Magazine*, June 1793 p.189)

His Majesty's Birthday was celebrated at Hinckley in this County, with every mark of loyalty and attachment. The morning was ushered in with ringing of bells etc. At ten o'clock a number of young men assembled with their muskets at the Nag's Head, from whence they went in procession (accompanied by a select band of music with flags flying) to the church, where being met by the Society of Ringers, they all ascended the tower, and performed Handel's Coronation Anthem in honour of the day, which was followed by three vollies fired from off the tower. They then returned to the inn, where an elegant entertainment was provided, several loyal and constitutional songs having been sung, they paraded the town, firing vollies in different parts of it. The day concluded with the utmost harmony.
(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 14 June 1793)

R I N G I N G.

THIS is to give notice to all Gentlemen Ringers and others, that on Monday the 5th of August will be RUNG for, on MAPLEDURHAM BELLS, Six Good HATS for the Company that rings the best Round Peal, and one for the umpire; and six RIBBONS for the Company that rings the second best, and one for the umpire.

Each company with their umpire to belong to one and the same parish. No Mapledurham man to ring or be an umpire.

The bells are in good order and free for essay peals at any time before the day of ringing, (Sundays excepted) but no essay peals will be allowed on the day of ringing.

A good dinner will be provided at Henry Alldridge's, the King's Arms, at Mapledurham; and no person will be permitted to ring, unless he dines at the same, which will be on the table at one o'clock, and to begin ringing at three.—N.B. No less than three companies will be allowed to ring.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 1 July 1793 - advert)

At Long Crendon, Bucks, the 2d. instant, was rung a complete peal, 7168 of bob majors, in four hours and twenty minutes, by eight youths of that place.
(*Evening Mail*, Thurs. 11 July - Sat. 13 July 1793)

On Saturday last was rung at Maidstone church, a peal of 5040 Cators, in three hours and thirty-eight minutes, by Gentlemen ringers of Deptford, Greenwich, &c.
(*Maidstone Journal*, Tues. 23 July 1793; also *Kentish Chronicle*, Fri. 26 July 1793)

On Saturday last, the Society of Trinity Youths, Deptford, rang in the steeple of All Saints, Maidstone, Kent, a compleat peal of Grandsire Catons in three hours and forty minutes, being the first peal ever rung in that [?]e on those bells.

(*London Packet or New Lloyd's Evening Post*, Mon. 22 July – Wed. 24 July 1793; a slightly different account from the reports quoted above.)

On Monday se'nnight died, and on Thursday was buried at Felsham, John Chaplin, aged 18, son of Mr. Chaplin, of the same place; a youth much lamented by his friends, and deservedly beloved and respected by his acquaintance. He was followed to the grave by a numerous company of ringers, and others, he being very fond of that art; and a dumb peal was rung on the occasion.

(*Bury and Norwich Post*, Wed. 7 Aug. 1793)

The opening of a new ring of bells at Elston, near Newark

RINGING.

ON MONDAY the 12th Instant, will be open'd at ELSTON, near NEWARK, a new PEAL of FIVE BELLS, cast and hung by T. OSBORN, of Downham, in Norfolk; the Tenor is in A.

A Prize of FIVE HATS will be given to the Company who ring the best round Peal, for the Space of Thirty Minutes.

Mr. OSBORN's Stay in the Neighbourhood, will be about a Week. Any Application, or Letters address'd to him, at the Rutland Arms, Newark; or at Elston, will be attended to.

(*Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 9 Aug. 1793 - advert)

NEWARK, Aug. 15.

Monday last being the Prince of Wales's birth-day, a peal of five new bells were opened at Elston, near Newark, by the Beckingham, Sutton, and Claypole ringers.—A prize of five hats was proposed to be given to the company who rung the best round peal; which was adjudged to the Beckingham society. A vast number of people were assembled on the occasion, many of whom being great proficient in the art of ringing, expressed great satisfaction on hearing so harmonious a peal; which cannot fail of adding to the known credit of Mr. Osborn, the founder.

(*Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 16 Aug. 1793)

To the PRINTERS.

WE cannot refrain from communicating to the public, with contempt, the erroneous paragraph which made its way into the Buckinghamshire Herald of the 10th of August instant, under the signature of *A Constant Reader*, dated Newport-Pagnell, Aug. 2, 1793, wherein it sets forth that a Mr. Botham, banker, in this town, on receiving the news of the surrender of Valenciennes to the British arms, ordered the bells to be rung, and gave a very handsome present for that purpose. We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, the ringers in and of the said parish, do declare to a man, we know no such person as Mr. Botham, and upon the strictest enquiry cannot learn who he is. And we also declare, and wish it to be made publicly known through the channel of your paper, that on every occasion that does honour to our King and Country, we come forward as Britons, without kind of any solicitation whatever, and the gentlemen in our own parish, without the assistance of any other person or persons, cheerfully second our endeavours, and give us every gratification we wish for. Witness our hands this 8th of August, 1793.

<i>Edward Simcox.</i>	<i>George Nickleton,</i>
<i>Wm. Pearce.</i>	The X of
<i>Charles Brandon.</i>	<i>Joseph Joyce.</i>
<i>Thomas Harvey.</i>	<i>William Joyce.</i>
<i>Samuel Smith.</i>	<i>B. Trulove.</i>

Newport, Bucks.

(Northampton Mercury, 17 Aug. 1793 - advert)

CAMBRIDGE, Aug. 19.

Friday last, being the birth-day of his Royal Highness the Duke of York, the morning was ushered in here by ringing a merry peal at Great St. Mary's Tower, which distinguished the day by a military firing of the bells, in imitation of so many volleys of cannon. The evening was concluded with the firing of guns, bonfires, &c. and a general illumination throughout the town, in honour of the Royal Commander.

(Bury and Norwich Post, Wed. 21 Aug. 1793)

There was no flag displayed on the steeple of St. Martin's Church, on the birth-day of the Duke of CLARENCE. A sufficient proof this, that the gang of ringers and their associates are not Loyalists, but *rank* Ministerialists.

(Morning Post, Fri. 23 Aug. 1793)

TO RINGERS.

THE RINGING MATCH that was to have been at TWERTON on Monday the 16th day of September, is unavoidably postponed till further notice.

Sept. 11th.

J. DAFTER, Churchwarden.

(Bath Chronicle, Thurs. 12 Sept. 1793)

Sunday se'nnight died at Sheffield, after a long illness, John Hill, a celebrated change ringer, of that town, and on Tuesday his remains were interred in the old churchyard there; during the procession to the church the bells were chimed with the clappers muffled; after the funeral service was ended, the society of ringers of that place, rung a true and complete abstract containing 420 changes of the peal called Sheffield Tripples, which was followed by a complete abstract of 518 changes of grandsire triples, in a style that did credit to the performers, and which added greatly to the solemnity of this mournful occasion.

(Leeds Intelligencer, Mon. 23 Sept. 1793; also Sheffield Register, Fri. 20 Sept. 1793.)

[Advert for an entertainment, including 'the Jolly Ringers.'] The whole is written and accompanied, and will be spoken, sung, and accompanied by Mr. DIBDIN,...
(*Star*, Sat. 28 Sept. 1793; also several other newspapers. The words of the poem 'The Jolly Ringers were published in *Hampshire Chronicle*, Mon. 27 Jan. 1794, where it is stated that they were 'FROM DIBDIN'S "CASTLES IN THE AIR."'')

On Sunday last was rung, at New Church in Rossendale, the following four change peals, in a very masterly manner by the junior set of ringers from Radcliffe, namely - Oxford Treble Bob, College Pleasure, College Treble Bob, and Crown Bob; making, in the whole, 1440 changes, in fifty one minutes.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 1 Oct. 1793)

The bankruptcy of Edward Arnold

Edard Arnold, of Leicester, in the county of Leicester, bell-founder, dealer and chapman; to appear Oct. 2, 4, and Nov. 5 at the Lin and Dolphin, in Leicester. Attorney, Mr. Lawton, in Leicester.

(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 1 Oct. 1793)

BANKRUPTS... Edward Arnold, of Leicester, bell-founder.

(*Hereford Journal*, Wed. 2 Oct. 1793; also *Bury and Norwich Post*, same date. Also other papers of varying dates.)

CERTIFICATE to be granted.

Dec. 21, Edward Arnold, of Leicester, Bell-founder.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 2 Dec. 1793)

ARNOLD'S BANKRUPTCY.
THE COMMISSIONERS in a Commission of Bankrupt awarded and issued against EDWARD ARNOLD, of Leicester - Bellfounder, intend to meet on the 7th Day of May Instant, at Four o'Clock in the Afternoon, at the LION and DOLPHIN in Leicester aforesaid, in Order to make a Dividend of the Estate and Effects of the said Bankrupt; when and where the Creditors who have not already proved their Debts, are to be prepared to prove the same, or they will be excluded the Benefit of the said Dividend.

J. LAWTON, Solicitor.

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 2 May 1794 - advert)

The long peal of Bob Major at Aston, Birmingham

On Tuesday last was rung at St. Peter's church, Aston, near this town, a true and compleat peal of Bob Majors, consisting of 15,360 changes, which was completed in 9 hours and 31 minutes, by eight of the society of that place: including, it is said, the most changes and greatest length of time, ever rung in this kingdom.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 7 Oct. 1793)

On the 1st. of October last was rung at St. Peter's Church at Aston, near Birmingham, a true and complete peal of Bob Majors, consisting of 15360 changes, which was completed in nine hours and 29 minutes. This is considered to be the greatest performance that ever was done by one set of men:

Burn	1.	Pratt	3.	Wilmot	5.	Hassall	7.
Smith	2.	Bayliss	4.	Silvester	6.	Short	Tenor.

Weight of the Tenor 21 hundred.

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 15 Nov. 1793; also *Sporting Magazine*, Nov. 1793 p.103, without the names of the ringers - the latter per Graham Scott.)

On Sunday, October 6, the Junior Society of Cumberland Youths rang, at St. Mary, Lewisham, Kent, a complete peal of grandsire eight in, consisting of 5264 changes, in three hours and twenty-nine minutes, with the sixth at home the last eleven courses; being the first peal ever brought round by that method.

(*Sporting Magazine*, Oct. 1793 p.51)

On Wednesday evening last was rung at Stroud, by the Society of Ringers at that place, a peal of grandsire tripples, containing 1021 changes.

(*Gloucester Journal*, Mon. 14 Oct. 1793)

On last Tuesday evening was rung at Horsham, in this county, a true and complete peal of 5040 Grandsire tripples, which was performed in three hours and five minutes, in order as follows, viz.

Anthony Lintott,	Treble	Horsham.
Thomas Lintott,	2d,	Ditto
John Ranger,	3d,	Walden.
Edward Aldridge,	4th,	Horsham.
Thomas Bristow,	5th,	Walden.
Thomas Jones,	6th,	Horsham.
John Moyce,	7th,	Chittingstone, Kent.
John Foreman,	Tenor,	Horsham.

The Bobs were called by Thomas Lintott.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 21 Oct. 1793; short report, beginning 'On Tuesday se'nnight, *Hampshire Chronicle*, Mon. 28 Oct. 1793.)

RINGING.

THIS is to inform all Lovers of that Science, that there will be an opening of that noble peal of Eight Bells at Debenham, on the 6th day of November, 1793, the 5th being new cast, and the tenor re-hung, which makes the peal complete. The company of lovers of ringing will be esteemed a favour by their humble servant, CATCHPOLE SUMMERS.

☞ Dinner at Two o'clock.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 2 Nov. 1793 - advert)

At Long Crendon, near Thame, on Sunday last was rung a complete peal of 5040 bob majors by eight youths of that place, in three hours and ten minutes.

(*Sporting Magazine*, Nov. 1793 p.103 – per Graham Scott; there is no other evidence of this peal being rung, and it is most likely that it was a late record of the peal of Bob Major rung here on 24 June 1792. For a discussion see *Ringling World* 2022, p. 1228.)

Sunday last were rung, by four young men of the Diss company of Ringers, 5040 changes of Bob-majors, performed in two hours and fifty-nine minutes, on a delightful peal of hand-bells.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 2 Nov. 1793 - quoted in the *Ringling World*, 5 Feb. 1993 p.115)

On Thursday last, the 31st. ult the Junior Society of Cumberland Youths rang at St. Mary's Whitechapel, the whole peal of Grandsire triples, consisting of 5,040 changes, in three hours and five minutes, being the shortest time that ever a peal of that kind was compleated at that place.

(*London Evening Post*, Sat. 2 Nov. – Tues. 5 Nov. 1793; also *Sporting Magazine*, Nov. 1793 p.103, the latter per Graham Scott.)

Last Monday was rung, at the chapel of Saint Edward the Confessor, Romford, by the society of the place a compleat peal of 5040 plain bob tripples, which was completed in three hours and twelve minutes, to the admiration of a number of hearers, as the performers were all of them young in the art.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 15 Nov. 1793; also *Sporting Magazine*, Nov. 1793 p.103, the latter per Graham Scott.)

Monday evening last a peal of 5280 of Treble Bob (eight in) was rung on the bells of St. Peter's Church in this town by eight of the Nottingham Society of Change Ringers. Time 3 hours 42 minutes.

(*Nottingham Journal*, Sat. 16 Nov. 1793)

On Monday last, at Crendon, Bucks, eight Youths of that Place completed a Quarter Peal of Bob Major, ten Thousand and Eighty Changes, in six Hours and twenty Minutes.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 30 Nov. 1793; reported also in *Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 6 Dec. 1793, with the by-line 'Cambridge, Dec. 4.' and *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 7 Dec. 1793, with the by-line 'Long Crendon, near Thame, Nov. 26.' Also *Sporting Magazine*, Dec. 1793, p.156, with by-line LONG CRENDON, NEAR THAME, / Nov. 26th.)

On Tuesday last the 10th instant, was rang at St. Sepulchre's, Snowhill, by ten of the junior society of Cumberland youths, a complete peal of grandsire caters, consisting of 5111 changes, in three hours and thirty-five minutes, being the first peal, and the greatest number of changes, ever rung at that place by ten men only.

(*London Packet or, New Lloyd's Evening Post*, Wed. 11 Dec. – Fri. 13 Dec. 1793. Also *Sporting Magazine*, Dec. 1793 p.159.)

On Friday last died, Mr. Tho. Gomersall, master of the Nag's Head public house in this town; and on Sunday his remains were interred in St. Peter's Church yard, when the ringers upon this occasion rung a compleat mourning peal, consisting of 1260 changes.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Mon. 16 Dec. 1793)

Anticipation - There was a grand illumination at Douglas, in the Isle of Man, on Tuesday night, the 3d inst. - on account of Lord Howe having captured the French fleet! The same *mistake* was made at other places, where the bells rang the whole day; and, at Night, many candles were burnt - *in vain*.

(*Hereford Journal*, Wed. 25 Dec. 1793)

We remarked in a former Paper, that the news of Lord Howe's having captured the Brest fleet, was welcomed in many places by the ringing of bells, bonfires, illuminations, &c: and we have since been informed, that the great bell of a certain parish-church in this neighbourhood, was *cracked* in proclaiming the joy of the inhabitants at the glad tidings. On any *similar* occasion, which may hereafter occur, the ringers ought to be reminded that *there is a difference between piping and bursting the bags*.

(*Hereford Journal*, Wed. 8 Jan. 1794)

A true peal of Grandsire Tripples, was rung on Saturday last at Waldron, by seven of the society of that place, assisted by Read and Moyce, two Kentish ringers, and Wilson of Uckfield, in three hours and six minutes. John Ranger called the peal.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 30 Dec. 1793)

On Friday last Dec. 27, was rang at St. Margaret's church in this town, by the young Society of Change Ringers, a true and compleat peal of 5040 Grandsire Tripples, composed and called by Mr. Thos. Sibson; the time in ringing was 3 hours and 20 minutes.

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 3 Jan. 1794; also *Leicester Herald*, Sat. 4 Jan. 1794, starting 'Friday was rung...')

On Monday the 30th day of December, was married at Wakefield, the Rev. Mr. BAWDWIN, to Miss ANN SHAKETON, of that place; where, by particular desire, was rung by the Old Society of Ringers there, a complete Peal of Triples, called the *Virgin's Delight*, consisting of 5040 Changes, which was rung with the greatest exactness and distinction in three hours and twenty-five minutes; and what is more surprising, the Society has been out of both place and practice for nearly two years.

(*Sun*, Sat. 4 Jan. 1794; slightly shorter report, with 'Bawden' vice 'Bawdwin', *Leeds Intelligencer*, Mon. 6 Jan. 1794)

On the 25th of November 1793, was compleatly rung at Prestwich, by the celebrated Youths of Ratcliffe, in one hour and two minutes, four Change Peals, Oxford Treble Bob, College Pleasure, College Treble Bob, and Crown Bob, making in the whole 1440 Changes, being the first Time they ever were compleated there - And on Sunday the 29th of December the same celebrated Youths of Ratcliffe, compleatly rung at Prestwich, in two hours and three minutes and a half, Eight Change Peals, Violet, Tulip, and Morning Star, and Alteration of Hunt's Court Bob Way, and Oxford Treble Bob, College Pleasure, College Treble Bob, and Crown Bob, making in the whole 2880 changes. It was thought by several old experienced Ringers, that the latter Eight Change Peals were never compleated in Lancashire before; and both these Sets of Changes were compleated at the first attempt.
(*Manchester Mercury*, Tues. 7 Jan. 1794)

1794

On Saturday last was rung at St. John's Chapel, Deritend, by eight of the St. Martin's Youths, of this town, a complete peal of 8,000 Grandsire Eight In, in five hours, with 120 seven eights, being the full extent, and the 6th at home 15 times wrong, and 24 times right.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 6 Jan. 1794)

Lewes, Jan. 13

Yesterday se'nnight, in the evening, was rung at Horsham, a true and compleat peal of 5040 grandsire tripples; it was performed in two hours and 59 minutes, which is the quickest performance of the kind ever known on bells of the same weight. The Tenor is 24 cwt. The men were all of Horsham, and performed in order as follows:

Alexander Luxford	Treble
Anthony Lintott,	2d
Thomas Lintott, sen.,	3d
Edward Aldridge,	4th
Thomas Lintott, jun,	5th
Thomas Jones,	6th
Thomas Bristow,	7th
William Oakes,	Tenor

The bobs were called by Anthony Lintott.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 13 Jan. 1794)

[Part of advert] This day is published, THE JOLLY RINGERS,...

(*Morning Post*, Wed. 15 Jan. 1794)

Newark, Jan. 16.

Friday last, being the day appointed for opening (at the new re-built church at Farnsfield, in this county), the new peal of five musical bells (cast and hung by Mr. Osborn, bell-founder, at Downham, in Norfolk), six sets of ringers assembled, viz. Brant Broughton, Beckingham, Budgford, Oxton, Elstone, and Woodboro'. The best round peal for the space of twenty minutes, to be entitled to a prize of five exceeding good new hats. After several good peals were rung, the prize was adjudged to the former. Numbers from the villages around crowded into the church-yard and streets, to hear the ringers display their abilities; and the after part of the day was spent in ringing of hand-bells, "God save the King," and several other peals. The greatest order was observed, which gave great satisfaction to the people assembled.

(*Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 17 Jan. 1794)

*Ringin*g.—On Saturday se'nnight the society of ringers at Holbeach, in this county, rung, in honour of the celebration of her Majesty's birth-day (with great propriety and exactness), 5040 of bob major, in 3 hours and 29½ minutes.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 31 Jan. 1794; also *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 8 Feb. 1795, under by-line '*Stamford, Jan. 31.*')

An excellent new clock, with barrel for striking the quarters, changeable on four bells, which was generously voted last year to be made at the charge of the University, is just finished by Messrs Thwaites, of Clerkenwell, and fixed in the tower of Great St. Mary's Church.

(*Cambridge Intelligencer*, Sat. 15 Feb. 1794; this was the clock that introduced the Cambridge / Westminster chimes. Report and Gloss per Gareth Davies.)

On Wednesday se'nnight Wm. Busfeild, Esq; of Myrtle Grove, entered his 21st year. - A grand Fete and every possible demonstration of joy were exhibited on this occasion. In the morning an ox was roasted in the park, which, with several hogsheads of ale, was distributed to the populace. - The ringers completed a peal of 5040 changes, on six bells, in three hours and 15 minutes. - The ball in the evening was attended by the most elegant and numerous assemblage of female beauty and accomplishment - The supper was composed of the choicest viands; and the table, ornamented with various and splendid devices of confectionary ware, was illuminated with a thousand coloured lamps. - The night was spent in social festivity; and on the following day there was a grand concert, of two sets, by some of the best vocal and instrumental performers in the west riding. - In short, the whole Fete was conducted by so much taste and polite attention on the part of the family, that it was with much reluctance the company took their leave at a late hour on Thursday, of the elegant hospitality of Myrtle Grove. - To conclude all, Mr. Busfeild gave a dinner on Friday to the neighbouring gentlemen; and on Saturday his tenants were generously regaled on the same occasion.

(*Leeds Mercury*, Sat. 22 Feb. 1794; of the peal, an account in *Campanology on the Bingley Bells by One of the Craft* (Leeds, 1875) says: 'Though not the first deserving of notice, the first to record will be a peal that was rung in 1793 [*sic*], on the occasion of William Busfeild, Esq., of Myrtle Grove, attaining his majority. The company on that day rang seven whole peals of 720 changes each, in all 5040 changes, on the most difficult of known methods, all "Snappers," namely:- / Chester./ London./ Carlisle./ Chelsea./ Lincoln./ Lichfield./ Wells.

The ringers were stationed as follows:-

James Tillotson, Treble. / Isaac Rhodes, Second. / Hezekiah Briggs, Third. / William Moulding, Fourth. / Henry Moulding, Fifth. / Joseph Longbottom, Tenor. / Weight of tenor, 11 cwt. 3 qrs.

This will be acknowledged to be a most remarkable and uncommon feat, all the performers being members of the Bingley Company; and any comment upon it is unnecessary to the initiated.')

On Tuesday evening, the 25th instant. was rang on the bells at the Parish Church of St. Alphage [*sic*], at Greenwich, Kent, by the Society of Trinity Youths, 5,040 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Royal, completed in 3 hours and 50 minutes. The first peal of 5,040 Treble Bob rang on the ten bells.

(*London Packet or New Lloyd's Evening Post*, Wed. 26 Feb. – Fri. 28 Feb. 1794)

On Monday last was rung on the peal of eight bells at St. Ann's Church, Rotherham, a true and complete Peal consisting of 6000 changes of that harmonious method entitled Bob Major, which was completed in three hours and fifty eight minutes, by a select band of performers of Sheffield and Rotherham; viz.

George Wilde, of Sheffield	Treble
William Jessop, of Rotherham	2d.
Thomas Arundel, of "	3d.
Joseph Wildsmith, of "	4th.
John Taylor, of Sheffield	5th.
Matthew Jessop, of Rotherham	6th.
William Taylor, of "	7th.
Joseph Grayson, of Sheffield	Tenor.

Called by Joseph Grayson - Weight of Tenor 24cwt.

(*Sheffield Register*, Fri. 28 March 1794; short report, *Leeds Intelligencer*, Mon. 31 March 1794.)

On Monday last was rung at Long Crendon, Bucks, a complete Peal of Oxford Treble Bobs, 6112, in three Hours and forty-five Minutes, by eight of the Crendon Society of Ringers.

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 19 April 1794; also *Reading Mercury*, Mon. 21 April 1794.)

THE RINGERS of St. Peter's Mancroft, return their grateful acknowledgments to the Nobility and Gentry of this city and county, and take this means respectfully to caution them against some Impostors, who, applying as RINGERS, have, for want of proper enquiry, been rewarded as the Ringers of St. Peter's Mancroft, though some of them belong to St. Stephen's where there is but one Bell, and others to St. Giles's, where the Bells are not permitted to ring; in each of which they also receive money.

To Guard against these swindlers, the Ringers of St. Peter's Mancroft also request their friends to observe, that their applications in future will be by Letter, sealed in the inside with the City Arms, and a Motto around them.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 19 April 1794 - advert)

Yesterday was rung at our church, for the first time, by the Maidstone Society of ringers, in three hours and thirty-six minutes a peal of 5000 changes of Maidstone New Bob major Royal, the 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th bells were together the right way behind 300 times.

The above peal was composed and called by Mr. Thomas King.

(*Maidstone Journal*, Tues. 22 April 1794; also *Sporting Magazine* May 1794, p.116, with by-line MAIDSTONE, APRIL 22.)

On Monday morning last Mr. Holt's peal of five thousand and forty Grandsire Triples (with the sixth bell the observation) was rung at St. Peter's in Nottingham - the time three hours and thirty minutes. Performed by the Junior Society in that town, who also rang it (with the seventh bell the observation) on Shrove Tuesday morning last.

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 25 April 1794; also *Sporting Magazine* May 1794, p.116.)

On Thursday last, when the news was confirmed of our good success abroad, the Mayor of this city gave orders to the ringers of each church to announce the joyful tidings, which they continued during the whole day, and in the evening these Campanalogians, and their friends, supped on beef and biscuit, which was part of the cargo of the *George and Mary*, a re-taken prize from the French. In the course of the evening the sparkling glass went briskly round; a number of loyal and constitutional toasts were given; amongst which were - The King and Royal Family - Success to his Majesty's Forces by sea and land - May every true-hearted Briton do as we have done, sup on the spoil of their enemies - The Gunner of his Majesty's sloop, *Weazle* (who was the founder of the feast) &c. &c.

(*Coventry Mercury*, Mon. 28 April 1794; the victory seems to be that reported in a despatch of 18 April, when the British, Austrian and Dutch armies had thrown back the French revolutionary army near Cateau.)

On Easter Monday last was rung at Woodstock, a complete Peal of 5040 Grandsire Trebles, in three Hours and ten Minutes, by eight of the Oxford Youths. It was the first Peal that has ever been rung on those Bells, and was finished in a masterly Stile [*sic*].

(*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 3 May 1794)

A TRUE and complete peal of
5040 grandsire triples was
rung a few days ago, at Bolney, in
2 hours and fifty-nine minutes,
in the following order:

James Barnard, London, *Treble*
Anthony Lintott, Horsham, *2d.*
James Lintott, ditto *3d.*
Edward Aldridge, ditto *4th.*
John Tree, Bolney *5th.*
Wat Hurst, ditto *6th.*
Thomas Jones, Horsham *5th.*
John Foreman, ditto *Tenor*
The bobs were called by Anthony
Lintott.

(*Sporting Magazine*, April 1794 p. 57; according to the Felstead database, the peal was rung on 31 March 1794, but no contemporary source is quoted.)

R I N G I N G.

THIS is to give notice that there will be
given gratis, by Thomas Norman, at the New
Inn, Heckfield, on Wednesday in the Whitsun Week,
the 11th of June,—FIVE VERY GOOD HATS, va-
lue half a guinea each, to the company that rings the
best round peal on Heckfield church bells, and One
for the Umpire. Each peat to continue 15 minutes.

And likewise FIVE PAIR of GLOVES to the
company that rings the second best peal, and a Pair
for the Umpire. Two men will be allowed to ring
the tenor, and the men that help ring the tenor be-
longing to the winning companies, to have each of
them a pair of Gloves. Each company to provide
their own umpire.—No less than three companies
will be allowed to ring for the above prizes.

The bells are in good order and free for trial, but
no trial peal will be allowed on the day of ringing
for the prizes.

No ringing after nine o'clock at night.

None to ring, or be an umpire but what dine at
the ordinary, which will be on the table at one o'clock,
and begin ringing at three.

N. B. No Heckfield man to ring or be an umpire.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 19 May 1794 - advert)

Opening of the bells at Swineshead, Lincolnshire

R I N G I N G.

ON WHITSUN TUESDAY, June 10th, a
PEAL of EIGHT NEW BELLS, (cast by T.
OSBORN, of Downham, in Norfolk), will be opened at
SWINESHEAD, Lincolnshire, by ST. PETER's MAN-
CROFT COMPANY, NORWICH, whose Abilities in
the Art of Ringing are esteemed equal with any in the
Kingdom.—The Tenor is the Key of F, weighing
about 18 cwt.

(*Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 6 June 1794 – advert; similar advert in *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 7 June 1794)

On Whitsun Tuesday the peal of eight new musical bells were opened at Swineshead, in this county, by the society of St. Peter's Mancroft company, Norwich; who, as usual, displayed their abilities in a capital manner, by ringing various peals, much to the satisfaction of a great concourse of persons who assembled on the occasion, shewing that true characteristic of British harmony scarce to be equalled.

(*Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 20 June 1794)

On Tuesday se'nnight, a peal of eight new bells, cast by Mr. Osborn, of Downham, were opened at Swineshead, Lincolnshire, by the society of ringers belonging to St. Peter's of Mancroft in this city, who, as usual, displayed their abilities in a manner much to the great satisfaction of a great concourse of people who assembled on the occasion, and were highly gratified by the full toned melody of the bells, which is the characteristic of this original and true British Harmony.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 21 June 1794 – quoted in the *Ringling World*, 28 Jan. 1994)

New bells for St. John's church, Wakefield

On Saturday a peal of eight bells was cast at Mr. MEAR'S Bell Foundry, White Chapel, before a considerable number of spectators. The Peal is intended for a very handsome church, lately erected at Wakefield in Yorkshire.

(*Oracle and Public Advertiser*, Mon. 9 June 1794; these bells were cast for St. John's church, Wakefield. For the decision to supply a ring of bells for this new church, see *Leeds Intelligencer*, Mon. 20 May 1793, above.)

A PEAL of EIGHT BELLS from MEARS'S FOUNDRY, in LONDON, purchased by voluntary subscription of Gentlemen in the town and neighbourhood of Wakefield, for the use of that beautiful new edifice St. John's Church in that town, - were received there a few days ago, and are meant to be opened on Wednesday the 17th instant.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Mon. 8 Dec. 1794)

On the 28th ult. was rung at St. John's Church, Wakefield, by the old Society of Ringers of that place, a complete Peal of Tripples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 hours and 24 minutes, with the greatest nicety and exactness, being the first peal rung upon that musical peal of bells.

(*York Courant*, Mon. 5 January 1795; similar report, but starting 'On Sunday last in the evening...' in *Leeds Intelligencer* Mon. 5 Jan. 1795; another, starting 'On Sunday se'nnight...' in *Leeds Mercury*, Sat. 10 Jan. 1795.)

On Saturday died, Miss Mary Ann Arnold, second daughter of Mr. Edw. Arnold, of this place. [She was buried at St. Mary de Castro on 10 June 1794.]

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 13 June 1794)

On Sunday last was rung at Kenninghall, in this county, by the ringers belonging to that town, a complete peal of 6,000 changes on [*sic*] bob major, which was performed in three hours and twenty-four minutes, without parting the tenors. Henry Hayward rung [*sic*] the tenor and called the peal.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 14 June 1794 ; quoted in the *Ringling World*, 28 Jan. 1994, with the note 'This peal is recorded on a board in the ringing chamber at Kenninghall.')

On Monday last the society of Ringers from Mirfield rang 5040 changes, in two hours and fifty-five minutes, upon the new peal of bells in Horbury Church.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Mon. 16 June 1794)

The welcome news of Lord Howe's victory, was received in this city with the most rapturous joy – Incessant bell-ringing proclaimed the glorious event; and bonfires and illuminations manifested how congenial the happy tidings were, to the feelings of all ranks.

(*Hereford Journal*, Wed. 18 June 1794) [Admiral Lord Howe commanded the Channel Fleet, and this is a reference to his victory over the French off Ushant on 'the glorious first of June.']

R I N G I N G.

THIS is to give notice to all Gentlemen Ringers and others, that on Monday the 21st of July next, will be rung for on Caversham Church Bells, Seven good Hats, to the company that rings the best round peal; each peal fifteen minutes; each company to bring their umpires.

The bells are in good order; essay peals allowed, except on the day of ringing.

A good dinner will be provided at the house of Mary Clisby, the Griffin, Caversham. No person to ring, or be an umpire, that does not dine.—Dinner on table at one o'clock; to begin ringing at three.—No less than four companies allowed to ring.—No Caversham man allowed to ring or be an umpire.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 23 June 1794 - advert)

A correspondent at Lincoln, delighted with *the ringing of bells*, laments he has not that pleasure. A musical set of eight at the cathedral, and eight at St. Peter at Arches, no longer salute the cheerful dawn of day; but instead thereof, a broken jangle of six in general disturb many of the inhabitants.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 15 Aug. 1794)

Cambridge, Aug. 27.

On Thursday the 7th instant, a complete set of changes were rung at Winslow, Bucks, by a set of ringers who have not been together since the year 1755. One was abroad in the years 1759 and 1760, under the Prince Ferdinand; another has been absent many years. The assistant to the tenor was likewise with them; and many gentlemen went to see these veterans exhibit. They are, one with another, about 59 years of age.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 29 Aug. 1794; also *Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 16 Aug. 1794)

We hear that the Ringers of Swaffham, on the day after the last Assizes, received from Mr. Devereux Edgar (whose conduct towards an unfortunate lady has lately been the subject of public animadversion in a Court of Justice) the following Note, which they treated with manly contempt, instead of putting the bells in motion: "The Swaffham Ringers are desired to ring a peal this evening, for which Half-a-Guinea will be given them, to drink Miss Marcon's good health, and long life to enjoy her new fortune, and with her a good husband."

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 30 Aug. 1794; quoted in the *Ringling World*, 28 Jan. 1994 p.75, with the note: 'In an action for breaches of various promises of marriage, heard at the Norfolk Assizes in Norwich on 13th August, 1794, Mis Mary Marcon had been awarded damages of £500 against Mr. Devereux Edgar, formerly of Harleston, and afterwards of Swaffham and then of Sporle, a surgeon and apothecary.')

WINCHESTER, SATURDAY, August 30.

.....

Monday night died, at the advanced age of 87, Mr. Goater, cooper, of this city. He had been a ringer at the cathedral for sixty years.

(*Hampshire Chronicle*, Mon. 1 Sept. 1794)

R I N G I N G.

THIS is to give notice, that on Monday the 15th of September, there will be given gratis by Sarah Tegg, at the Horn, at Mortimer, Berks, Six good Hats, and one for the umpire, of half a guinea value each, to the company that rings the best round peal on Mortimer Church Bells; each peal to continue 15 minutes; and each company to provide their own umpire. No less than three companies will be allowed to ring for the above prize. The bells are in good order, and free for trial; but no trial peal on the day of ringing, and no ringing will be allowed after nine o'clock at night. None to ring or be an umpire but what dine at the ordinary, which will be on the table at one o'clock, and begin ringing at three. No Mortimer man to ring or be an umpire.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 1 Sept. 1794 - advert)

OCTOBER 5.

Was rung by the society of London Youths, at the church of St. James's, Clerkenwell, a true and complete peal of grandsire quatuors, consisting of seven thousand and two changes; and was performed with accuracy in four hours and three quarter, by the following persons: Treble, Mr. Lacy; second, Mr. Wood; third, Mr. Gardner; fourth, Mr. Grose; fifth, Mr. Meekins; sixth, Holt; seventh, Mr. Isaacs, [*sic*] eighth, Mr. Mills; ninth, Mr. Lawrence; and the tenor by Mr. Patrick. The peal was called by Mr. Lacy.

(*Sporting Magazine*, Nov. 1794 - per Graham Scott; since there were only eight bells, most likely to be a hoax.)

On Saturday, November 1, in the evening, a complete peal of 5040 grandsire tripples was rung at Horsham Sussex, in three hours and three minutes, and performed in order as follows, viz. Thomas Lintott, Horsham, treble; Anthony Lintott, ditto, second; James Lintott, ditto, third; Edward Aldridge, ditto, fifth; Benj. Simmons, Leatherhead, sixth; George Garnet, Dorking, seventh; John Foreman, Horsham, tenor. The bobs were called by Anthony Lintott.

(*Sporting Magazine*, Nov. 1794)

BELL-FOUNDING and BELL HANGING.

EDWARD ARNOLD of Leicester, BELL-FOUNDER, informs the Public of the neighbouring counties, that Estimates for Church and Turret Bells, also for compleat Peals of Bells, and for Frames and hanging materials, may be had of the following persons:

Mr. HARDY, Architect, Hanley, Staffordshire.

Mr. HARLOW, Clock-maker and Brass-Founder, Ashbourn, Derbyshire.

Mr. WHITEHURST, Church and Turret Clock-Maker, Derby.

Mr. HUTTON, Architect, Nottingham.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 13 Nov. 1794 - advert)

On Tuesday, the 18th inst. was rung at St. Mary's, Gateshead, by the Union Society of Newcastle and Gateshead ringers, the compleat peal of Grandsire Tripples, consisting of 5040 changes, in three hours and fifteen minutes.

(*Newcastle Courant*, Sat. 22 Nov. 1794)

Monday last, a set company rang part of a peal of plain bob, at St. Peter's Mancroft, in which however they made several mistakes.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 13 Dec. 1794 – quoted in the *Ringing World*, 28 Jan. 1994, p. 75)

On Tuesday the 16th inst. was opened, at Rushden, in this county, a new peal of six Bells tenor, 19 cwt. cast by Robert Taylor, of St. Neots; when a variety of peals were rung, and the bells were allowed by judicious hearers to be a most excellent peal, and do the Founder the greatest credit as an artist in that profession.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 27 December 1794; similar report in *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 27 December 1794.)

1795

At Soham in this county, on new-year's day, a complete peal of 5040 changes of that musical peal called Norwich Court, was rung by the Soham youths in 3 hours and 36 minutes, which for neatness of ringing does them infinite credit.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 10 Jan. 1795; also *Sporting Magazine*, Feb. 1795.)

Last week died, Mr. Wm. Baylis, formerly an Ironmonger at Bromyard, in his 79th year.—In the early part of his life he was much attached to Bell-ringing; and it is somewhat remarkable, that of the company, which then consisted of six, five have died in the order in which they stood to ring. The person who rang the Tenor, a Mr. Davis, is the only survivor.

(*Hereford Journal*, Wed. 14 Jan. 1795)

BELL-FOUNDING

February 19.

A report having been propagated that the Bell-Founding business was declined at Leicester, to convince the Public that such Report is without Foundation, E. ARNOLD takes the Liberty to say, that he completed a Peal of Bells at Thurnby, also at Hungerton, since November 1794, with new Frames and Hangings, both in this County, - cast a Peal of Five Bells, made new Frames, Hangings, &c. and put up in the new Church at Kinoulton, Nottinghamshire, which was opened by the Hickling Ringers, on Thursday the 12th of this Month, and gave general Satisfaction - has now in Hand, Bells for four Parishes, in three Counties, Warwickshire, Staffordshire, and Leicestershire.

Also, continues to make Church Clocks and Chimes, Weighing Machines, of all Sizes, to weigh from 1 lb to 8 ton, with or without Weights. - Likewise makes and repairs Engines to extinguish Fire, Garden Engines and Portable Pumps, useful in Navigation.

N.B. All Sorts of Smith's Work, and Brass Founding executed at his foundry as usual.

(Advert in *Leicester Herald*, Fri. 20 Feb. 1795; similar advert *Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 7 March 1795.)

Mr. W. Elphick, of Chiddingly, in Sussex who died lately at that place, was remarkably fond of bell ringing, and has declared that, by a calculation that he had made, he had stood under the treble bell, at Chiddingly Church, 8,766 hours (more than one while year's space), and that in the course of 45 years he had travelled more than 10,000 miles in pursuit of his favourite amusement.

(*Hereford Journal*, Wed. 11 March 1795; also *Chester Chronicle*, Fri. 27 Feb. 1795, *Staffordshire Advertiser*, Sat. 28 Feb. 1795, and *Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 5 March 1795, reports that state that Mr. Elphick was 'aged 64'. Report to same effect *Sporting Magazine*, April 1795.)

On Monday, March 9, the society of Cumberland youths rang at St. Saviour's, Southwark, a complete peal of Cumberland treble bob maximums [*sic*] (twelve men) consisting of 5232 changes in four hours and nine minutes, being the first ever rung in that method.

(*Sporting Magazine*, April 1795, p.329)

A new ring for Godmanchester

Kinging.

ON TUESDAY, MAY 5th, a PEAL of EIGHT NEW MUSICAL BELLS will be opened at GODMANCHESTER, Hunts. by the SOCIETY of CAMBRIDGE YOUTHS;—The Tenor weighing Twenty-one Cwt. in the Key of E.—Cast by THOMAS OSBORN, of Downham, in Norfolk.

N. B. DINNER at the BULL INN, at Two o'Clock

(*Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 1 May 1795 - advert)

R I N G I N G.

ON Wednesday next the 6th of MAY, a PEAL of EIGHT New Musical BELLS will be Opened at GODMANCHESTER, Hunts, by the Society of CAMBRIDGE YOUTHS—The Tenor, in the Key of E, weighing 21 cwt.—Cast by THOMAS OSBORN, of DOWNHAM, in Norfolk.

☞ Dinner at the Bull Inn, at Two o'Clock.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 2 May 1795 - advert)

Wednesday last a peal of 8 new bells was opened at Godmanchester, Hunts, by the societies of Cambridge, Ely, and Soham ringers with the peals of treble and court bob, and Stedman's trebles; they were cast by Thos. Osborn, of Downham, in Norfolk, the tenor weighing 21 cwt. in the key of E. and are allowed by judges to be a very fine peal.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 23 May 1795)

On Tuesday last was rang, at St. Martin's, Leicester, a true and complete peal of 6160 changes of bob major, in four hours and fourteen minutes, in fifty-one [?five] courses, with the sixth in the Tittum course.

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 29 May 1795)

On Sunday May 31st. the society of Hatfield Youths, rung at their church a complete peal of 5340 [*sic*] plain bob triples, being the first ever rung there, and was completed in three hours and twenty-five minutes. Weight of the tenor twenty-five hundred.

(*Sporting Magazine*, June 1795 – per Graham Scott)

Last week died at Langston, in the parish of Llangarren, in this county, Daniel Cope, Gentleman, in the 85th year of his age—a man truly honest, and greatly beloved by all his acquaintance.—His favourite amusement thro' life, was bell-ringing, which he followed with much eagerness and skill, till within three months of his death; and he has often been heard to declare, that this exercise prolonged his days.

(*Hereford Journal*, Wed. 17 June 1795)

Wednesday was rung, at Wingham, a complete peal of Holt's 5040 Grandsire Tripples, in 3 hours and 14 minutes, by the under-mentioned: John Denne, treble, William Perch, John Sweetlove, Robert Sweetlove, Thomas Sharp, James Powell, James Powell [*sic* – see *Kentish Gazette*, Tues 17 May 1796], and Richard Sayer, tenor.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Fri. 17 July 1795)

Ringi^{ng}.

ON THURSDAY, AUGUST the 6th, 1795, [at] CLAYPOLE, Near Newark-upon-Trent, wil[l be] opened, a NEW of FIVE BELLS, the Tenor ... cast by JOHN BRYANT and JOHN CABOURNE, [and] hung by JOHN CABOURN.

That Company of Ringers who shall ring Ten Fi[ve-] Bell Peals the most compleat at One Stand, shall [be] entitled to a Reward of ONE GUINEA.

SUTTERTON, Lincolnshire, July 28th, 1795.

(Advert in *Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 31 July 1795; part of the text is lost in the curve of the paper, and from the context the inserted text seems to be the most likely.)

MRS. SMITH, Widow, and Administratrix of the late Mr. William Smith, in Colmore-Row, Birmingham, Brass-Founder, Bell-Founder, and Roller of Metals, begs Leave to inform her Friends and the Public in general, that she purposes continuing the Business in all its Branches, on the same Premises as usual, and respectfully solicits a Continuance of their Favours.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 7 Sept. 1795 – per Chris Pickford)

RINGING

ON Wednesday the 16th of September, will be opened at Wimeswold, in this County, A PEAL of SIX NEW BELLS, cast by Mr. Thomas Osborne, of Downham, in Norfolk. ONE GUINEA will be given to any Company who shall ring the best round Peal for the Space of Twenty Minutes.

☞ Dinner at Mr. FOX's, the Old Three Crowns Inn, at One o'Clock.

(Advert in *Leicester Journal*, Fri. 11 Sept. 1795)

Sunday evening, September 6, was rung, St. Mary's, Islington, by the Union Society, Mr. Holt's original peal of Grandsire Tripples, 5040 changes, without a single, but two doubles in the last four leads. The time, three hours, twenty-seven minutes.

(*Sporting Magazine*, Oct. 1795 – per Graham Scott)

The opening of the bells at Moulton, Northamptonshire, after being recast.

A NEW PEAL of SIX BELLS will be opened at MOULTON, near Northampton, in the Feast Week, cast by Mr. EDWARD ARNOLD, of Leicester. The Particulars will be given in the next Week's Paper.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 31 Oct. 1795 - advert)

To RINGERS

ON Monday and Tuesday next, will be RUNG for at MOULTON, near Northampton, SIX HATS each Day - Six-bell Peals. - To meet in the Church-Yard each Day at Nine o'Clock in the Morning.

N.B. There will be an Ordinary provided each Day at all the Public Houses.

Moulton, Nov. 7, 1795

(*Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 7 Nov. 1795 - advert)

On Monday the 9th instant was opened, at the parish church of Moulton, in this county, a new peal of six bells, cast by Mr. Edward Arnold, of Leicester; they are allowed to be of a most musical and harmonious tone, and gave the greatest satisfaction to the numerous hearers assembled upon the occasion.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 21 Nov. 1795)

Lately was opened at the parish church of Moulton, in Northamptonshire, a new Peal of six Bells, cast by Mr. Edward Arnold, of Leicester. The above are allowed to have a most musical and harmonious tone, and gave the greatest satisfaction to the numerous hearers. - The set ringers from the following places attended upon the occasion, viz. Northampton, Alson, Harpole, Haddon, Pinford, Bugbrook, Kingsthorp, and Rushdon; and on Tuesday morning the prize of six hats was rung for by four of the sets, and won by the Alson gentlemen. The company then adjourned to the several inns, and after spending a few hours with conviviality and good humour, returned to the church, when the Kingsthorp and Haddon sets engaged for the second prize, which they rung for to so great a degree of exactness, that the judges could not decide in favour of either, consequently the prize was shared. The bells are hung upon a new construction, and much praise is due to the artist. The inhabitants, to testify their high approbation, accompanied the founder, on his return home, with a band of music, flags, flying [*sic*], &c. &c.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 1 Feb. 1796; the full story of the opening of these bells is given in Sidney Madge's *Moulton Church and its Bells* (1895), pp.31-8.)

On Sunday, November 1, the Junior Society of Cumberland youths rang, at St. Mary's, Whitechapel, a compleat peal of 5007 changes, with the sixth 24 times right and 24 times wrong; all which was performed in two hours and fifty-eight minutes.

(*London Packet or, New Lloyd's Evening Post*, Mon. 2 Nov. - Wed. 4 Nov. 1795)

At All Saints Edmonton Monday last, the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths rang in this steeple, a compleat peal of 10,080 changes of bob major, it being the most ever rung on these bells, and was performed in six hours and 29 minutes by the following persons:—Mr. Geo. Gross, Senr., treble; Mr Geo Gross, jun., second; Mr W Shipway, third; Mr M Channon, fourth; Mr Stephen Collis, fifth; Mr Wm. Gibson, sixth; Mr Henry Symondion [*sic*] seventh; and Mr Geo. Harris, tenor - this peal was composed and called by Mr Geo. Gross, sen.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 27 Nov. 1795)

BRISTOL, Dec. 26. Several sets of bell-ringers of this city having gone to Bath, and, under pretence of their not being paid by the parishes for ringing on the arrival of his Royal Highness the Duke of York in this city, obtained a considerable sum of money from his Royal Highness; the mayor, on discovering that the ringers of the chapel bells, were of the number of this worthless set, has given orders to discard them, and this example has been followed by the church wardens of the several parishes. Only one set of bells were rung here yesterday, though it has been always customary for the bells of every church to hail the arrival of Christmas.

(*Bath Chronicle*, Thurs. 31 Dec. 1795)

1796

HORSHAM.—*The Ringers* on the last new year's eve, at half past eleven, P.M. began a peal of 5040 grandsire triples, and completed the same in three hours and one minute, as under—

Alex. Luxford	Treble.	Henry Waller	- -	5	
Anthony Lintott	-	2	Thomas Jones	-	6
Edward Aldridge	-	3	Thomas Bristow	-	7
Richard Downes	-	4	William Oakes	Tenor.	

The bobs were called by Anthony Linton [*sic*]. The Horsham Ringers for several years past have amused themselves with ringing the old year out and the new one in.

(*Oracle*, Wed. 6 Jan. 1796; also *Sporting Magazine*, Feb. 1796, complete with 'Linton' vice 'Lintott'.)

Jan. 1.

At St. Michael's Coslany, Norwich, was rung by a select company, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-six changes of that ingenious peal, called Norwich Court Bob. For regular striking, the ingenuity of the peal, and, being the date of the year, gave great satisfaction to all judicious hearers who delight in that ingenious art.

(*Sporting Magazine*, March 1796)

On Sunday se'nnight Thomas Slingsby, Esq; the son of Sir Thomas Slingsby, Bart. of Scriven-Park, near Knaresbrough, came of age; in consequence of which, there were the day following great rejoicings at that hospitable mansion.—The society of ringers at Knaresbrough rung on the occasion a complete peal of grandsire tripples, consisting of 5040 changes, in two hours and fifty-eight minutes, with the greatest exactness.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Mon. 18 Jan. 1796)

RINGING.

ON WEDNESDAY next, January 27,
A PEAL of SIX NEW BELLS will be opened
at WALSOKEN, in the county of Norfolk, by the
Societies of Downham and Magdalen Ringers. - The
Tenor, weighing 15cwt. in the key of F Sharp. -
They were cast by Thomas Osborn, Bell-
founder, at Downham in Norfolk.

* * Dinner at the Bell and Black Bear Inns, at
two o'clock.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 23 Jan. 1796 - advert)

Canterbury, January 29.

.....

Yesterday se'nnight died in Northgate, Mr. James Rew, aged 82 years; greatly respected by all who knew him. Being one of the company of Cathedral bell ringers, his funeral was attended by the whole company, on Tuesday last, and in the evening a mourning peal was rung to his memory. What is very remarkable, he had rung at the cathedral for 63 Mayors of this city.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Fri. 29 Jan. 1796; also *Kentish Chronicle*, Tues 2 Feb. 1796) [James Rew rang the 6th to the peal of Grandsire Triples at the Cathedral on 9 Jan. 1754 – see Peal Board.]

On Friday se'nnight, at about half past nine o'clock at night, the town of Liverpool experienced a very severe hailstorm, which though but short of duration, was accompanied with a remarkably vivid flash of lightning, and a tremendous clap of thunder, which struck the spire of St. Thomas' church, fractured the stay of the bell, with some other trifling damage. We have not heard of any other mischief done by it.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 26 Feb. 1796)

On Sunday evening last was rung at Wakefield Church, by the New Society of Ringers there, a peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes in eight courses compleat. It was performed with the greatest exactness and distinction in three hours and twenty eight minutes.

(*Leeds Mercury*, Sat. 19 March 1796)

Last Tuesday seven compleat peals (including 5040 changes) was rung in three hours and 28 minutes upon the old ring of six bells at Great Waltham, in this county, by four of the Waltham society, and two of the Chelmsford; the same was called by Richard Halls, from Chelmsford, who rang the tenor.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 25 March 1796)

Cambridge, March 30.

Last week John Richard, school-master at Wedmore, Somerset, was unfortunately killed by one of the church bells falling on him. He has left a widow and 8 children.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 1 April 1796)

On Monday morning St. Peter's ringers rung 1796 changes, being the date of the year, on their harmonious peal of 12 bells.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 2 April 1796; also *Norfolk Chronicle*, same date.)

Friday last the Maidstone ringers, in order to testify their joy at the sudden and very unexpected transition of Artificial Scarcity to the blessing of plenty in the price of wheat, met in the church belfry and there rang several peals, which gave great satisfaction to the inhabitants in general of this Town.

(*Maidstone Journal*, Tues. 19 April 1796)

HERTFORDSHIRE.—The Society of London College Youths rung, on Sunday the 24th of April, at St. Mary's Church, Watford, in the above county, a compleat peal of 5,280 changes, Oxford Treble-Bob Royal [*sic*], in three hours and 40 minutes, being the most changes ever rung on those bells, in that method, by the under mentioned persons, viz.

John Lyford,	Treble	John Povey,	5
Daniel Jenkins,	2	Charles Barber,	6
William Wilson,	3	Thomas Porter,	7
George Scarbrook,	4	Edward Bartell,	Tenor

The peal was called by John Povey, Beadle of the said Society.

(*Gazetteer and New Daily Advertiser*, Fri. 6 May 1796; also *Sporting Magazine*, May 1796, the latter per Graham Scott.)

RINGING.

April 7. A true and compleat peal of five thousand and eight changes in that most intricate method of Oxford treble bob royal (ten in) was rung on the deep toned peal of ten bells, at St. Mary's Church, in Nottingham, by a select band of the Sherwood society in that town. The time, three hours and forty-eight minutes; weight of the tenor is 34 hundred two quarters eight pounds.

Hertfordshire.

(*Sporting Magazine*, May 1796 – per Graham Scott)

Yesterday, May 16, 1796, was rung at Wingham, a Compleat Peal of Holt's Grandsire Tripples, in 3 hours and fourteen minutes, by the persons undermentioned: John Stanford 1st; William Peach 2d; John Sweetlove 3d; Robert Sweetlove 4th; called by Thomas Sharp 5th; James Powell, jun. 6th; James Powell, sen. 7th; Richard Sayer 8th.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Tues. 17 May 1796)

Last Saturday morning, Holt's celebrated Peal of 5040 Grandsire Tripples was rung on the much admir'd and harmonious Bells at Burton-upon-Trent, by the United Societies of Change Ringers of Birmingham and of Aston, near that Place; and which was completed in 3 hours and 20 minutes.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 26 May 1796)

Saturday last, Holt's celebrated peal of grand-sire triples was rung on the much-admired and harmonious bells, at Burton-upon-Trent, by the united change-ringers of Birmingham and of Aston near that place: and which was completed in 3 hours and 23 minutes.

(*Staffordshire Advertiser*, Sat. 4 June 1796)

ST. MARY REDCLIFFE PARISH, BRISTOL.

THE RINGERS of this Parish take this opportunity of publicly acknowledging their improper behaviour on occasion of the Duke of York's visit to this City, in soliciting his Royal Highness for money, after having been sufficiently paid by the Churchwardens of the Parish, and beg that this may be accepted as their apology.

THE RINGERS.

(*Star*, Sat. 28 May 1796 - advert)

On Friday 3rd of June was rung at Leeds in this county, by the Leeds Youths, 10080 of Leeds New Triple Bob, in six hours and twenty-eight minutes. - This being the greatest number of changes ever rung in England of triple bob upon eight bells, the tenors not parted.

(*Maidstone Journal*, Tues. 21 June 1796; similar reports in *Kentish Gazette* and *Kentish Chronicle*, both Fri. 24 June 1796)

June 5, was rang at the parish church of St. Leonard, Shoreditch, a compleat peal of caters, on Stedman's principle, being the second production in that critical method. The peal consisted of 584 changes, and was performed in three hours and 47 minutes, by the society of Cumberland Youths.

(*Sporting Magazine*, July 1786)

On Monday the Society of Cumberland Youths rang, in the steeple of Christ Church, Spitalfields, a compleat peal of 7001 changes, grandsire caters, in five hours and three minutes; being more by 600 than were ever rung before in that steeple. The great weight of those bells, and the well-known difficulty of ringing them, induced many to suppose the performance impossible. James Purser, the steeple-keeper, who rang the ninth bell, was carried from the church to his bed, where he now lies in a high fever and delirious—great doubt is entertained of his recovery.

(*London Packet or New Lloyd's Evening Post*, Mon. 20 June – Wed. 22 June 1796)

DEATH of Mr. PATRICK, the celebrated Bell-ringer.

SUNDAY afternoon, June the 26th, was interred in the church-yard of St. Leonard, Shoreditch, the remains of Mr. ——— Patrick, the celebrated composer of church bell-music, and senior of the society of Cumberland Youths. His productions of real double and treble bob-royal, are standing monuments of his unparalled abilities. The procession was singular and solemn, the corpse being followed by all the ringing societies in the metropolis and its environs, each sounding hand-bells with muffled clappers, accompanied by those of the church ringing a dead peal, which produced a most solemn effect on the eyes and ears of an innumerable concourse of spectators. Mr. Patrick was the person who composed the whole peal of Stedman's tripples, 5040 changes, (till then deemed impracticable,) for the discovery of which the citizens of Norwich advertised a premium of 50l. which was paid him about three years since, by the society of St. Peter's, Mancroft, with the highest encomiums on his superlative merit.

(*Sporting Magazine*, July 1796; a hoax, of course.)

NORWICH, July 13.

.....

The inhabitants of St. Peter's, and neighbouring parishes, on hearing a confused jangling of bells, at St. John's, Maddermarket church, on Monday morning last, apprehended there was a fire, and repaired in great numbers to the spot; the engines were also in their way thither; but it was found to have been occasioned by a soldier's wedding, and his comrades at the barracks, willing to give him a peal on the occasion, went up the belfry, and by their unscientific management of the ropes created this false alarm.

(*Bury Post*, Wed. 13 July 1796; also *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 16 July, the latter quoted in the *Ringling World* of 26 Jan. 1996, p.87)

RINGING.

July 30, was rung by the society of Cambridge youths, at the church of St. Mary the Great, in Cambridge, a true and compleat peal of Bob maximus, in five hours and five minutes, consisting of 6600 changes, which for the regularity of striking and harmony throughout the peal was allowed by the most competent judges that heard it to be a very masterly performance; especially as it was remarked that in point of time, the striking was to such a nicety, that in each thousand changes, the time did not vary the sixteenth part of a minute, and the compass of the *last* thousand was exactly equal to the *first*, which is the grand scope of ringing.

The time of ringing this peal shews, that the late Professor Saunderson's calculation is pretty accurate, respecting the time it would take to ring the whole number of changes on twelve bells, which he stated at forty-five years, six days, and eighteen hours, without intercession.

(*Sporting Magazine*, Aug. 1796)

On Monday se'nnight was opened at Barr Chapel, Staffordshire, a new peal of six bells, cast by Mr. Edward Arnold, of Leicester, (on whom much praise was bestowed by Gentlemen possessed of eminent musical talents), the gift of Joseph Scott, Esq. The bells are hung upon the newest and best construction, and gave great satisfaction to the Birmingham, Walsall, Wednesbury, and several other sets of ringers, who acknowledged them to be truly harmonious.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 6 Aug. 1796; also *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 1 Aug. 1796 and *Sporting Magazine*, Aug. 1796, beginning 'The latter end of last month, ...')

On Friday last was rung at complete 5040 Grandsire Trihples [*sic*], in tree [*sic*] hours and twenty minutes at St. Mary's Church, Kendal, by the Westmoreland Youths, being the greatest number of changes ever rung at one time upon that noble peal. The peal was divided up into ten parts, or courses, of 504 each. The bobs were called by the sixth: a lead single was made in the middle of the peal, and another at the conclusion, which brought the bells home. Distinct leads and exact division were minutely observed throughout the whole of the peal.

(*Star*, Mon. 22 Aug. 1796; also *Evening Mail*, Wed. 24 Aug. – Fri. 26 Aug. 1796, and *Times*, Sat. 27 Aug. 1796; and *Sporting Magazine*, Sept. 1796, beginning 'On Friday, Aug. 20...')

Sunday last a complete peal of 5012 grandsire triples was rung at Kidderminster by the ringers of that town, and was conducted through with one single, which was the 4984th change, viz. 1267453. It was allowed by those conversant in the art to exceed any peal ever yet rung in this kingdom by that method, and was conducted and called by S. Hill.—Time 3 hours and 14 minutes.

(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 1 Sept. 1796; also *Sporting Magazine*, Sept. 1796, beginning 'On Sunday, August 28,...')

Monday, Sept. 12, was attempted to be rung at Aston, by eight Birmingham youths, some of which are under 20 years of age, a compleat peal of 15120 bob-majors. After they had rung in a most masterly manner for upwards of eight hours and a half, they found themselves so much fatigued, that they requested the caller to take the first opportunity to bring the bells home, which he soon did by omitting a bob, and so brought them round, which made a compleat peal of 14224 changes, in eight hours and forty-five minutes, and was allowed to be fine striking through the whole performance, and the longest peal ever rung in that part of the country.

The same day was rung at St. Clement Dane's, Strand, a compleat peal of 5040 new bob majors, in three hours, and eighteen minutes, by the society of young Cumberlands, being the greatest number ever rung on those bells, in that time; the persons were as follows:

J. Noonan, treble; R. Jagers, second; B. Merrin, third; J. Hints, fourth; J. Baker, fifth; T. Trupe, sixth; W. Fletcher, seventh; T. Ovenden, tenor. This peal was composed and conducted by J. Noonan.

(*Sporting Magazine*, Sept. 1796; despite the incorrect date, the peal at Aston was presumably the one of that number of changes rung there in the same time on 16 February 1789.)

The fine old ring of Six Bells at Great Waltham being made a compleat peal of Eight will be opened on MONDAY the 16th instant by the Chelmsford Society - the company of other Societies will be esteemed a favour.

Dinner at Two o'Clock at the sign of the Six Bells.

By their obedient servant

John Smith.

N.B. The two new trebles were cast by Thomas Mears of Whitechapel, London.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 16 Sept. 1796 - advert)

R I N G I N G.

ON TUESDAY, September 27, a Peal of EIGHT MUSICAL NEW BELLS will be opened at SLEAFORD in Lincolnshire, cast by Thomas Osborn, Bell founder, of Downham in Norfolk; the Tenor in the Key of E, weighing near twenty-one hundred weight.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 24 Sept. 1796 - advert)

On Monday last was rung at Heafield, in this county, five excellent peals, 360 changes of Grandsire Bob, on six bells, by five different sets of ringers. The prize was determined in favour of Mottram-in-Longdendale, who performed it in ten minutes and fifty seconds with the utmost regularity. (*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 6 Oct. 1796)

The opening of the bells at Dilhorn, Staffs.

On Monday next will be opened at the parish church of Dilhorn in Staffordshire, a new peal of five bells, cast by Mr. Edward Arnold of Leicester. The bells are allowed by the gentlemen of musical talents to be a compleat harmonious peal, which does credit to the founder.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 21 Oct. 1796)

On Monday se'nnight a numerous concourse of people attending the annual feast at Dilhorn, Staffordshire, was highly gratified at the opening of a complete harmonious peal of bells, cast by Mr. Edward Arnold, of Leicester, in whose praise, as an artist in the above profession, the inhabitants were unanimous.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 12 Nov. 1796; also *Sporting Magazine*, Dec. 1796, beginning 'One day last month, ...')

On Tuesday last, being the anniversary of their Majesties accession to the throne, the ringers of Chelmsford performed a peal of 5040 treble bob-major in the short space of three hours and eleven minutes.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 28 Oct. 1796)

On Sunday evening, the 16th instant, was rung at Bromley, in this county, by the Trinity Youths, Deptford, 5440 of Oxford Treble Bob, in three hours and twenty-four minutes, with the 6th 12 times wrong and 12 times right, and is the greatest number of changes that can be obtained in fourteen courses.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Fri. 28 Oct. 1796)

RINGERS.—Those of Chelmsford, Essex, on the anniversary of HIS MAJESTY'S accession, performed a peal of 5040 treble bob-majors in the short space of three hours and eleven minutes.

(*Oracle and Public Advertiser*, Fri. 4 Nov. 1796)

On Saturday last was rung, in a correct and masterly style, at St. Margaret's church, King's Lynn, a complete and harmonious peal of 6000 bob majors, in the space of 4 hours and 10 minutes.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 11 Nov. 1796; also *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 12 Nov. 1796. Reported also *Sporting Magazine*, Dec. 1796, but without any intimation of the date of performance.)

OLD METAL wanted.

Churchwardens and others having any Quantity of Old Church Bells to dispose of, may hear of a purchaser, by applying to Tho. Osborn, bell founder and bell-hanger at Downham, in Norfolk, who will give the best price. Letters, post paid, will be duly answered. ☞ Mill, brass, musical hand-bells on reasonable terms.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 17 Dec. 1796 – advert; similar advert in the *Norwich Mercury* of the same date, the latter quoted in the *Ringing World*, 26 Jan. 1996, p.87.)

On Wednesday last, the passing bell at Lindfield had but just done tolling for a departed parishioner, when the Sexton received an order to set it going again, on account of the burial of a second; and before that hour's solemnity had passed, he was ordered to ring it a third time, for the interment of a third inhabitant.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 26 Dec. 1796)

Last Saturday night, as several young men of Boxley were returning to that place at a late hour, from Maidstone, where they had been ringing hand-bells, overcome by the intensity of the frost, one of them loitered behind his companions, who, in the strongest terms, urged him to proceed, and offered to carry him, which he would not consent to: after waiting for him almost an hour, they were compelled by the severity of the night, and for their own preservation, to leave him to come on by himself. On Sunday morning he was found nearly froze to death at the side of the gravel-pit adjoining Pennenden Heath.—One of the others was also so overcome, that he was found the same morning in a position leaning over a rail near the Rev. Mr. Burville's, at Boxley, his eyes open, and motionless; the means used to restore the latter, it is hoped, will ultimately prove effectual, but the recovery of the former, when found, there were no expectations of, though all means were tried—he died about hours after he was taken up.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Fri. 30 Dec. 1796)

1797

On Monday, Jan. 16, was opened, by the society of Cambridge Ringers, a new Peal of Six Bells, at Hartford in Huntingdonshire, cast by Mr. Taylor, of St. Neots. They are allowed, by judicious hearers, to be an harmonious peal, and do great credit to the founder as an artist in his profession.

Also on Tuesday was opened, the peal of eight bells, at St. Ives, part of the peal being new cast by the same founder.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 28 Jan. 1797)

St. Ives has, to the annoyance of the sober inhabitants, got a new peal of bells: at Hartford, Hants [*sic*], the same; where the Cambridgeshire Society of Ringers generally amuse themselves all night.

(*Observer*, Sat. 29 Jan. 1797; for separate reports of these openings, see above.)

Sunday last died, aged 29, Mr. William Chesnutt, one of the ringers of St. Peter's Mancroft. (*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 11 Feb. 1797; quoted in the *Ringling World*, 31 Jan. 1997 p.107, with the note: 'He was one of three brothers who rang at Mancroft, the sons of Phillip Chesnutt, a collar and harness maker. William was born on 6 August 1767 and followed his father's trade.'))

On Monday last, was rung at St. John's church, Wakefield, by the ancient society of ringers of St. John, a new complete peal of grandsire tripples, consisting of 5040 changes in eight courses in three hours and twenty minutes, with the greatest distinction.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Mon. 13 Feb. 1797; similar report in *York Courant*, Mon. 13 Feb. 1797)

The society of St. Peter's ringers, of Sheffield, opened a new peal of eight bells, at Bakewell church, in Derbyshire, on Thursday the 2d instant, with that most intricate and musical peal of union tripples containing 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. and 21 mins, with such truth and exactness as did honour to the performers.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 17 Feb. 1797; also *Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 16 Feb. 1797. Slightly shorter report, lacking the last clause, *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 18 Feb. 1797.)

On the 19th Feb. was rung at Bromsgrove, a complete peal of 5040 bob major, into which is contained the 12 times wrong and 12 times right in nine equal courses, and was composed by a member of the society: the abstruse mode of composition, and the peculiarity of striking, render the performers candidates for the temple of fame.—Time in ringing, three hours and twenty-one minutes.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 11 March 1797 – quoted in the *Ringling World*, 31 Jan. 1997, p.107)

On Tuesday se'nnight was rung on the six bells at Ro[th]well, in this county, a peal of Grandsires, consisting of five thousand & forty changes complete, in three hours and one minute; which is allowed to be a very expeditious performance.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 11 March 1797)

On Wednesday the 22d of March, was rang by the gentlemen of Soham, a Peal of 5280 changes of treble bob on eight bells, at Godmanchester, near Huntingdon, in three hours and 30 minutes, to the great satisfaction of all who heard them.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 1 April 1797)

A few days ago died without Bootham Bar, Mr. John Theakston, aged 89, much respected by all his acquaintance: He was 57 years one of the choir in the Cathedral of York, and 47 years Clerk of St. Olave's church, Marygate; he was the oldest Chorister, the oldest Ringer, and the oldest Clerk in the suburbs of York.

(*York Chronicle*, Thurs. 6 April 1797; also *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 15 April 1797, and *Hampshire Chronicle*, Sat. 22 April 1797.)

On Saturday last was rung, a compleat peal of grandsire tripples, at the parish church of St. John Baptist, Southover, near this town, in three hours and seven minutes, by the following persons:-

Thomas Jones, of Horsham	Treble
John Ranger, Framfield	2
Thomas Jones, Waldron	3
Edward Bristow, ditto	4
Thomas Attree, Bolney	5
John Joyce, Chiddingstone, Kent	6
Antony Lintott, Horsham	7
John Paine, Waldron	Tenor.

Bobs called by J. Ranger

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 24 April 1797)

RINGING.

ON Wednesday, the 7th of June, will be rung for, at Lenham, EIGHT PAIR of GLOVES.

Any company of Ringers, that ring the best 1680 changes complete, are to receive the Gloves.

A good Ordinary at the DOG AND BEAR at one o'clock.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Tues. 23 May 1797 - advert)

To RINGERS.

ON Friday, the 9th of June next, will be opened at Heveningham Steeple in Suffolk, A New and complete peal of FIVE BELLS, cast by Mr. Thomas Osborn, of Downham, in Norfolk. On the same day will be given gratis, Six pair of Doe Leather Gloves, to the company who ring the best and complete peal of Grandsire; their names to be entered by Twelve o'clock. Not less than two companies to ring for the prize. *Heveningham White Lion*, May 31, 1797.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 3 June 1797 - advert)

Yesterday the Chimes at St. Martin's church, in this town, which have been repairing by the ingenious Mr. Wotton, played for the first time in honour of the day, the new tune they have had of "God save the King." —The tunes which will now be played each day of the week, are, on Sunday, "St. George's, or 149th psalm."—Monday, "Coldstream March."—Tuesday, "Rule Britannia."—Wednesday, "Haste to the Wedding."—Thursday, "God save the King."—Friday, "A Madrigal."—Saturday, "The Lass of Pattie's Mill. "

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 5 June 1797)

On Friday last was rung at Great St. Mary's church in this town, in three hours and a half, a compleat peal of 5040 changes, being Mr. Holt's first peal of Grandsire Trebles, in one course, with two doubles in the four last leads. Mr. Bartlett called the peal.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 10 June 1797; also the *Cambridge Intelligencer* and *Norfolk Chronicle* both of the same date, the former beginning 'On Friday the 2d', and the latter quoted in the *Ringling World*, 31 Jan. 1997 p.107.)

R I N G I N G.

TO be RUNG for at Thatcham, on Frida[y]
August 18, SIX GOOD HATS, and a Hat f[or]
the Umpire of the winning Company: each Compa[ny]
to bring an Umpire with them. No person to ri[ng]
but what dines at the Ordinary, which will be p[ro-]
vided at the New Inn. To begin ringing at 10 o'cl[ock.]
No Thatcham man to ring or be an Umpire; [each]
Company to give their names two days befo[re]
ringing, and no less than four sets will be allowe[d]
to ring.

Dinner will be on table at three o'clock.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 31 July 1797 – advert; the text is slightly damaged and the letters in brackets [...] have been deduced from the context.)

This week a new set of Eight Bells have arrived for All Saints Church in this town. Weight of the Tenor 25 cwt.

(*Newcastle Courant*, Sat. 19 Aug. 1797; for the first peal on the bells see *Newcastle Chronicle*, Sat. 14 Oct. 1797, below.)

...On Thursday last a peal of six new bells cast by Mr Dobson, of Downham, in this county, were opened at Navenby, near the city of Lincoln, by a society of ringers from Sleaford; and other ringers from Cathorpe, Claypole, Beckingham, etc who rang several peals to the entire satisfaction of those who heard them. They are all maiden bells, and are extremely musical both in tone and tune, the tenor in the Key of G, weighing 13 cwt.

(*Bury and Norwich Post*, Wed. 6 Sept. 1797 – quoted in the *Ringing World*, 1 April 1977, p.282; also *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 9 Sept. 1797, quoted in the *Ringing World*, 31 Jan. 1997, p.107; similar report in the *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 9 Sept. 1797, which merely states the bells were opened 'by several societies of ringers'.)

Sunday last was rung at Bromsgrove, by the Unions, of that place, a complete peal of Oxford treble bob, containing 5120 changes, in fourteen courses, with the twelve wrong and rights, the twelve 86's, and twelve 868's, in two regular courses, which was allowed by the first judges in the kingdom to be the completest peal ever rung. Composed by a member of the Society. Time of ringing, 3 hours and 34 minutes.

(*Hereford Journal*, Wed. 13 Sept. 1797)

R I N G I N G.

TO be RUNG for, upon Thatcham Bells,
On Wednesday October 11, 1797,
SIX GOOD HATS and a Hat for the UMPIRE
of the Winning Set; the set that rings the best round
peal of fifteen minutes to have the Hats; two essay
peals will be allowed on the day of ringing, any time
before ten o'clock.

No set allowed to ring but what dines at the Ordinary, which will be at the New Inn, Thatcham.

Dinner will be on the table at 12 o'clock, and to begin ringing at two; no less than four sets will be allowed to ring for the prizes.

(*Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette*, Mon. 18 Sept. 1797 - advert)

On Monday last was rung by the celebrated change-ringers of Radcliffe, a peal, consisting of 5040, which was completed in two hours and fifty eight minutes; and was allowed by several accurate judges, to be the best peal that ever was performed in Lancashire.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 21 Sept. 1797)

On Monday last the Old Society of St. John's in Wakefield, rang on the Pontefract bells, a compleat peal of 5040 changes, Union tripples, in three hours and eighteen minutes, in an exact and masterly manner: and being never before rung in that steeple, met the approbation of all that heard them.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Mon. 25 Sept. 1797)

On Tuesday the 17th inst. a complete peal of 5264 bob-major trebles, was rung at Brighton Church, by the Horsham ringers, in three hours and ten minutes.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 25 Sept. 1797)

Tuesday se'nnight a complete peal of 5264 Bob-Major Trebles was rung at Brighton Church, by the Horsham Ringers, in three hours and ten minutes.

(*Evening Mail*, Mon. 25 Sept. 1797 – Wed. 27 Sept. 1797)

On Friday the new-appointed ringers at Ashborne, in this county, performed a peal of 4650 changes on 6 bells in 3 hours and 7 minutes, with great correctness and to the satisfaction of the inhabitants of that town.

(*Derby Mercury*, Thurs. 28 Sept. 1797)

On Wednesday last the new set of eight bells placed in the steeple of All-Saints church, was rung for the first time by the Union Society of Newcastle and Gateshead, when a compleat peal of grandsire triples, consisting of 5040 changes, was rung in three hours and one minute.—The weight of the tenor bell is 3 [*sic*] cwt.

(*Newcastle Chronicle*, Sat. 14 Oct. 1797)

On Wednesday, Oct. 11, was rung at All Saints, Newcastle, by the Union Society of Newcastle and Gateshead, a compleat peal of grandsire triples, consisting of 5040 changes in three hours and one minute, being the opening of a new peal of eight bells, cast by Mr. Thomas Mears, of London, the tenor 19cwt.

(*Sporting Magazine*, Nov. 1797)

On Sunday last was rung at Shiffnal, the whole peal of Grandsire Triples, viz: 5040, in 3 hours and 7 minutes, by the Albion Youths of that place. This is the first peal with two singles except what have been composed in Holt's method. The above is in four regular parts and the course ends are thus: 3254, 5432, 4523, 2345; the last half by the same method as the first; 142 bobs and two singles.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Fri. 10 Nov. 1797)

Thursday the 16th instant, was rung at Ashford, by the Society of Ringers of that town, with two brothers of the East-York Militia, a complete peal of Bob Major, consisting of 5040 changes; being the first peal rung on their new harmonious Tenor. It was performed in a proper, true style of ringing, in three hours and sixteen minutes, and gave great credit to the following performers:—

Joseph Tebbs, E. York, treble, who called the peal—John Apsley 2—Lewis Reeve 3—John Howland 4—Benjamin Tebbs, E. York 5—John Wanstall 6—John Stone 7—Henry Hadds, tenor.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Tues. 21 Nov. 1797; also *Kentish Chronicle*, Fri. 24 Nov. 1797.)

Last week was committed to our county goal, by the Hon. John Somers Cocks, Henry Francis, for stealing six yards of cloth, the property of Mr. Branch, and eleven bells, the property of Mr. Smith, both of Mathon.

(*Berrow's Worcester Journal*, Thurs. 23 Nov. 1797)

At Pinner, Middlesex, on the 4th inst. was rung by the Watford Youths a complete peal of 5040 Grandsire trebles in three hours and 7 minutes; it was the first performance ever done on those bells.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 15 Dec. 1797)

On Wednesday evening last was rung, by the Union Society at the Abbey in this town, a complete peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes. - The above was called with 190 bobs and 50 singles, and was performed in three hours and 20 minutes, being the first true Peal of Triples ever completed on those bells.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Fri. 15 Dec. 1797 - quoted in the *Ringing World*, 26 Feb. 1982, p. 170)

Sunday last, died, in the parish of Studley, Mr. David Claybrook, aged 100 yrs. He retained his faculties to the last and walked every Sunday 2 miles to church, till within a few weeks of his death, and about a year since chimed 3 of the church bells without any assistance, ringing being an exercise he was very fond of.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 22 Dec. 1797; similar report in *Hereford Journal*, Wed. 27 Dec. 1797 where Claybrook's age was stated to be 115 years)

On Tuesday last was rung at Ashford, by five of the ringers of that town, with two of the East York Militia, from Leeds in Yorkshire, and one from Ash in this county, a complete peal of 3040 [*sic*] Bob Major, with the Tittum Course Ends called; which was performed in three hours and eleven minutes, in a masterly style of ringing, which gave great satisfaction to the judges of the art, by the following persons:—

Henry Hadds, treble—John Apsley 2—Benjamin Tebbs, East York 3—John Howland 4, who called the peal—Joseph Tebbs, E. York 5—John Wanstall 6—John Stone 7—Joseph Ralph, from Ash, tenor.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Fri. 29 Dec. 1797; also *Kentish Chronicle*, Tues. 2 January 1798 – but without the misprint.)

On Tuesday last was rung at Wingham, a complete peal of 5040 Holt's Grandsire Tripples, in three hours and five minutes (the soonest that was ever rung in that steeple) by the persons undermentioned: John Denne, William Rigden, James Powell, Robert Sweetlove, Thomas Sharp, John Sweetlove, James Powell, Richard Sayer, and called by Robert Sweetlove.—The same day a complete peal of 5040 Bob-Major was rung at Ashford, not 3040, as mentioned in Friday's paper.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Tues. 2 Jan. 1798; also *Kentish Chronicle*, Fri. 5 Jan. 1798 - ending '...as mentioned in our last.' in spite of not having had the error then.)

1798

To all LOVERS of RINGING.

ON Saturday the 6th Day of Jan. 1798, A New PEAL of SIX BELLS will be opened, likewise a SET of TEN HAND BELLS, at Wickham Skeith, in Suffolk; where the attendance of every lover of ringing will be esteemed a favour, at the sign of the Swan, where a dinner will be provided, and their Favours gratefully acknowledged, by their obedient humble servant,
JOHN SAMPSON.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 30 Dec. 1797 - advert)

On New-Year's Day, the joint societies of Ashford and Aldington ringers, rung, at the former place, a touch of 1120 changes of Oxford Treble-Bob, and a complete peal of 5040 Bob-Major; the latter being completed in three hours and ten minutes, a shorter time than any former peal was ever rung at that place. Performed by the following persons: Henry Down, treble; John Apsley 2; Benjamin Tebbs, 3; Richard Stokes 4; Joseph Tebbs 5; John Howland 6, and called the peal; William Marsh 7; William Hobbs, tenor.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Tues. 9 Jan. 1798)

[... The North West corner of Great Waltham church has given way.]

The cause of its suddenly giving way is attributed to the weight of the bells as it was during the ringing a peal first observed.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Sat. 12 Jan. 1798)

BELL-RINGING.—On Monday last the Society of St. Martin's Youths, Birmingham, rang, on the eight bells at Aston Church, near that town, a very complete peal of treble-bobs, consisting of 5120 changes, which they performed in a masterly stile in three hours and 20 minutes.

(*Lloyd's Evening Post*, Fri. 12 Jan. 1798 – Mon. 15 Jan. 1798)

On Monday, January 1, was rang at St. Michael's, Coslany, Norwich, by a select company, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight changes of that ingenious peal called Norwich-court-bob. For regular striking, the ingenuity of the peal, and being the date of the year, gave great satisfaction to all judicious hearers, who delight in the art of campanology.

(*Sporting Magazine*, Feb. 1798)

On Monday last was rung at the parish church of St. Martin, Coney-street, in honour of the Procession of the Lord Mayor, a peal of Grandsire Tripples, consisting of 5040 complete changes in ten courses, which was rung in two hours and fifty-two minutes, by the old Society, late ringers at the Cathedral.

(*York Courant*, Mon. 12 Feb. 1798)

On Monday last at St. Peter's Church in this town, the new peal of ten bells was opened by our ringers, with a short peal of Grandsire Caters; after which the ringers from the town of Ashton-under-Line, rang a peal of Grandsire Caters, containing 6120 changes.—The performance lasted four hours and ten minutes and was completed in a style that did honour to the art of ringing. The number of changes rung, by the above society, on this occasion, exceeded what were rung at York Minster, by the society of Gentlemen College Youths, from London, by 937 changes.—This peal of bells are allowed by the best judges in the art, to be uncommonly fine.

(*Leeds Intelligencer*, Mon. 12 Feb. 1798)

Pitts Taxes. / Subscription Book for the war ... for the defence of the Country, as extensive, and as productive as possible, being convinced that nothing can tend so much, as the Success of that measure (subscription) to frustrate the Projects of the enemy, to maintain public credit, and to accelerate the return of peace, in safe and honourable times.

[Subscribers include:]

E.C. (a little boy) 6d.

Ringers of St. Martin's, by Sexton, (£)1 1(s) 0(d)

J. Marshall, Watchmaker 1 1 0

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 23 Feb. 1798)

...Yesterday se'nnight died, aged 66, Mr Richard Browne, baker, of S Martin's at Oak: He was the first man that raised the tenor of St. Peter's bells, prior to the opening of that peal in the year 1775.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 24 Feb. 1798, also *Norfolk Chronicle* of the same date – quoted in the *Ringling World* 27 March 1998, p.323; also *Bury and Norwich Post*, Wed. 28 Feb. 1798, with 'on which account the ringers gave an excellent funeral peal on the day of his interment.' vice clause beginning 'prior to the opening...' – quoted in the *Ringling World*, 1 April 1977.)

On Sunday, February 4, was rung at St. Mary Abbot's, Kensington, by the Society of College Youths, a true and compleat peal of 5,120 of Oxford tripple bob eight in, three hours and fourteen minutes.

(*Sporting Magazine*, March 1798 – per Graham Scott)

Two reports of a peal at Great Tey

On Friday the 2d of Feb. 1798 was rung, by the society of Great Tey ringers, 5,120 changes of Oxford treble bob, and completed in three hours and 35 minutes. Sam Hale, rung the tenor and called the bobs, aged 67 years.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Friday, 23 March 1798)

On Friday, Feb. 2, was rung by the company of ringers, Great Tey, Essex, in three hours and thirty-five minutes, 5120 changes of Oxford treble bob, by the following persons:—treble, James Gray, 2, William Dedman, 3 Aaron Lockwood, 4 Edward Bruton, 5 George Taylor, 6 Robert Godfrey, 7 Benjamin Ladhams—tenor, Sam Hale Bob Caller, at the advanced age of sixty-seven years.

(*Sporting Magazine*, March 1798 – per Graham Scott)

On Tuesday last was rung by the undermentioned band of Ringers at St. Thomas's Church, Horsham, in this county, in two hours and fifty-five minutes, a complete peal of Holt's Grandsire Tripples, consisting of 5040 changes, with 148 bobs, and two doubles; being the first time this peal was ever performed in this county:-

Thomas Jones,	Treble	Horsham
Charles Barber,	2	Kensington, Middlesex
James Lintott,	3	Horsham
Richard Downe,	4	Ditto
James Bartlett,	5	Kensington, Middlesex
William Bottomley,	6	Halifax, Yorkshire
Antony Lintott,	7	Horsham
John Forman,	8	Ditto.

The bobs was called by James Bartlett.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 7 May 1798)

In consequence of a dispute between the old and the new ringers of Tanworth church, in this county, one of each party went out last week to fight, when Butcher, the old ringer, received so dreadful a blow on the head, that he fell dead on the spot. The verdict of the Coroner's Jury was *Manslaughter*.

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 14 May 1798; similar report in the *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 19 May 1798, the latter quoted in the *Ringling World*, 27 March 1998, p.323.)

Monday being the anniversary of his Majesty's Birth day, the morning was ushered in with ringing of bells. ... In the afternoon the ringers of the Cathedral began the full peal of 5,040 changes, grandsire trebles, which they completed in three hours and twelve minutes. The weight of the tenor is 33 cwt. ...

(*Hampshire Chronicle*, 9 June 1798, referring to ringing at Winchester Cathedral to mark the King's birthday on 4 June that year; quoted (incorrectly) in the *Ringling World*, 20 August 1948, p. 349.)

The opening of St. Chad's Bells, Shrewsbury.

We hear that the new Peal of Twelve Bells, for St. Chad's Church in this town, are now on the road, and will be here in a few weeks; they have already been pronounced by competent judges, to be the most musical peal in the Kingdom, and will be a very harmonious acquisition to the beautiful Tower which they are to occupy.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Fri. 11 May 1798 – quoted in the *Ringling World*, 5 March 1982 p. 191)

On Saturday last a peal of twelve bells, cast by Mr. Mears, of London, bell-founder, for St. Chad's Church in this town, were landed and conveyed to that edifice. - The following are the mottos (written by Mr. Wilding of HighErcall [*sic*]) inscribed on the several bells, and the weight of each.

Weight and inscriptions on the bells

Treble, wt. 6c. 2qs. 25lbs.

In sweetest sound let each its note reveal;
Mine shall be the first to lead the dulcet peal.

Second, 6. 1. 14.

The public rais'd us with a liberal hand:
We come with harmony to cheer the land.

Third, 6. 3. 13.

Wide thro' the air extend each gen'rous theme;
And float melodious down SABRINA's stream.

Fourth, 6. 3. 0.

When female virtue weds with manly worth,
We catch the rapture, and we spread it forth.

Fifth, 7. 2. 13.

Does battle rage? Do sanguine foes contend?
We hail the victor - if he's BRITAIN's friend.

Sixth, 8. 0. 16.

Here let us pause, and now with one accord,
Salute the Church, triumphant in the Lord.

Seventh, 10. 0. 10.

May GEORGE long reign who now the sceptre sways,
And British valour ever rule the seas!

Eighth, 12. 1. 3.

Success attend our gallant host in arms;
And glory crown the brave whom honour warms!

Ninth, 13. 2. 23

May ENGLAND's coasts the pride of Commerce see,
And SALOP's pride be always to be free!

Tenth, 16. 2. 21

May Peace return to bless BRITANNIA's shore,
And Faction fall to raise her head no more!

Eleventh, 24. 1. 5.

May each Subscriber in these numbers live,
And UNIONS ever feel those joys they give!

Tenor, 34. 0. 21.

May all whom I shall summon to the grave,
The blessing of a well spent life receive.

The Rev. T. Stedman, Minister.

T. Jones, A. Drinkwater, W. Harby, R. Lloyd,
Church-wardens. - T. Mears, of London, Founder.

Subjects of each Inscription

1st Introduction - 2d. The liberality of the public and birth of the peal - 3d, 4th, 5th. Their uses - 6th. Salute to the Church - 7th. The King, the Navy - 8th. The Army - 9th. England's Commerce, with a

patriotic wish for poor old Salopia – 10th. Peace to Britannia, and the death of faction - 11th. Long live the Subscribers, and Prosperity to the Union Society - 12th. Closes with a religious sentiment. (*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Fri. 15 June 1798; also *Sporting Magazine*, July 1798 and. *Kentish Gazette*, Tues. 19 June 1798, the latter without the description of the subjects.)

A new peal of bells in St. Chad's Church, Shrewsbury, is to be opened on Tuesday next by a set of London ringers, who go down for the purpose. The amateurs of bell-ringing consider it a science of peculiar excellence;—for our part, so little taste do we possess, that, of all abominable nuisances we regard it as the most intolerable, and we are surprised that the police suffer a set of, we must suppose, idle fellows to annoy a neighbourhood for hours, as is weekly the case in St. Bride's, and many other parishes, in the prosecution of what they term amusement. (*Observer*, Sun. 15 July 1798)

A new peal of bells in St. Chad's Church, Shrewsbury, is to be opened tomorrow by a set of London ringers, who go down for the purpose. (*Oracle and Public Advertiser*, Mon. 16 July 1798)

RINGERS.—To-morrow is expected to prove a high treat to the lovers of Bell Music. The new peal of 12, at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, is to be opened by a select band of College Youths, from London, who, we understand, propose ringing a short peal at St. Martin's, on their route through the Town this morning. (*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 16 July 1798)

On Tuesday last, being the day appointed for opening the new Peal of Twelve Bells at St. Chad's Church in this town, the Union Society held their annual feast at the Lion Hotel, where upward of 150 of the members dined with their president on the occasion. A Select Company of the Society of College Youths, from London, attended to open them, and on the following evening, the Sons of Harmony were highly entertained by their ringing a peal of Grandsire Cinques, containing 5148 changes, which they completed in a very masterly style, in 3 hours, 55 minutes.

It is allowed by every competent judge who has heard this fine Peal of Bells that they have fully evinced the professional merit of Mr. Mears, their founder; who also cast our Musical Peal of Eight at St. Mary's.

The above bells were hung by Mr. Simmons of London, and we are assured he has executed his work in such a manner as to give the greatest satisfaction to his employers. (*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Fri. 20 July 1798; similar, but shorter, reports in *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 23 July 1798 (with by-line 'Salop, July 18') and *Hereford Journal*, Wed. 25 July 1798.)

On Sunday the 22d of July, were opened at Tipton church, by a band of St. Martin's Youths of this town, a peal of six bells, cast by Mr. Moore [*sic*] of Whitechapel, London; and are considered by competent judges to be a very fine-toned musical peal. (*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 6 Aug. 1798)

On Monday se'nnight was rung at Wakefield Old Church, by the society of ringers there, a complete peal of tripples, consisting of 5040 changes, in three hours and twenty three minutes in eight courses complete, in honour of the marriage of one of the society. (*Leeds Mercury*, Sat. 11 Aug. 1798; also *Leeds Intelligencer*, Mon. 13 Aug. 1798; and *Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 17 Aug. 1798)

DIED.]... .—In the 81st year of his age, Richard Miles, Shoemaker; he was a ringer 60, and an organ blower 40 years, at the Old Church, Liverpool[.]—... (*Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 18 Aug. 1798)

A new steeple at Faversham

TO RINGERS.

MONDAY the 8th of October (not Monday the 1st, before advertised) being the day fixed on to open the BELLS in the new steeple, at FAVERSHAM, eight pair of GLOVES will be given to the gentlemen who shall ring the best peal of ONE THOUSAND and EIGHT Changes, PLAIN BOB, the first time of trying—A good Ordinary at the TWO BREWERS at one o'clock.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Fri. 28 Sept. 1798 - advert)

We hear that at the opening of the New Steeple at Faversham yesterday se'nnight, the different companies of Ringers from Ashford, Leeds and Canterbury assembled, to ring for the prize of eight crowns, for the best peal of one thousand and eight changes Bob Major, when each company had a second time displayed their campanistanean skill, the prize was by the Censors declared for the company from Canterbury.

(*Kentish Chronicle*, Tues. 16 Oct. 1798)

We are informed by a correspondent at Kirton in Lindsey, Lincolnshire, that on Saturday the 1st. ult. a new peal of six bells, cast by Mr. J. Harrison of Barton upon Humber, was opened at Kirton by ringers from Barton. - The peal, in point of tone, is equal, if not superior, to any other peal in the kingdom of the like weight; instead of them being chipped into tune in the usual manner, the founder has turned them in a machine invented by himself for the purpose, which renders the tones more even and harmonious.

(*York Courant*, Mon. 1 Oct. 1798; also *Hull Advertiser*, Sat. 29 Sept. 1798, with 'inst.' vice 'ult.', and *Cambridge Intelligencer*, Sat. 6 Oct. 1798, which states that the bells were opened 'lately'.)

At Castle Donington, on the arrival of the news of Admiral Nelson's victory, the bells of the village were rang for three days successively.

(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 12 Oct. 1798)

Lincoln, Nov. 1

There is scarce a place in the kingdom that has given greater proofs of its loyalty than the town of Louth, in this county. The inhabitants, yesterday se'nnight on receiving intelligence of the Brest Fleet being defeated by Sir J.B. Warren, in their delerium [*sic*] of joy, with incessant ringing, broke their tenor bell!!

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 2 Nov. 1798)

On Wed. last the town of Long Sutton in this county, was illuminated on account of our late victories at sea, the bells rang there for 2 days and a quantity of ale was given to the poor on the occasion.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 2 Nov. 1798)

TO RINGERS.

JUST PUBLISHED, PRICE ONE SHILLING,
A SHEET OF GRANDSIRE TRIPPLES; A Peal of
840 and of 168 for eight Bells.

Also may be had,

A SHEET OF EIGHT SIX SCORES,

Taken from Holt's Art of Ringing.

With the names of the Peals at the top. Price Ten-pence

To had at Mr. Hough's, bookseller, Gloucester, or of
the Distributors of this Paper.

(*Gloucester Journal*, Mon. 5 Nov. 1798 - advert)

On Monday evening last was rung by the UNION SOCIETY, at St. Chad's Church in this town, a peal of Grandsire Caters, containing 6012 changes. The above was completed in 4 hours 4 minutes, being the greatest number of changes that has been rung on those bells. (*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Fri. 9 Nov. 1798 – quoted in the *Ringing World* 5 March 1982 p. 191; also *Chester Courant*, Tues. 13 Nov. 1798, beginning 'Yesterday se'nnight...')

RINGING.

On Sunday evening, Nov. 25, a true and complete peal of Oxford treble-bob, eight in, consisting of 5040 changes, was rung at St. Mary's, Dover, by the Society of Folkestone Ringers, in three hours and ten minutes.

1st. Mr. Kier.

2nd. Mr. Wittingham.

3rd. Mr. Landall.

4th. Mr. Medcust.

5th. Mr. Spall.

6th. Mr. Spourling.

7th. Mr. Lewis.

And tenor by Mr. Simpson.

The bobs were called by Mr.

Wier.

(*Sporting Magazine*, Dec. 1798 – xii., 166; most likely a hoax.)

Cambridge, Dec. 5

A few days ago one half of the tower of Great Shelford church, in this county, to the height of 80 feet, together with the 5 bells, fell down.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 7 Dec. 1798; also *Chester Chronicle*, Fri. 7 Dec. 1798; *Jackson's Oxford Journal*, Sat. 8 Dec. 1798; and *Chester Courant*, Tues. 11 Dec. 1798.)

Friday morning at six o'clock, the south-west angle, with the buttresses and south-walls adjoining, of the lofty and venerable tower of Great-Shelford church, near Cambridge, fell to the ground. – The inhabitants were warned of its approach by a gradual diminution of strength, and the buttresses of the south-west angle had withdrawn from their bearing, and with the whole angle had lately made an alarming settlement, and within the last week some cart-loads of the stones and mortar fell from the south wall into the church-yard. At length one half of the tower to the height of 80 feet, together with the five bells, fell down, and happily without doing any damage to the body of the church or a single individual in the parish.

(*Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 8 Dec. 1798)

1799

The Ringers of St. John's, Southwark, rang the New Year in with a complete Peal of 1799 Grandsire Caters, in one hour seven minutes.
(*Lloyd's Evening Post*, 31 Dec. 1798 – 2 Jan. 1799; also *Whitehall Evening Post*, Tues. 1 Jan. – Thurs. 3 Jan. 1799, *Star*, Thurs. 3 Jan. 1799 and *Oracle*, Fri. 4 Jan. 1799.)

In March 1743 the new peal of eight bells at Harrietsham, was first opened for ringing, and from there was instituted the companies [*sic*] of Lenham and Leeds ringers, and there are now Samuel Grayland, aged 88 years; John Freeland 87; Abraham Barham 82; Thomas Barham 76; James Barham 73; whose ages together 406 years. The last mentioned has rung in Kent and Sussex many more than an hundred peals, not less than 5040 changes in each peal and called the bobs to most part of them.
(*Maidstone Journal*, Tues. 8 Jan. 1799; similar reports in *Kentish Gazette*, Fri. 11 Jan. 1799 and *Chester Courant*, Tues. 22 Jan. 1799.)

On the 13th of this inst. was rung a true and complete Set of Grandsire Caters, in the Tittoms, of 1799 Changes, at the Church of St. Martin, in Leicester, in one hour and sixteen minutes, composed and called by Thomas Sibson.
(*Leicester Journal*, Fri. 18 Jan. 1799; also *Northampton Mercury*, Sat. 19 Jan. 1799 – which calls it a 'Peal', rather than a 'Set' of Grandsire Caters.)

NEWARK, JAN. 24

.....

Friday being appointed for the celebration of her Majesty's Birthday, six of the society of Campanalogians at Bingham, in this county, in compliment thereto, rang the following four peals viz. Court Bob, Oxford Single Bob, Grandsire Bob and College Single Bob, consisting of 720 changes in each, as one complete peal of 2880 changes, upon the six bells in that parish church; which they performed, in a capital style, in rather more than two hours.
(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 25 Jan. 1799)

Lately was rung, at Eltham, in Kent, a compleat peal of 5040 changes of bob-major. This was the first peal ever rung on the new bells, and was performed by the Canterbury society in three hours and fifteen minutes.
(*Sporting Magazine*, Feb. 1799 xiii, 234; Thomas Mears cast a ring of six bells for Eltham in 1794, so if genuine this must have been a peal of Bob Minor.)

Thursday se'nnight a peal of 5040 bob majors was rung, at St. Giles's steeple, in three hours and 25 minutes, by some young ringers, assisted by the St. Peter's ringers.
(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 2 Feb. 1799 – quoted in the *Ringling World*, 5 Feb. 1999, p.131)

One day last week Mr. Cobden, of Fittleworth, farmer, was married to Miss Giles, of Pulborough. After the ceremony, five brothers of the bride rang a joyous peel [*sic*] in the parish church on the occasion.
(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 11 Feb. 1799)

RINGING, *Imperial the Third*. - That grand and musical peal, Imperial the Third, consisting of 5152 changes, was on Monday last, at Soham in the county of Cambridge, rung by the society of that place, in 3 hours and 42 minutes, in that superior stile of ringing which entitles them to much applause.
(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 16 Feb. 1799; reported in the *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 23 Feb. 1799, which states that it was rung on 'Monday sennight' and omits the clause starting 'in the superior stile of ringing...', a report quoted in the *Ringling World*, 5 Feb. 1999, p.131; similar report to the latter in *Bury and Norwich Post*, Wed. 27 Feb. 1799, quoted in the *Ringling World* 1 April 1977. Also *Sporting Magazine*, March 1799.)

Thursday morning died at Leeds, Mrs. Barham, wife of James Barham of that place.
(*Maidstone Journal*, Tues. 26 Feb. 1799)

On Sunday the 24th ult. was rung, at St. John's Church, Windsor, a true and compleat peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, by the Ancient Union Society of that town, which they performed in three hours and five minutes.

(*Reading Mercury*, Mon. 4 March 1799)

Wednesday last was married, Mr Robert Chesnutt, hairdresser, to Miss Mary Browne both of St Gregory's.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 30 March 1799 – quoted in the *Ringling World*, 5 Feb. 1999, p.131, where it is pointed out that Robert Chesnutt was a prominent ringer, a full account of whose career can be found in the *Ringling World* of 19 June 1981.)

[Advert for book just published] sold by T. Hurst, Paternoster-row, London. Where may be had the following books, just published,....., *Clavis Campanalogia*, or a Key to the Art of Ringing, by William Jones, price 5s. bound.

(*Star*, 12 April 1799; this was less than accurate since *Clavis Campanalogia* was published in 1788, for an advert of which see above, and the second edition was not published until 1808 or soon after. For a full discussion of the various editions and issues see John C. Eisel, 'Clavis Campanalogia', in *The Ringling World*, 1 Aug. 2008, pp.809-12, and John C. Eisel, 'Clavis Campanalogia - an update', in *The Ringling World*, 27 May 2011, pp.546-7.)

On Thursday was rung by the Union Society, at St. Chad's Church, Shrewsbury, a peal of Bob Royal, containing 5180 changes, in tittum courses, which they completed in 3 hours and 43 minutes.

(*Hereford Journal*, Wed. 17 April 1799)

A compleat peal of grandsire tripples, of 5040, was, a few days since, rung by the Bolney Society, and performed in two hours and fifty-nine minutes, as under, viz.

Treble,	Walter Hurst.
Second,	Philip Tulley.
Third,	Richard Stringer.
Fourth,	James Potter.
Fifth,	Richard Potter.
Sixth,	Michael Harmes.
Seventh,	Thomas Attree.
Tenor,	John Barnett.

The bobs were called by Philip Tulley;—and the performance was the first of the kind, attempted by this Society, unassisted by other ringers.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 22 April 1799; also *Sporting Magazine*, May 1799, the latter per Graham Scott.)

Yesterday se'nnight the whole peal of Grandsire Triples (5040 changes) was rung in the steeple of St. Mary's church, in this town, by the Bury company, in three hours and 15 minutes. We understand this peal was never before completed in this county.

(*Bury and Norwich Post*, Wed. 24 April 1799; reported also in *Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 26 April 1799, and *Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 27 April 1799)

RINGING.

Sunday evening, March 31, was rung at St. Leonard's, Hythe, Kent, a compleat peal of 1040 [*sic*] changes of a new peal called Kentish Surprise, which was rung in exactly three hours. The ringers were selected from the Canterbury, Maidstone, and Ashford Societies.

(*Sporting Magazine*, May 1799 – per Graham Scott)

A dispute about a 'peal' at Wrexham

A few days since was rung at Wrexham, by the society at that place, an entire new and complete peal of Church Yard Bob, containing one hundred and sixteen changes in three hours and a half, with great ease.

(*Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Fri. 3 May 1799 – quoted in the *Ringling World*, 5 March 1982, p. 191; also *Chester Courant*, Tues. 28 May 1799.)

“*When will the Sting of Envy cease?*”—It is most wrongfully, not to say maliciously, inserted in *The Chester Courant* of Tuesday last, “That a few days since was rung at Wrexham, by the society of that place, an entire new and complete peal of *Church-yard Bob*, containing one hundred and sixteen changes, in three hours and a half, with *great ease*.” What was rung is termed the *Peal of Tripples*, containing five thousand and forty changes, which was performed by the above with pleasure, in three hours and a half, upon the bells: it would have been concluded much sooner, but the number of wagers depending that they could perform the task, the last half hour was a continued series of round ringing. (*Chester Chronicle*, Fri. 31 May 1799)

“*Let the galled jade winch, our withers are unwrung.*”

MR. PRINTER,

On reading the *Chester Chronicle* of the 31st of May, I found a curious account of a peal of tripples, said to be rung at Wrexham some time since; the writer ingeniously informs the public, they rung 5040 changes in three hours and a half, *and the last half hour was a series of round ringing*: without commenting on the solecism, let me also ask the author, if the last half hour was devoted to round ringing; whether it is possible to ring 5040 changes in three hours on a peal of bells of their weight? If ever he should be fortunate enough to ring a bell in a peal of tripples, he will then find he has attempted to mislead the public by an unwarrantable blunder of at least a quarter of an hour. I wish the Wrexham ringers every possible success that can attend such manly and rational exercise, but until his modesty keeps pace with his progress in the art, I can only consider him

“A noisy disturber of peace in our land,
Who deserves on his back what he holds in his hands.”

(*Chester Courant*, Tues. 11 June 1799)

On Wednesday last was rung at the Crown and Anchor public house in this town, a new and complete peal of *Bob Majors* (twelve-in) consisting of 10,560 changes, in five courses, upon a new set of Hand Bells, which was performed in six hours and thirty-three minutes, to the astonishment of a great number of hearers, by the following persons—Thomas Whitworth, Michael Taylor, William Wood, Richard Harger, William Dixon, and Thomas Dunn. (*Leeds Intelligencer*, Mon. 6 May 1799)

A few days since was rung at St. Thomas's, Horsham, in this county, (by the Horsham Ringers only) in two hours, and 58 minutes, the original peal of *Grandsire Tripples*, consisting of 5040 changes, including 148 bobs, and two doubles, performed by

Thomas Lintott, jun.	Treble.
Thomas Jones,	2
Edward Aldridge,	3
Anthony Lintott,	4
Harry Weller,	5
William Oakes,	6
James Lintott,	7
John Forman,	Tenor.

The bobs were called by Anthony Lintott.

The above peal, is the grand composition of the celebrated Mr. Holt, though he never could call it himself without the assistance of a book, and has totally baffled the greatest performers in this kingdom, (except two or three) to call it.

(*Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Mon. 13 May 1799)

A new ring at Coningsby

R i n g i n g.

ON TUESDAY, MAY 24, 1799, will be opened at CONINGSBY, in Lincolnshire, a NEW PEAL of SIX BELLS, cast by JOHN BRIANT and JOHN CABOURN.

N. B. The best Company of Ringers to be entitled to SIX NEW HATS.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 17 May 1799 - advert)

Ring.—On Friday the 24th of May, was opened the new peal of six bells at Coningsby in this county, by the Sibsey society of ringers. A variety of peals, consisting of Single, Double and Treble Bob Methods were rung, to the great satisfaction of the inhabitants and several societies of ringers present on the occasion, who unanimously declared that the said society was entitled to the prize.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 7 June 1799)

On Monday the 20th inst. was rung at St. Peter's Church, Sheffield, by the society of ringers of that Church, a complete Peal of 5,039 changes of Grandsire Caters in three hours and thirty minutes by the following performers viz.

Richard Owen treble
Samuel Willey second
John Hall third
William Lee fourth
James Enson fifth
William Raven sixth
John Morley seventh
Samuel Dutton eighth
Joseph Grayson ninth
William Heald tenor

(*Iris*, Fri. 24 May 1799)

RINGING.

On Tuesday the 4th of June, being the Anniversary of his Majesty's Birth-day, a Complete Peal of EIGHT NEW BELLS, (cast and hung by Mr. Thomas Osborne of Downham in Norfolk.) will be opened at Woodbridge and continued the two following days. The tenor D sharp. weighs 27 cwt.

N.B. As the Fair usually held at Woodbridge on the 5th of April was postponed by advertisement, stall stuff will be allowed on the above days.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sats. 25 May & 1 June 1799 – advert; also *Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 1 June 1799 – the latter quoted in the *Ringings World*, 5 Feb. 1999, p.131.)

Tuesday last (being his Majesty's birth day) a complete peal of 5040 Bob Major, was rung at Ashford, in three hours and twelve minutes, by the following ringers:—Henry Down, of Hythe, *treble*—John Apsley, Ashford, 2d—John Harper, Maidstone, 3d—William Marshall, jun. Aldington, 4th—John Howland, Kingsnorth, 5th, and called the peal—John Wanstall, Ashford, 6th—Joseph Hodges, Appledore, 7th—William Hobbs, Aldington, *tenor*.

(*Kentish Gazette*, Fri. 7 June 1799; also *Kentish Chronicle*, Tues. 11 June 1799 and *Sporting Magazine*, July 1799, the latter beginning 'On Tuesday, June 4, ...')

On Sunday morning was rung at Christ Church, Bristol, by the Ringers of St. James's or otherwise the Bristol Scholars, a true and exact peal of Grandsire Caters, consisting of 1799 Changes, in one hour & twenty minutes, being the date of the present year.

(*Woolmer's Exeter & Plymouth Gazette*, Thurs. 11 July 1799)

Newark, August 22.

[Following the funeral of Viscount Richard Howe:]

A dumb or mourning peal, consisting of 1080 changes was rung at Bingham, on Sunday morning, on the above melancholy occasion.

(*Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 23 Aug. 1799)

To BELL HANGERS and others

THAT will undertake to New Frame, Hang and compleat the EIGHT BELLS at St. Mary Tower Church, Ipswich, are requested to inspect the same, and deliver in their estimates, on or before the 10th day of October next, to the Churchwardens of the said parish, of whom particulars may be had respecting the above. *Ipswich, Sept. 16.*

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sats. 21 & 28 Sept. 1799 – adverts.)

Marriage of a bell-hanger

MARRIED.

....

On Thursday, the 12th inst. was married at Bradford Church, Mr. Thomas Paul, of Bristol, to Miss Elizabeth Brown, of Bradford. On this occasion the celebrated youths of that town rang that noble peal called Holt's Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in three hours and twenty-five minutes. The seventh bell was rung single-handed by an expert youth, whose bodily weight does not exceed 129 pounds. The treble was rung by Mr. David Taylor, conductor of the peal; 2d. James Batchelor; 3d. Uriah Jelly; 4th. Robert Coller; 5th. John Martin; 6th. John Milsom; 7th. William Gibbs; and the tenor (which weighs nearly two tone [*sic*]) by Messrs. Davis and Mulgrove. This is the first peal of 5040 changes ever rung in the county of Wilts.

(*Oracle*, Fri. 20 Sept. 1799; also *Star*, Sat. 21 Sept. 1799, with the additional sentence 'Prior to their ringing the above, they had a little before rung almost one hour on changes, in addition to the three hours and 25 minutes.'; shorter version, omitting ringers' names, *Whitehall Evening Post*, Sat. 21 Sept. - Tues. 24 Sept. 1799, and *Hereford Journal*, Wed. 25 Sept. 1799. For the latter, see below.)

On the 12th inst. was married at Bradford, Wilts, Mr. Thomas Paul, of Bristol, to Miss Elizabeth Brown, of Bradford. On this occasion the celebrated youths of that town rang that noble peal called Holt's Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in three hours and twenty-five minutes. The seventh bell was rung single-handed by an expert youth, whose bodily weight does not exceed 129 pounds. This is the first peal of 5040 changes ever rung in the county of Wilts.

(*Hereford Journal*, Wed. 25 Sept. 1799; Thomas Paul is later recorded a church bell-hanger.)

On Friday Mr. Whitmarsh took an inquest at East Knoyle, on the body of Robert Elliot, a boy aged ten years, who was found hanged in on [*sic*] of the bell-ropes in the belfry adjoining the church. It is singular that a man was tolling the bell for a funeral at the time the accident happened, but he being a lunatic and dumb, it was impossible to get any information from him; and a man working in the church swore he did not cease tolling the knell a moment. Verdict, - Accidental Death.

(*Woolmer's Exeter & Plymouth Gazette*, Thurs. 26 Sept. 1799)

BELL RINGING, HADLEIGH,

SUFFOLK.

THE Public are respectfully informed, That the Hadleigh Peal has been completely New Framed and the Bells New Hung, and will be opened on Friday, the 25th of this month, being the King's Accession to the Throne of these Realms. Dinner at the White Lion at Two o'clock, where the company of gentlemen bell ringers, or lovers of the art, will be esteemed a favour, from their humble servant,

Hadleigh / Oct. 17, 1799 } ROBERT BEALS.

(*Ipswich Journal*, Sat. 19 Oct. 1799 - advert)

RINGING.

On Saturday se'nnight the inhabitants of the parish of St. Giles, Camberwell, were most delightfully entertained by the Shoreditch society of Cumberland youths, with a peal on their (though small) musical bells. The performance lasted six hours, thirty-five minutes and a half; and though [*sic*] impracticable by most of the professors of the art, it consisted of 10,368 changes of Oxford treble bob, the critical part of which was the ingenious invention of Mr. G. G.—, beadle to the society.

Many members of the different ringing societies crowded down from London to hear the performance, who, with their usual method of rewarding merit, made a handsome collection to encourage the ingenious labourer, to which the inhabitants subscribed very liberally, making in the whole the sum of 6£. 4s. 8½d. This composition proves to the ringing world, that Mr. G. G—'s predecessors, Reeves and Blackemore [*sic*], were mere novices.

(*Morning Post and Gazetteer*, Mon. 28 Oct. 1799; clearly a reference to George Gross. However, this peal was not recorded in the Cumberland Youths' peal book, and is probably a hoax.)

COLLEGE YOUTHS

THE ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL of
this SOCIETY will be held at Mr. MARRIOTT'S,
the Paul's Head Tavern, Cateaton-street, on TUESDAY
NEXT, the 5th of November 1799. J.P. Beadle

Dinner on the Table at Three o'Clock.

(*Oracle and Daily Advertiser*, Sat. 2 Nov. 1799 - advert)

On Monday, Nov. 11th, 1799, will be opened at Glington, near Peterborough, a peal of six new bells, the tenor in the key of F; cast and hung by Thomas Osborn, of Downham in Norfolk. Six hats will be given to the company who ring the best round peal for the space of 30 minutes.

(Announcement in the *Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury* - quoted in the *Ringing World*, 7 Nov. 1924, p. 712)

On Monday last a new peal of six bells was opened at Stisted, by the Bocking company, (and cast by Mr. Bryant, of Hertford,) there were several other companies from adjacent parishes, who gave great satisfaction to the inhabitants.

(*Chelmsford Chronicle*, Fri. 15 Nov. 1799)

Saturday, as a boy 14 years old was playing in St. Andrew's belfry, one of the ropes on which he was swinging caught him by the neck, and suspended him for some time – so that when discovered by the sexton, he was apparently lifeless – Medical assistance was immediately procured, and the proper means used for his recovery, with success.

(*Norfolk Chronicle*, Sat. 16 Nov. 1799 – quoted in the *Ringing World* 5 February 1999, p.131)

DIED.]—Tuesday, aged 80, Mr. W. Worton, a respectable inhabitant of this town. Of the mechanical abilities of the facetious Son of Vulcan, the harmonious chimes of St. Martin's Church, have, for a great number of years, given very pleasing and ample proof.—...

(*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, Mon. 18 Nov. 1799)

On Monday evening last was rung by the Union Society, on the musical peal of 12 bells, at St. Chad's Church, in this town, a peal of Grandsire Cinques, containing 6006 changes - which they completed in a very correct and masterly style, in 4 hours and 27 minutes.

(*Salopian Journal*, Wed. 27 Nov. 1799; *Shrewsbury Chronicle*, Fri. 29 Nov. 1799)

This day will be opened at Harmston on the Cliff, near Lincoln, a complete peal of Eight new Bells, erected by Sam. Thorold, Esq. and cast by Thomas Osborn, bellfounder, at Downham, Norfolk.

(*Norwich Mercury*, Sat. 21 Dec. 1799 – quoted in the *Ringing World* 5 February 1999)

On Christmas-eve last a complete Peal of Bob Major, containing 6160 changes, was rung by the ringers of Downham Market, on their musical peal of eight bells, in three hours and 45 minutes, much to the satisfaction of the hearers, and credit of the performers.

(*Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, Sat. 4 January 1800; also *Bury and Norwich Post*, Wed. 1 Jan. 1800, and both *Norfolk Chronicle* and *Norwich Mercury* of the same date, the latter quoted in the *Ringing World*, 5 Feb. 1999, p.131. Also *Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, Fri. 3 Jan. 1800, as far as 'minutes.')

On Tuesday evening Dec. 14, was rung, in Saffron Walden steeple, by the company of ringers of that place, a complete peal of 5040 bob-majors in three hours and twenty-two minutes: the striking was so excellent as not only to attract the musical ear, but to enrapture the susceptible heart. The performance was by a young society, of not more than a year and a half standing; and their efforts would have done credit to veterans. The peal was rung in compliment to Mr. Cornhill, on occasion of bringing his lady to St. Aylett's.
(*Sporting Magazine*, Feb. 1800 – xv, 191-2.)