

Bells and Bell-ringing.

Meetings for Practice.

Cumberland Youths: at St. James's, Clerkenwell, on September 8th; St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, on September 10th.

St. James's Society: at St. Clement Danes, Strand, on September 6th.

Waterloo Society: at St. John-the-Divine, Kennington, on September 7th; and St. John's, Waterloo Road, on September 8th.

College Youths: at St. Mary's, Bow, E., on September 6th; St. Michael's, Cornhill, September 7th; St. Stephen's, Westminster, on September 10th.—All about 8 p.m.

The Liverpool Diocesan Guild.

THE next meeting of this Guild will be held at Christ Church, Southport, on Saturday, September 11th. Bells ready 3 p.m.; business meeting 6 p.m.

(Rev.) W. T. BULPIT, } *Hon. Secs.*
W. BENTHAM, }

A 'Ring' and a 'Peal.'

SIR,—If a 'ring of bells' is the correct term, and not a 'peal of bells,' it is a pity that so many of your correspondents use the latter and incorrect expression. I notice that several bell-founders in their advertisements err in the same way.

R. S. T.

[It would be well if there were some settled usage in this respect. —ED.]

The Bells of St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin.

THE following are the inscriptions on these bells, of which we gave some account last week. Treble, 'Sursum corda.' Second, 'Venite adoramus et propiciamus.' Third, 'Te laudamus.' Fourth, 'Tibi benedicimus.' Fifth, 'Te adoramus.' Sixth, 'Te glorificamus.' Seventh, 'Per singulos dies benedicimus te.' Eighth, 'Omnis spiritus laudet Dominum.' Ninth, 'Gloria in excelsis Deo.' Tenor, 'Ad majorem Dei gloriam.' This peal of ten bells was erected at the expense of Edward Cecil Baron Iveagh, K.P., A.D. 1897. Henry Jellett, Dean.

A Famous Irish Belfry.

THE following interesting letter on the belfry of St. Patrick's Cathedral from the eminent architect, Mr. Thomas Drew, has appeared in an Irish contemporary:—

'The hanging of a great peal of bells—the greatest that has ever been hung in Ireland—at St. Patrick's Cathedral should attract some notice to the great belfry in which they hang.

'Minot's tower, little written of, built in 1370, is a genuine survival of mediæval Dublin, without its equal as a tower in Ireland, and, as a belfry, without perhaps its compeer in the kingdom. Archbishop Thomas Minot, about 1370 (subsequent to a disastrous fire caused by the carelessness of Thomas, the sexton), proceeded to re-edify the north-western part of the church and build a high steeple of hewn stone, and, with that end, to "take up sixty idle and straggling fellows to assist in repairing the church, building the steeple." If he did so it is evident to the modern architect that his "straggling fellows," professional beggars, were but pressed men, labourers and hodmen. Minot's masons built such solid good mason-work as Dublin had never seen before or since. In the interior of the walls the stone and mortar is still as hard as homogeneous cast iron, and the greatest difficulty has been experienced in inserting in it the ends of modern girders.

'Starting at the base, no fewer than thirty-nine feet square, with walls ten feet thick, this tower was designed stage by stage as a grand belfry for practical ringing. One marvels at the appreciation of the art of campanology in the fourteenth century, which would design such an ideal belfry for such a peal of bells as the nineteenth century might provide. There is evidence of care in the staging of the different floors for practical bell-ringing. These great floors were of massive Wicklow oak, which, having served their turn for 525 years and become decayed and dangerous, have been of necessity removed and reasonably replaced with nineteenth-century construction of iron beams and concrete. Many hundred tons of old oak and rubbish and accumulated dirt of five centuries have been cleared out, and it is now to be seen what an interesting tower this is.

'Its ground story has been for many years the robing-room for the choirmen, because there was no other available. One can see, however, that Minot designed it as a north-west porch to the church with entry on the north side. To such a use may it return when the principal approaches to St. Patrick's will be from the north by way of new St. Patrick's Park, and widened and rebuilt St. Werburgh's, St. Patrick's, and St. Nicholas Street.

'Over the ground story the next stage reveals itself when cleared of rubbish as a fine apartment, a well-devised priest's chamber, parvise, or library, well lighted with windows on three sides, and on the fourth apparently an ancient fireplace. The next stage is an ideal bell-ringers' "floor," an apartment about twenty feet high. It has a floor area about twenty-six feet square, and has deep arched recesses with semi-circular

arches on each of the four sides. At the angles it has at three corners cleverly contrived closets or garderobes, and at the fourth the stone winding stairs that lead from the ground to the battlements. Facing the cardinal points—east, north, and west—remain three windows, and on the south one, now built up. In all remain quaint stone window-seats, where two occupants could face each other in intervals of rest from singing, and (what was, perhaps, more thought of in the fourteenth century) keep an outlook for the prowling O'Tooles and O'Byrnes about the fortified precinct of the cathedral, who "so pried and harried" its clerical garrison.

'Archbishop Minot, or his master of works, was good campanologist enough to know that two floors more should intervene between ringers and the swinging bells if they were not to be deafened and "bothered" by the sounds themselves had made, and provided for them accordingly, and when a great peal has come to be hung 500 years after his time, his prescience is remarkably justified. The bell stage, the fifth from the ground, is a truly noble one, thirty-seven feet square. It is a great peal of ten bells, with a tenor of 46 cwt., which has been placed in it, but its room would be ample to hang more bells in. The construction of the bell-frames and girders is all of steel and of modern methods.

'Passing yet above the bells by the circular turret squares the battlements of this grand tower are reached, and the views of Dublin from this novel standpoint are of a most interesting and picturesque character. The spire, too, not incongruous in effect with the noble tower, is nevertheless an innovation in architectural propriety, for no mediæval tower in Ireland ever affected the English spire. This spire is an eighteenth-century addition built by bequest of Archbishop Stearne.

'Minot's tower, heretofore inaccessible to visitors, rubbish-choked and neglected, is now by Lord Iveagh's restoration a distinct gain of interest to the Cathedral, and something to be visited. It is to be hoped that the Cathedral authorities may see their way, by, if necessary, charge of a moderate fee for the privilege, to make Minot's belfry and Lord Iveagh's bells and the panoramic view from the battlements, accessible to those who have special tastes to be gratified.

'THOMAS DREW, *Cathedral Architect.*

Some Bell Notes.

THE heaviest bell ever made in the United States was the alarm-bell, formerly in the City Hall in New York. It weighed 23,000 lbs. In 1867 it was broken, and recast in smaller fire-bells. The most celebrated bell in the United States is that known as the 'Liberty Bell' in Philadelphia. It was imported from England in 1752, cracked by a trial stroke, and recast in Philadelphia by Isaac Norris. On the Fourth of July, 1776, this bell announced the signing of the Declaration of Independence. It was again cracked while being rung in honour of Henry Clay's visit to Philadelphia, and since then has been on exhibition

(For continuation of Bell-ringing see page 836.)

CONSUMPTION AND ALL CHEST DISEASES.

Interviews with Old Patients and New Cases
By MR. CONGREVE'S COMMISSIONER.

ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-EIGHTH INTERVIEW.

With Mr. H. BURROUGHS,
16 Richmond Street, Barton Hill, Bristol,
With reference to the case of his daughter.

The Rev. W. Datson, Congregational Minister, of Bristol, first brought the case of Miss Burroughs to the notice of Mr. Congreve. Writing in June, 1896, he says he has spoken to the parents as to commencing the treatment, and describes the young woman's symptoms. 'During the last three or four months she seems to have developed consumptive symptoms. She is now twenty-two years of age. . . . She has wasted very considerably lately; her appetite is not good. She has a bad cough, which is more troublesome at nights, and expectorates frothy phlegm, and is in a weakly condition. . . . They earnestly desire me to write you, stating her case.'

Medicine and advice were sent at once; the result may be seen in the testimony of the father, given me during a brief chat I had with him recently.

'My daughter Elizabeth,' Mr. Burroughs told me, 'was never very strong; and at the time Rev. W. Datson wrote to Mr. Congreve she was so ill that we didn't think she would pull through. Although she had medical advice she didn't improve to our satisfaction. After taking the medicine Mr. Congreve sent her, however, she got quite well, and is now better than ever she was in her life. She has gone back to business again. She is a wonder to us.'

Mr. Burroughs added that he would be very pleased to see the case published, and that he should recommend the treatment whenever he had an opportunity.

MR. G. T. CONGREVE'S Work on CONSUMPTION, &c., in which are detailed THE CAUSES, SYMPTOMS, PROGRESS, and SUCCESSFUL TREATMENT OF THIS SCOURGE OF ENGLAND. With nearly FOUR HUNDRED CASES OF CURE. Also on COUGH, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS, &c., &c. The Book will be sent Post Free for ONE SHILLING by Author, Coombe Lodge, Peckham, London, S.E.

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in Independence Hall. It bears the following inscription, taken from Lev. xxv. 10: 'Proclaim liberty throughout the land unto all the inhabitants thereof.'

On the largest of the three bells placed by Edward III. in the Little Sanctuary, Westminster, are these words:—

'King Edward made me thirtie thousand weight and three;
Take me down and wey me, and more you shall find me.'

On a bell in Durham Cathedral is inscribed:—

'To call the folks to church in time, I chime;
When mirth and pleasure's on the wing, I ring;
And when the body leaves the soul, I toll.

On a bell at Lapley, in Staffordshire:—

'I will sound and resound to Thee, O Lord,
To call Thy people to Thy word.'

The following motto may still be seen on some of the bells that have swung in their steeples for centuries:—

'Men's death I tell by doleful knell;
Lightning and thunder I break asunder.'

CHANGE-RINGING.

The Midland Counties' Association.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY BRANCH.

At St. Peter's Church, Harborne, Staffordshire, on August 21st, a peal of DARLSTON BOB TRIPLES, 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 45 mins.

Henry Grosvenor* .. 1	Albert Walker* .. 5
James Jones .. 2	James George .. 6
Thomas Horton* .. 3	John Carter .. 7
Thomas Collinson .. 4	Edward Hancox (first peal) 8

Composed and conducted by John Carter. [*First peal in the method.]

At St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, on August 22nd, a peal of KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 changes, in 3 hrs. 50 mins.

Arthur Mathews .. 1	William A. Tyler .. 6
William T. Billingham .. 2	William Willson .. 7
Richard F. Lane .. 3	John W. Taylor, jun. .. 8
John Smith .. 4	William Wakley .. 9
Samuel Smith .. 5	James W. Washbrook .. 10

Composed by Henry Johnson, conducted by J. W. Washbrook. This is the first peal on the bells.

The Lancashire Association.

At St. Thomas's Church, Pendleton, on August 23rd, a peal of KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 changes, in 2 hrs. 53 mins.

Frank Smith .. 1	George E. Turner .. 5
John Smith .. 2	Harry Shuter .. 6
Brogden Taylor .. 3	C. R. Greenall .. 7
Alfred Cross .. 4	Richard Ridyard .. 8

Composed by the late H. W. Haley, conducted by R. Ridyard.

The Norwich Diocesan Association.

At St. Michael's, Aylsham, on August 23rd, a peal of KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5120 changes, in 3 hrs. 38 mins.

Charles E. Borrett .. 1	Fredk. R. Borrett .. 6
George Howchin .. 2	John Moy* .. 7
Fredk. J. Howchin .. 3	Fredk. H. Knights .. 8
George Moy .. 4	Albert G. Warnes .. 9
William E. Garrard .. 5	James George .. 10

Composed by Arthur Knights, of Chesterfield, conducted by Charles E. Borrett. [*First peal of ROYAL.]

AND at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, on August 24th, a peal of GRANDSIRE CATERPS, 5021 changes, in 3 hrs. 38 mins.

Albert G. Warnes .. 1	William Bales .. 6
J. Armiger Trollope .. 2	Fredk. H. Knights .. 7
William E. Garrard .. 3	Fredk. J. Howchin .. 8
Fredk. R. Borrett .. 4	George Smith .. 9
George Howchin .. 5	James George .. 10

Composed by James George, conducted by William E. Garrard.

MR. FRANCIS LEES died at Newcastle on the 26th ult. The deceased gentleman was born of Quaker parents at Holmfirth in 1839, was brought up at Glossop, and had been settled in Newcastle for over thirty-four years. He took great interest in bell-ringing, and was well known among campanologists throughout the North of England. In 1889 Mr. Lees was appointed instructor of St. George's, Newcastle, Guild of Ringers.

CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—On Monday, August 2nd, a party of bell-ringers connected with the churches of St. Giles, St. Peter, and All Saints, Northampton, together with their wives and children, drove in brakes to Wellingborough. After lunch at that ancient inn, the 'Golden Lion,' they, by the kindness of the Rev. R. W. Wynter, rang some touches of TRIPLES on the parish church bells. They afterwards proceeded to Irthlingborough, Higham Ferrers, and Rushden, getting the use of the bells in each of those places.

WELLINGBOROUGH.—The parish church ringers, for practice, on Monday, August 2nd, accomplished a quarter-peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, from Holt's Original, in 47 mins. G. Turnell, 1; F. Wood, 2; T. R. Hensher (conductor), 3; F. Underwood, 4; W. H. Ette, 5; E. West, 6; W. Wood, 7; T. Craddock, 8.

The Finedon bells will be reopened as a peal of eight when the spire is completed, and the local ringers are doing their best to render themselves competent to manage them in a satisfactory manner.

ST. JAMES'S, BERMUNDSEY.—These bells have been recently overhauled by Messrs. Warner. On August 29th, for evening service, they were rung by members of the Ancient Society of College Youths in the DOUBLE NORWICH and STEDMAN methods.

ST. MARY'S, STOCKPORT.—The eight bells of this church, which have done service since 1817, are to be recast by Messrs. Taylor. The cost of renovation, and of making provision for two additional bells, which it is hoped somebody may give before the alterations are completed, will not be less than 400*l.*, of which sum about one-half has been subscribed. The promoters of the scheme are looking to the public for the balance of the amount required. The work had become a virtual necessity as a matter of safety. It is expected that the bells will be ready for ringing again on Mayor's Day, November 9th.

In the church tower of Michaelstow-by-Camelford, Cornwall, a new ring of bells, with beams, frames, and new fittings complete, are to be provided. The old bells and fittings have been for some years useless.

On Saturday last, the bells of Ealing churches were rung in honour of Miss Perceval attaining her 92nd birthday. She is the sole surviving daughter of the Right Hon. Spencer Perceval, who was shot by Bellingham in 1812, while entering the House of Commons. The venerable lady, who has lived her entire life in Ealing, is in good health, and assisted actively in organizing the local Jubilee festivities.

NOTICE.—In order that peals may be reported without delay, conductors should send particulars to Mr. W. T. COCKERILL, 37 Tradescant Road, South Lambeth, immediately after the events.

How Mr. White Saved £7.

'Eight months ago,' says Mr. White, of East View, Birfields, 'I bought the organ from you, and I thought it would interest you to know that the instrument gives complete satisfaction, and that myself and wife are pleased with it. Your prediction that the instrument would improve with wear has been fully realised. Your catalogue, too, is an honest one, the instrument being true to description in every particular. I calculate I saved about £7 by purchasing from you.'

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