

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 364.—VOL. VII.

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1889.

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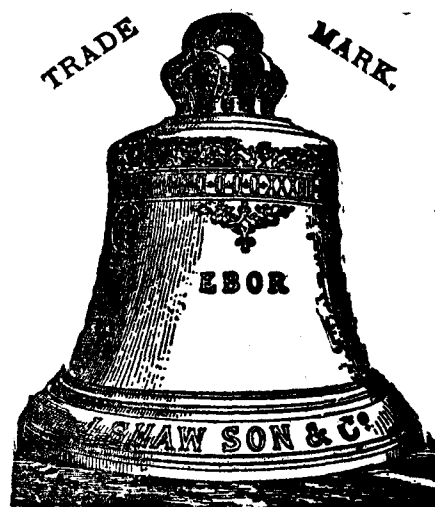
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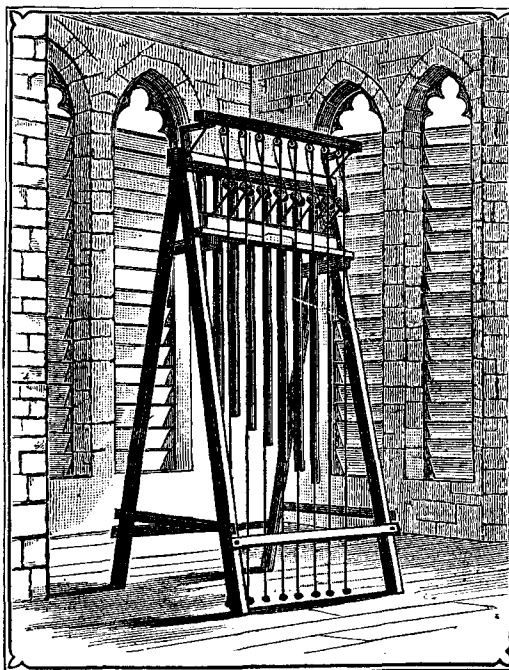
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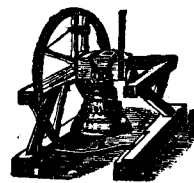
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MR. JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

[Vide Portrait.]

THE remarkable career of the ringer who is the subject of this brief memoir is well known to the readers of "THE BELL NEWS." Though he has not escaped the pitfalls to which the ambition of young composers are very apt to lead them, it may with propriety be said that what few mistakes he may have made in this direction is more than balanced by the abilities he has shewn both as a ringer and conductor. If the hypothesis is to hold good that when he is conducting a peal the attempt is almost sure to be successful, surely that will be further testimony to his skill and acumen. Enjoying the advantages of youth, and having a seemingly athletic frame, he is naturally fitted for those remarkable feats of which the power of endurance appears to be a most important factor; and the complex methods in which he has reaped success show that his mental capabilities are of the highest order.

Mr. Washbrook was born in the city of Oxford, close to the church of St. Thomas-ye-Martyr, on July 26th, 1864, consequently he is now in his 25th year. When a young lad he had a peculiar love for bells, and as early as his 8th year was able to pull a bell in rounds. He used to chime three bells for Divine Service at St. Thomas's twice a day, at the age of nine years, and toll for all funerals. Mr. Jaggar, who was an old schoolfellow, and now belonging to the Burton-on-Trent Society, was also to be found very often in the belfry. Many times have they surreptitiously taken the keys from behind the clerk's door, and spent the whole of the afternoon in pulling the bells with the clappers lashed, playing the truant from school, in fact, on purpose. However it was not till he had arrived at the age of 16 that he knew anything of change-ringing. About this time a curate of the parish, who had learned to pull a bell, presented each of the ringers of St. Thomas's with Troyte's work, and from that book they learnt to ring 6-scores of Grandsire and Stedman in a very short time, and about the middle of 1881 they were able to ring Minor fairly well. About this time the Oxford Diocesan Guild was formed, which opened up a field for eight and ten-bell ringing. On November 26, 1881, he rang his first peal, which was Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, conducted by Mr. C. Hounslow, and in which the Revs. Coleridge, Du Boulay, Hastings, and Child, then undergraduates of Oxford, took part. From this point he made rapid progress.

At this period there were two distinct societies in Oxford, and as usual the rivalry between them was not of the most friendly character. Mr. Washbrook thereupon looked about for young aspirants to ringing fame, and towers being easily got for practice he and his pupils soon got on, and was able to ring Stedman and Treble Bob well on eight and ten bells. He had succeeded in producing such a good company of young ringers that they were able, on Easter Monday of 1883, to attempt a peal on the heavy going peal of eight at Merton College, each ringer being under the age of twenty years. The peal, Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, progressed over half-way, when it was stopped by the authorities owing to a military drill going on hard by. This he was calling from the 7th, which bell went very badly. On March 13, 1883, he called his first peal, Holt's ten-part, at Christ Church Cathedral, and Holt's Original soon after on the same bells, which latter peal he has called since from every bell two or three times over. He called his first peal of Stedman Triples on December 8th, 1884 (Thurstans' composition), from a non-observation bell, and has since called this off every bell, and also Brook's Variation. He has likewise called Holt's Original, and Thurstans' peal of Stedman Triples on handbells twice, ringing the trebles in each of the last-named performances, and these are the only times that

this composition has been rung in hand by provincial ringers. Up to the present he has rung 232 peals, in upwards of eighty different towers, conducting 178, and composing 70 of them. These peals have been rang in the following methods: Cambridge and Superlative Surprise, Double Norwich, Stedman, Treble Bob, Plain Bob, Grandsire, College Single, Oxford Bob, etc. The long peal of Stedman Caters, comprising 15,041 changes, and rung at Appleton on December 31st, 1888, was as is well known, composed and conducted by Mr. Washbrook. This peal occupied nine hours and sixteen minutes in execution, and was a fitting close to what will be regarded as a memorable year for long peals. Besides the peal just mentioned, his donation to the "long lengths" of the year 1888 comprised the following: 10,080 of Double Norwich, 12,041 of Stedman Caters, and 13,247 of Grandsire Caters, all of which he composed and called. Such performances alone certainly point him out as one of the most eminent men of the Exercise. Peals called by him may be found recorded in almost every issue of this paper, and we may safely prophesy that before his career is ended his list of peals may be the greatest, from a numerical point of view, of the nineteenth century.

He is a member of the following Associations: The Oxford Diocesan Guild (of which body he is the chief instructor), the Ancient Society of College Youths, the St. James's Society London, the Midland Counties' Association, the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, the Essex Association, the Surrey Association, the Winchester Diocesan Guild, etc.

Our portrait is an enlargement of a very successful photograph of this distinguished ringer.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—LIVERPOOL.
DIOCESAN BRANCH.

On Saturday, March 16th, the above branch held its usual monthly meeting at Ormskirk, which from all points of view was a highly successful and harmonious one. The bells of the parish church, as also those of Christ Church, Aughton, were rung during the afternoon, touches of Grandsire, Stedman, Plain and Treble Bob being rung. At 5.30 p.m. thirty-eight members sat down to an excellent meat tea, presided over by the Rev. J. E. Woodrow, vicar of Ormskirk, supported by the Rev. D. Jones (Aughton), Messrs. Martin and Musker, churchwardens of Sefton, etc. At 6.30 the vicar conducted a short service in the church, which was opened by the singing of the Old Hundredth. The address which was listened to with attention, urged upon the ringers present not to be content with calling others to church, but to attend themselves, thus shewing by their example that they are actually and truly Church workers. He also drew attention to the marked improvement that has of late years taken place in the relations between clergy, wardens, and ringers, and trusted the good work now begun may be followed up earnestly, and with good results. After service the business meeting was held in the vestry, the Rev. J. E. Woodrow in the chair. Eleven new members were elected, including two honorary, the chairman being one, and Mr. Birch, sidesman of Sefton, the other. It was decided to hold the next meeting at West Derby on April 13th. On the motion of the Rev. D. Jones (Aughton), seconded by Mr. R. Hill (Southport), a cordial vote of thanks to the vicar for his able address, and his kindness in presiding at the meeting was unanimously agreed to. In his reply he welcomed the Association to Ormskirk, saying he was a lover of bells, and looked on the ringers of them as brothers.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

NOTICE.—The Annual Supper takes place at the "Green Man," 54 St. Martin's Lane, W.C., on the 5th proximo. All members are cordially invited, and will please signify their intention to be present.

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MR. JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 2nd, the vicar and churchwardens of Scotthorn provided a substantial supper for the ringers and their friends. The Rev. E. Milner Barry invited several of the Lincoln ringers to participate in the good cheer provided for the occasion. Unfortunately only Messrs. Maidens, Johnson, and Wells, of the Lincoln contingent, were able to take advantage of the invitation. The local band have been under the tuition of an instructor (Mr. Maiden), for some time, and can ring Bob Doubles very creditably. Scotthorn has a nice little ring of five, which were put in by John Taylor and Co. during Her Majesty's Jubilee year. The bells are now being augmented to six by the same firm. It is worthy of note that nearly the whole of the funds were raised by "social teas," the largest donation being five pounds. Miss Barry deserves a word of praise for the energy she has displayed, working indefatigably for the bell fund. Ringing was continued throughout the afternoon, and at 6.30 the ringers sat down to a good spread in the school-house, Miss Barry having beautifully decorated the rooms with flags, banners, plants, and appropriate inscriptions for the occasion.

After having satisfied the inner man, songs and tunes upon the handbells were indulged in till a late hour.

The Rev. E. Milner Barry expressed the pleasure it gave him to meet the ringers and their friends that evening. He trusted the ringers would not use those means which had cracked so many bells, but ring 720 changes when they had the sixth bell, which would be swinging in a week or two. The Vicar concluded his remarks by saying he hoped to see the Lincoln men on Easter Monday.

Mr. Seagrave proposed a vote of thanks to the vicar and churchwardens. Mr. Maidens seconded the vote, and congratulated the local band in having a vicar and churchwardens who thoroughly appreciated change-ringing, and studied their comforts. He trusted that they would continue in the future as they had done in the past.

The company dispersed after playing "God save the Queen," the Lincoln men having to walk home seven miles.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION—MANCHESTER BRANCH.

A very successful meeting of the above branch was held on Saturday, March 16th, at Holy Trinity church, Stretford Road, Manchester. The bells were set going shortly after the appointed hour, and touches in the following methods were rung during the evening:—Bob Minor, Bob Major, Treble Bob Major, Grandsire Triples, and Stedman Triples. Ringers attended from Ashton-under-Lyne, Whitfield, Worsley, Oldham, Northenden, Northwich, Eccles, and the following Manchester churches were represented: St. Phillip's, Chester Street; St. John's, Deansgate; Holy Trinity, Stretford Road; and the Cathedral. At nine o'clock a meeting was held in the belfry, the chair being occupied by the Rev. H. J. Elsee, who in a very neat speech congratulated the members on the progress such meetings as the present one were making for the association. Five new members were elected, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at Christ Church, Barlow Moor Road, Withington, on Saturday, April 13th. The usual votes of thanks to the Rector, Churchwardens, and Chairman were passed, and the bells were then rung until 9 o'clock.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

A COMMITTEE MEETING of the above took place on Saturday last in St. John the Baptist's schoolroom, Hagley. The rector, the Rev. W. E. Gibbs, presided. There was a good attendance of members present, and the usual business transacted. Several new members being added to the list, Mr. S. Spittle (Master), who was present at the celebration of Mr. H. Johnson, sen.'s eightieth birthday at Birmingham, spoke of the various resolutions which were passed at that meeting, and ventured to say that if the same were carried into effect, they would be beneficial to the ringing world, and suggested that at the Annual Meeting to be held at Easter, a delegate be appointed from this Association to form one on the council of ringers. A vote of thanks to the rev. Chairman thanking him for presiding, and also the use of the schoolroom, brought the meeting to a close.

Obituary.

CHARLIE BENNETT.

We regret to announce the death, somewhat suddenly, of the above ringer, of the Holy Trinity Church company, Hull, which took place on the 12th inst., at the age of 35 years. Mr. Bennett, who was born at Northwold, Norfolk, was a change-ringer at the age of 14, ringing his first 720 at his native place with his father, uncles, and brothers. He came to Hull at the age of 18, and joined the Yorkshire Association in 1880, and the Holy Trinity company in the following year, ringing his first peal of 5000 changes on the 6th of February, 1882, and his last on the 2nd of June, 1888. In the course of his career he rang fifty-two peals, made up as follows: 18 Grandsire Triples, 18 Bob Major, 12 Kent Treble Bob Major, 1 Grandsire Major, 2 Yorkshire Court Major, and 1 Stedman Triples. By his death the Hull members of the Association lose a thorough good ringer, who was highly esteemed by all with whom he came in contact. He had been in failing health for above twelve months, and it was eventually found that there was no cure for that dreadful disease, consumption. He requested his brother-ringers, only a week previous to his death, to call on him with a set of handbells, in order that he might have a little practice with them. This request was complied with, when he rang a course each of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major, but he only survived the visit two days. He was followed to his last resting-place by a large number of ringers and friends, on Sunday, the 17th inst., and his brother-ringers rang over their departed comrade a course of Grandsire Triples upon handbells. The service was performed by the Rev. A. E. Beddoe, Vicar of St. Andrew's, Hull, in whose parish the deceased resided. A muffled peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung to his memory at St. James's church, Hull, on the 14th inst., particulars of which will be found in the peal column.

RICHARD ASHCROFT.

On Tuesday, March 12th, the remains of the above-named ringer, who for the lengthy space of 54 years was a well-known and highly respected member of the Eccles parish church company, were interred at the above church. Deceased was in his seventy-sixth year, fifty-five of which he had spent in one house, about a mile from the church. Deceased had rung many peals, mostly in Grandsire, Treble Bob, and Bob Major, and when he was in his 72nd year he rang three peals in nine days at Eccles and Bolton, but he did not keep a correct record of all his peals, so the number cannot be given. On Thursday, March 14th, a half-muffled peal of Bob Major was started for, composed by Mr. Pritchard, of Liverpool, but after ringing 1000 changes the sixth rope broke. J. Grimshaw, 1; J. Rogers, 2; G. Turner, 3; T. Thorpe, 4; J. Barratt, 5; J. Thorpe, 6; H. Chapman, 7; J. Eachus (conductor), 8. All the above are members of the Lancashire Association, of which deceased was also a member.

HOGHTON, NEAR PRESTON.

On Saturday, March 16th, by the kind invitation of the Rev. J. Shortt, Vicar of this parish, the local ringers and a few friends sat down to a substantial knife and fork tea, previous to which several good touches of Grandsire Triples were rung on the peal lately added by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and which are in first-class going order. An adjournment was then made for tea at 6 p.m. at the "Boar's Head," and ample justice was done to the good things provided. After tea, Mr. J. Walker, instructor to the local company, was voted to the chair, and after a short address several toasts were drunk, including "The Queen" and "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese." The evening was enlivened with songs and recitations, interspersed with handbell ringing, until 9.40 p.m., when it was time for the visitors from a distance to depart. The proceedings were brought to a close by a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for his kindness, and also to the host and hostess, for the very able manner in which they had contributed to the comfort of all. The visitors departed highly delighted with their entertainment, and wish here to express once more their thanks for the kindness accorded them by one and all. The visitors included Mr. G. Appleby, of Burton-on-Trent, Messrs. J. Smith and J. Walker, jun., Blackburn, and J. Davidson, Liverpool.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"What man has done, man may do—and more."

Scarcely had the bells of Birmingham sounded their last notes in honour of the Johnson Celebration, when our brethren of Woodbridge assembled to do honour to another octogenarian brother who that Saturday completed his eightieth year. Although Mr. Meadows had not, like his contemporary at "Brum," achieved celebrity, yet he has evidently accomplished one very desirable thing—that of gaining the esteem of those around him. For fifty-eight years past he has never missed taking his part in ringing "out the old year, in the new," and if that is to be taken as a sample, we may be sure that during this long period as a ringer he has been a pattern of attention to duties. I join most heartily in the good wishes expressed by the Woodbridge men towards the hale and sprightly old gentleman, and hope he may be spared to hear the sweet sound of his village bells, and to assist in welcoming in many new years yet to come.

* * * * *

Another veteran's name—Mr. Thomas Taylor, of Bourne—also appears this week! but he has gone to rest, at the ripe old age of eighty-three.

* * * * *

Mr. W. G. Mann raises a question anent Good Friday ringing which I trust will receive due consideration. During the season of Lent last year, I referred to this subject myself, and certainly think Mr. Mann's remarks well-timed. Our bells are the outward voice of the Church, proclaiming its varying seasons. Does it not appear anomalous, then, in the very highest degree, that on the most solemn day in the Church's year the bells should be rung just as they are on the following Sunday morning, when we celebrate one of her highest festivals? We commemorate the death of our brethren in muffled tones, should we not all the more celebrate the death of our Lord and Master in like manner on the day appointed by the Church for the purpose? Either this should be done by ringing all the bells muffled, or else but one bell should be rung slowly, as is the case in many places with which I am acquainted. Let us, at any rate, be consistent in our professions and our practice.

* * * * *

I quite agree with Mr. Godden's remarks on the Johnson portrait, the execution of which left nothing to be desired. I am also much obliged to you, Mr. Editor, for the "private view" of our esteemed friend, Mr. Washbrook, which is timed to appear on the same date as these notes. The frequent issue of these representations of the features of prominent men amongst us is a very commendable thing, and I do not doubt will be very acceptable to the Exercise generally. While it is practicably impossible for us all to meet each other in *propria persona*, it will, to say the least of it, be very gratifying to us that we can by this means become acquainted with the features of those who have made their mark in our midst. And looking at it in another way, as this plan becomes established, and consequently an institution amongst us, the honour of having one's portrait included in this way among the "lions" of the Exercise will be something worth striving for. It may be hinted that this has in some way or other a tendency to the pandering of vanity, but I don't think anything of the sort; it may foster true pride in our profession, but there is a wide margin between that commendable feature and a desire for mere flattery. With Mr. Godden, I trust you, Mr. Editor, will "be equally success-

ful with any future portraits," and that Mr. Keeble will have a great run upon his albums for preserving the same.

* * * * *

Mr. G. H. Simon writes, asking for a lead of Lancashire Delight and New London Bob to be sent to him. I suggest, would it not be preferable if Mr. Thornley would oblige us with the same in the columns of "THE BELL NEWS"? We might thus all have the benefit of an inspection. I should also be glad of the sight of a lead (with bob-making) of Canterbury Pleasure Major, as I unfortunately have not that method in my collection, and likely enough, many others would be pleased to add it to theirs.

* * * * *

Joseph Timms, of Tamworth, has started early on his career as a conductor of peal-ringing, seeing that he is only yet in his "teens." But he is all the better for that. If he only studies the life history and endeavours to emulate the good qualities of those elders whose names have been prominent before us of late, by the time he reaches his four-score he will be able to reflect with pleasure on his ringing career, and to feel the proud satisfaction of one who has striven to do his duty, and thus earned the esteem of his fellows.

* * * * *

The Sheffield men, I see, have "pulled off" a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major on the heavy ring at their parish church. The tenor is put down as 14 cwt., but of course that must be an error, as according to Mears' catalogue, the figures should be reversed. I fancy Mr. Brearley will have felt perfectly satisfied with himself and mankind in general (except, perhaps, his inner man) after he had piloted his heavy bell through the 5184, as well as conducted the peal.

* * * * *

A friend of mine is anxious to know if it is possible to obtain a 12-score of Plain Bob Minor in the ordinary way, by the use of bobs only (no singles or other deviation from the strict method to be called into requisition). Can any one tell him?

FREE LANCE.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH PARISH CHURCH SOCIETY.

On Wednesday, March 13th, eight members of the above Society paid a visit to Staunton Harold, the seat of the Right Hon. Earl Ferrers, for the purpose of attempting a peal on the bells, which are a fine peal of eight by Mears, and are hung in the tower of his Lordship's private chapel. The visit was of much interest, owing chiefly to the fact that there had been only one peal rung on the bells, and that as far back as 1832, which is recorded in the belfry in the following manner:—

"Nothing is so difficult but diligence will overcome. On Sunday, June 3rd, 1832, the Burton-on-Trent Society of change-ringers rang a compleat peal of Grandsire Tripples, 5040, consisting of 98 bobs and 2 singles, in 2 hr. 58 mins., being the first peal compleated on the bells. Joseph Beale, 1; John Keates, 2; Joseph Hill, 3; David Allard, 4; Joseph Appleby, 5; David Gilbert, 6; William Merry, 7; Richard Roe, jun., 8. Conducted by D. Gilbert."

After the bells had been raised a start was made for Holt's ten-part peal, which was successfully brought round in 3 hrs. 8 mins., as reported in peal column. The party were then kindly entertained by his Lordship, who expressed his own and Lady Ferrers' entire satisfaction with the ringing of the peal. They then thanked his Lordship for so kindly placing the bells at their disposal, also for their hospitality, and started for home (which was reached about 10.30), highly delighted with their success, all having thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

FOR SALE.—A Good Musical Box, cost £24 new. Plays six well-known sacred tunes, with an organ accompaniment. Just been thoroughly done up. Price £8. R. Elliott, Springfield Road, Walthamstow.

Correspondence.

(While allowing the utmost freedom for the expression of opinion, it must never be considered that we are in any way bound to statements made by correspondents.)

To the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD."

THE JOHNSON CELEBRATION.

SIR,—In common, I have no doubt, with other members of the Exercise, who unfortunately were unable to be present at Birmingham on the 28th ult., I have to confess to a feeling of disappointment at the extreme meagreness of the report of the proceedings which has appeared in the ringing papers. The occasion was one so remarkable in its intention and scope, and so important in its possible results, to the future of campanology, that a far fuller and more complete account of the proceedings ought to have been made and recorded; and I am sure that the increased space and closer printing required for such a purpose would have been well bestowed. The report, as it stands at present, does not differ materially from any ordinary record of post-prandial oratory, the cream of the meeting, namely the discussion on the points covered by the resolutions having been carefully skimmed off, and withheld from the Exercise at large. It was just the opportunity afforded for this discussion which made the assembly unique in the annals of change-ringing, and it is the outspoken opinion of representative men on these points that we want to hear. Complimentary toasts and after-dinner speeches of the ordinary character we can hear any day; but a discussion on special and carefully selected subjects by competent men is of more than fugitive interest; and if it is not adequately reported is lost to all, save those who were privileged to listen to it. The report, as it stands, is all trifle and no plums; and I hope it may not be impossible even now to repair the omissions, and give us a *resume* of the arguments used by the various speakers in support of the resolutions that were passed. H. EARLE BULWER.

[We regret to say this letter was overlooked last week.—ED.]

THE SEVEN-BELL PEAL AT SOUTHGATE.

SIR,—In your last issue there was a letter from Mr. R. T. Woodley, referring to the peal we recently rang at Southgate. Mr. Woodley asserts that by ringing that peal we are qualifying for admission to Colney Hatch. We readily admit that if Mr. Woodley is an authority on any thing, it would naturally be on matters connected with the above-named useful institution. But will he please take notice that the Tottenham Society do not recognise him as an authority on other matters, and, whether he like it or not, we intend ringing still another seven-bell peal when it suits our convenience. T. C. GROVE,

Secretary of the Tottenham Society.

SIR,—I suppose no one will think the vapid effusion of R. T. Woodley worth replying to, but there is one little matter which though not worthy of notice as coming from him may possibly bear allusion. It is the "Billingsgate" accusation. Here we have exemplified the old proverb about the pot and kettle. If Mr. Woodley is anxious to obtain that high respect among the ringing community which his three predecessors in the office which he proudly holds enjoyed, let me tell him to profit by the old maxim—"Speech is silver; but silence is golden." Unless he does take this adage to heart, and soundly act upon it, there will be a fall for him some day, the shadow of which is already looming in the distance. I can fully understand the impetuosity of youth, and can make allowance for it, but it ought to be regulated by older counsel. In trying to curb his tongue and temper, and remembering that he is but a mere unit in the Exercise, without the least claim to be an authority, he will comply with the advice of

A VERY OLD RINGER.

RINGERS' FESTIVALS, ETC., DURING LENT.

"Once more the solemn season calls
A holy fast to keep;
And now within the temple walls,
Let priests and people weep."

SIR,—Perhaps some of your readers will explain how ringers' festivals are in accordance with the teaching of the Church of England, of which they are workers, the teaching of the Church of England being that the forty days of Lent are to be observed as a fast. Also how it is that the Association which is so careful to see that the Prayer-Book is carried out to a letter does not look after those who turn what the Prayer-Book orders to be kept as a fast, into a festival, and satisfy the mind of

LOOKER-ON.

THE RINGERS' PHOTO GALLERY.—B. Keeble, Peal Book Manufacturer, 2 Vine Street, Mawneys, Romford, Essex. Portfolios specially manufactured in strong covers, so as to admit fifty photo plates. These cases will be made with guards upon which the plates can be fixed either with a little gum or paste, and when complete will form a handsome ringers' photo gallery. Free by parcels post for 2s. 6d. postal order.

Review.

[BY SCRUTATOR.]

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD OF RINGERS: SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT.—(E. Roe and Co., Salisbury). This report, which is comprised in 16 pp. of large 8vo., states that the number of members is: Honorary, 64; Ringing, 286; being an increase of 40 on the previous year. In the matter of finances, the total receipts are £32 16s. 7d.; the expenditure £31 2s. 6d., which, including the sum of £18 13s. 11d., brought forward from the previous year, leaves a balance in hand of £20 7s. 10d., shewing a gain of £1 13s. 11d. During the year sixteen peals have been rung (not including, of course, one of Bob Major, which afterwards turned out to be false). These items, though brief, will give a fair indication of the position of the Guild, which, although not receding, or even standing still, does not appear to have made any great amount of progress during the past year. I must confess to experiencing a feeling of disappointment after glancing through the pages of this report. Although I fully recognise the many difficulties in the way of managing successfully our County Associations, yet, in this instance I do think better results ought to have been chronicled. The increase in numerical strength may, perhaps, be allowed to go as the exception to this rule, although even in that case the increase in ringing members is slightly less than that of the previous year. Scientifically, the report is positively disheartening. In union with the Guild there are eleven rings of eight bells, sixteen rings of six, and eight rings of five. The Guild has thus 286 performing members, and 35 rings of from five to eight bells. But what has been done in the way of peal-ringing? Of the fourteen on tower bells eleven were rung at St. Martin's, Salisbury; one at St. Thomas', in the same city; one at Christ Church, Hants.; and another at St. James', Trowbridge. Out of the 286 ringing members only twenty-five took part in the total number of peals, and, practically, had it not been for the members of the St. Martin's branch, this peal record must have been almost *nil*. Then, as to the methods rung, fourteen were of Grandsire Triples—Holt's Ten-Part being rung ten times, Hollis's Five-Part three times; Brook's Variation, once—and two of Bob Major. Leaving these ringing statistics, I turn to the balance-sheet. Here we find that, out of the total of £31 2s. 6d., no less a sum than £22 os. 6d. has been expended in riding and eating. Is this owing to the fact that the members are financially unable to pay their own expenses in connection with the meetings, or has it to be done as an inducement to get the members together, without which they would not attend? I hope, for the reputation of our common brotherhood, that the latter alternative is not the case; yet it does seem passing strange that of the total amount of their annual expenditure two-thirds go in this direction. As to the general "get up" of this report, I should have been very glad had I been able to say a word in its favour. Unfortunately, the reverse is the case, and in no measured degree either. As a sample of the art of printing how it could with anything like satisfaction be laid before such gentlemen as are enumerated in the list of patrons, president, and vice-presidents, passes my comprehension. In the first place, the pages are much too large to be comely—that fault in itself might be overlooked, were it all; but the fancy-grocer's-handbill style of type used in "displaying" the titles of the peals rung, together with the elaborate borderings used in some of them, is positively excruciating. I think the officials of the Salisbury Guild cannot have seen the annual reports of other associations, or they would not be satisfied with one of this character. In drawing this notice to a close, I most sincerely hope my criticisms will be accepted in the same spirit in which they are given. However severe I may be considered to have been, I assure our Salisbury friends that it has caused me more pain to write them than their perusal will be to those most immediately concerned. But I could not honestly do otherwise. At the same time, I must exonerate the officers in a very great measure from censure in respect to the unsatisfactory features of this report. It shows but too plainly that the struggle for improvement—if not for very existence—is left in few hands. It shows that the rank and file do not support their officers as they ought to do—as they are in duty bound to do. When men are striving for the good of a society it is but the lowest form of gratitude for self-denying services rendered by them that the members, for whose benefit this is done, should loyally support them, and endeavour in every possible manner, by mutual self-help and perseverance, to forward the work. Whatever lack of credit exists in this case is evidently to be laid to the charge of the ordinary members, and not to the officers; and I trust that my observations will be taken so well to heart by them that next year we may see an improvement all round—a state of things which will not only be creditable to themselves, satisfactory to their officers, but pleasing to their neighbours in other counties.

"FORWARD;"

A New Method for an Even Number of Bells.

By JOHN CARTER.

In last week's issue the words at the bottom of the date touch should read: "The second six courses four times repeated," instead of "these six courses."

The following are some more musical touches:—

1120.

1 2 3 4 5 6	I	B	O
4 5 2 3 1 6	-	-	-
2 4 5 3 1 6	-	-	-
5 2 4 3 1 6	-	-	-
3 4 2 5 1 6	-	-	-
2 3 4 5 1 6	-	-	-
5 4 3 2 1 6	-	-	-
3 5 4 2 1 6	-	-	-

Four times repeated.

1160.

1 2 3 4 5 6	H	B	O	F
4 6 2 5 1 3	2	-	-	-
5 3 2 4 1 6	-	-	-	-
2 5 3 4 1 6	-	-	-	-
3 2 5 4 1 6	-	-	-	-
4 5 2 3 1 6	-	-	-	-
2 4 5 3 1 6	-	-	-	-
5 2 4 3 1 6	-	-	-	-
3 4 2 5 1 6	-	-	-	-

Four times repeated.

1200.

1 2 3 4 5 6	H	I	B	O	F
4 6 2 5 1 3	2	-	-	-	-
5 3 1 2 4 6	-	-	-	-	-
1 5 3 2 4 6	-	-	-	-	-
3 1 5 2 4 6	-	-	-	-	-
4 5 1 2 3 6	-	-	-	-	-
1 4 5 2 3 6	-	-	-	-	-
5 1 4 2 3 6	-	-	-	-	-

2 6 1 3 5 4	2	-	-	-	-
3 4 1 2 5 6	-	-	-	-	-
1 3 4 2 5 6	-	-	-	-	-
2 5 3 4 1 6	-	-	-	-	-
3 2 5 4 1 6	-	-	-	-	-
5 3 2 4 1 6	-	-	-	-	-
2 3 1 4 5 6	-	-	-	-	-

Twice repeated.

1280.

1 2 3 4 5 6	I	B	O
4 5 2 3 1 6	-	-	-
2 4 5 3 1 6	-	-	-
3 5 4 2 1 6	-	-	-
4 3 5 2 1 6	-	-	-
5 4 3 2 1 6	-	-	-
2 3 4 5 1 6	-	-	-
4 2 3 5 1 6	-	-	-
3 4 2 5 1 6	-	-	-

Four times repeated.

1280.

1 2 3 4 5 6	I	B	O
4 5 2 3 1 6	-	-	-
2 5 1 3 4 6	-	-	-
4 1 5 3 2 6	-	-	-
5 1 2 3 4 6	-	-	-
2 1 4 3 5 6	-	-	-
5 4 1 3 2 6	-	-	-
1 4 2 3 5 6	-	-	-
2 4 5 3 1 6	-	-	-

Four times repeated.

1344.

1 2 3 4 5 6	I	B	O
4 5 2 3 1 6	-	-	-
3 2 1 5 4 6	-	-	-
5 1 4 2 3 6	-	-	-
2 4 3 1 5 6	-	-	-

3 4 5 1 2 6	-	-	-
1 5 2 4 3 6	-	-	-
4 2 3 5 1 6	-	-	-
5 3 1 2 4 6	-	-	-
2 1 4 3 5 6	-	-	-

4 1 5 3 2 6	-	-	-
3 5 2 1 4 6	-	-	-
1 2 4 5 3 6	-	-	-
5 4 3 2 1 6	-	-	-
2 3 1 4 5 6	-	-	-

Twice repeated.

1440.

1 2 3 4 5 6	I	O
4 3 5 2 1 6	-	-
2 5 1 3 4 6	-	-
3 1 4 5 2 6	-	-
5 4 2 1 3 6	-	-
2 4 3 1 5 6	-	-

1 3 5 4 2 6	-	-
4 5 2 3 1 6	-	-
3 2 1 5 4 6	-	-
5 1 4 2 3 6	-	-
4 1 3 2 5 6	-	-

3 1 5 2 4 6	-	-
2 5 4 1 3 6	-	-
1 4 3 5 2 6	-	-
5 3 2 4 1 6	-	-
2 3 1 4 5 6	-	-

Twice repeated.

1440.

1 2 3 4 5 6	I	B	O
4 5 2 3 1 6	-	-	-
1 2 5 3 4 6	-	-	-
3 4 2 5 1 6	-	-	-
5 1 4 2 3 6	-	-	-
3 4 1 2 5 6	-	-	-

2 5 4 1 3 6	-	-	-
1 3 5 4 2 6	-	-	-
4 2 3 5 1 6	-	-	-
5 1 2 3 4 6	-	-	-
4 2 1 3 5 6	-	-	-

3 5 2 1 4 6	-	-	-
1 4 5 2 3 6	-	-	-
2 3 4 5 1 6	-	-	-
5 1 3 4 2 6	-	-	-
2 3 1 4 5 6	-	-	-

Twice repeated.

1728.

1 2 3 4 5 6	I	B	O
4 5 2 3 1 6	-	-	-
3 1 5 2 4 6	-	-	-
2 5 4 1 3 6	-	-	-
1 4 3 5 2 6	-	-	-
5 3 2 4 1 6	-	-	-

4 1 3 2 5 6	-	-	-
2 4 3 1 5 6	-	-	-
1 3 5 4 2 6	-	-	-

4 2 3 5 1 6	-	-	-
5 1 2 3 4 6	-	-	-
3 2 4 1 5 6	-	-	-

(Continued on next column.)

Continued—

	I	B	O
1 4 5 2 3 6	-	-	-
2 5 3 4 1 6	-	-	-
4 1 5 3 2 6	-	-	-
3 5 2 1 4 6	-	-	-
1 2 4 5 3 6	-	-	-
5 4 3 2 1 6	-	-	-

Twice repeated.

TWO 720's OF FORWARD MINOR.

By H. W. WILDE, Sandiacre.

720.

1 2 3 4 5 6	I	B	O
4 3 5 2 1 6	-	-	-
2 5 1 3 4 6	-	-	-
3 1 4 5 2 6	-	-	-
5 4 2 1 3 6	-	-	-
1 3 4 2 5 6	-	-	-

Five times repeated; with a single substituted for the bob at before in the third and sixth parts.

720.

1 2 3 4 5 6	I	B	O
4 5 2 3 1 6	-	-	-
3 1 5 2 4 6	-	-	-
2 4 1 5 3 6	-	-	-
5 3 4 1 2 6	-	-	-
1 4 2 3 5 6	-	-	-

Five times repeated; with a single at before at the end of the third and sixth parts.

A DATE TOUCH, TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By YORK GREEN, College Youths.

1889.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
2 4 5 3 6	-	-	-	-
2 5 3 4 6	-	-	-	-
3 4 2 5 6	-	-	-	-
5 3 4 6 2	-	-	-	-
5 2 3 6 4	-	-	-	-
2 4 3 6 5	2	-	-	-

Round next change.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By GEORGE HAYWARD, Bromsgrove.

6160.

2 3 4 5 6	M	W	H
3 2 6 5 4	2	-	-
5 6 2 3 4	-	2	-
5 2 3 6 4	-	-	2
5 3 6 2 4	-	-	-
4 5 2 3 6	2	-	-
3 2 5 4 6	-	-	-

Repeated.

This peal contains the 4th, 5th, and 6th their extent in 6th's place, the 2nd and 3rd being never there at a course-end.

DATE TOUCHES OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES FOR THE YEAR 1889.—Those date touches in this method sent for insertion by Mr. Peter Brickell, of Northenden, and Mr. Henry Parslow, of Kingston-on-Thames, are both false. Perhaps Mr. Wright of the latter place will make the coming round of his 1889 more plain.

GRANDSIRE CATERS.—We are unable to discover Mr. J. W. Kelley's peal of Caters from the figures sent. At present the large bells appear to be parted throughout—a fatal defect.

All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher
E. W. ALLEN, Ave Maria Lane, London.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication arriving later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "THE BELL NEWS," Walthamstow, London.

G. SKEEF.—No one received it. We should think it would cost too much.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1889.

WE recollect reading some years ago that the late CHARLES DICKENS, while on a railway journey, was so annoyed by the excessive and uncomfortable oscillation of the carriage he was riding in, that at the first opportunity he left the train, and the officials of the company soon felt the effect of his indignation. A remonstrance against carelessness in making up a train coming from such a man would of course have some effect; and the fact that the circumstances of his unpleasant journey were published in the periodical controlled by him, and copied by every newspaper in the country, no doubt led to a remedy or improvement in railway-carriage couplings.

The inhabitants of the lovely town of Malvern have been recently honoured by a visitor whom it would seem has the idea that he has only to show his indignation (*a la Dickens*) of what he considers an evil—but what is in reality a popular English custom—to have it removed. This gentleman, though an author, is hardly a DICKENS, and his frothy jokes about the ringing of the bells at Malvern Abbey will fall "stale, flat, and unprofitable" upon the church people of the delightful Worcestershire town. He has in fact overdone it. The jokes about shooting the bellringers or hanging "every man of them with his own bell-rope" may suit the columns of the *Referee*, but we question whether the staid inhabitants of Malvern appreciate them. "JEARREZ" (as he used to sign himself), has never been credited with poverty of resource from a literary point of view, but it would appear that his imagination has become peculiarly bald while he has been enjoying a change of air.

It seems strange that the supposed detriment to the health of Malvern invalids caused by ringing practice or an occasional peal should be suddenly found out by a London journalist while on a brief visit. Are the inhabitants so obtuse that they have never discovered this before? Our friend's vapourings will we hope and believe have no effect in stopping the bells at Malvern Abbey. What are the bells there for? If they are such an annoyance, how is it that church-folk there very recently augmented (by subscription) the peal to eight. We advise our friend to try some other topic should he visit Malvern again.

LORD GRIMTHORPE.

THE following sketch of this nobleman appears in a recent number of that publication called *Vanity Fair*, accompanied by one of those extraordinary caricatures peculiar to that journal:

"Incredible though it may seem, Lord Grimthorpe was once upon a time an infant in arms. The year after the battle of Waterloo his godfathers and godmothers named him Edmund, after his father, Sir Edmund Beckett Denison, a sturdy Yorkshire Baronet, who for many years represented the West Riding in the House of Commons. At Eton he began and at Cambridge he continued the course of studies which, in his seventy-fourth year, he does not regard as by any means finished. He gained a scholarship at Trinity, and became a Bachelor at the age of twenty, when he turned aside into the arid paths of the law. Five years later he was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn, and proceeded to practise before Parliamentary Committees, where he speedily gained a reputation for thoroughness, shrewdness, and hard common sense. It was about that time that the railway mania took possession of English speculators, and Mr. Beckett Denison reaped, in the form of fees, his share of the money which then circulated so freely. In 1854 he became a Queen's Counsel, and, as older men dropped out, his native force of character, allied with a dash of truculence and a thorough mastery of detail, fashioned him into the acknowledged head of the Parliamentary Bar. Weak Committees he dominated by strength of will; strong Committees he cajoled: until at length the promoter or opponent of a Private Bill who had taken the precaution to retain Sir Edmund Beckett—for he dropped the "Denison" on succeeding to the Baronetcy—felt that his case was already half won. Seven or eight years ago he retired from practice, and he has since become a Peer.

"Lord Grimthorpe is a many-sided man—a keen and somewhat bitter controversialist, a practical mechanic, a voluminous writer on diverse topics, a student of men and books, and Chancellor and Vicar-General of York. He is so high an authority on Church architecture that he is credibly reputed to know the difference between a gargoyles and a flying buttress. Under his direction the new works at St. Alban's Cathedral have been carried out; and the bells and "Big Ben" at Westminster owe their parentage to his versatile talent. His treatise on "Clocks, Watches, and Bells" has delighted the soul of the British Horological Institute, over which he presides; bell-founders regard him as an oracle; and his antagonists in the correspondence column of the *Times* tremble at his name in print. Yet he has leisure which he has occupied in teaching astronomy without the aid of mathematics. He is the designer of his own quaint raiment as well as of a number of churches; he is reputed to be very rich; he dispenses charity on scientific principles; and he has firm faith in the Church of England as by law established, and in Lord Grimthorpe. Mentally and physically he is a very tough old gentleman. He married a daughter of Dr. Lonsdale, some time Bishop of Lichfield; and he has written his father-in-law's life. He is not a Radical."

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, March 5th, ten members of this Society paid a visit to St. Barnabas, Pimlico, for the purpose of opening a peal tablet, erected to commemorate the peal of Grandsire Caters rang by them on Thursday, September 20th, 1888, but upon their arrival the bells were found to be half-muffled, owing to the death, at the age of forty, of Mr. G. Burling, a near resident, so they rang the usual whole pull and stand, and a well-struck 700 of Grandsire Caters, the band standing as in the peal. W. Baron (conductor), 1; W. Lally, 2; W. Hoverd, 3; W. Jones, 4; C. E. Malin, 5; J. W. Mansfield, 6; W. W. Thorne, 7; A. E. Church, 8; H. Swain, 9; G. Chesterman, 10. Also two courses of Stedman Caters, and short touches of Grandsire, in which Messrs. Hopkins, Swetman and Ambrose took part. The tablet was presented by Messrs. Lally and Longhurst, and is of Gothic design, written in gold letters on a black ground, and is in character with the fine tower. The manner in which the belfry is kept, and also the go of the bells, gives great credit to Mr. Longhurst, the steeple-keeper.

A NATIONAL RINGERS' ASSOCIATION.

As might have been expected, the representative body of ringers who assembled to do honour to Mr. H. Johnson at Birmingham on February 28th, did not separate without formulating their views on one or two subjects of considerable importance to the ringing community generally; and I suppose the resolutions on the subjects of a Ringers' Benefit Society, and the formation of some authoritative body to control ringing matters, or at all events act as a final court of appeal in doubtful questions, will meet with the absolute approval of all who have the good of the Exercise at heart.

But with reference to the first of the resolutions, I think there may reasonably be some difference of opinion. It appears to me that the meeting first pronounced against a National Ringers' Association, and then proceeded to state three extremely strong arguments in favour of the existence of such an institution. The "committee" suggested corresponds exactly to what would be the Council of a National Association; and the other matters mentioned would in the ordinary course of things be among its principal duties.

Without going too much over old ground, I really think the Exercise has been over hasty in rejecting altogether the perhaps premature scheme which came to grief a year or two ago. I think it was due in a measure to the want of some definite idea of what a National Association would find to do. We may take the resolutions of the Birmingham meeting as a starting point, and see what additions can be made thereto.

Besides the powers of regulating peal-ringing mentioned in these proposals, there would be the large and complex question of the local jurisdiction of the various Associations to be dealt with. If this could be settled satisfactorily we should hear no more of the clashing of interests, as in the case of the Surrey Association and the Winchester Diocesan Guild, or the Worcester Guild and the Birmingham Association, to mention two out of several instances. And again, I think it would not be difficult to infuse a proper spirit of *esprit de corps* into the County Associations by doing away with the present system of multiple memberships—insisting that a ringer should belong to one Association only, and that by reason of a residential qualification, or after a continued probation of at least a year—a logical result being that peals in future could not be claimed by more than one society. The compilation of statistics of all kinds, antiquarian as well as campanological, would be another duty of the Council; which to take only one example, should thus relieve Mr. Attree of his self-imposed but valuable task; it would also bring a powerful influence to bear on the clergy and others concerned with belfry reform and construction.

I hold that the National Association should be exclusively a legislative and judicial body—peal-ringing not entering into the programme in any shape or form—but its duty should be to bring all the miscellaneous mass of raw material now spread about the country, into some regular system and order; and so place change-ringing on that level of excellence and popularity its intrinsic merits have always claimed but never yet received.

EDWARD F. STRANGE.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

The usual Quarterly Meeting will be held at St. Martin's Mission Rooms, on Thursday, March 28th, at 8 o'clock in the evening. Chair will be taken by W. Jones, Esq. The attendance of all members is earnestly requested.

W. H. GODDEN, *Hon. Sec.*

* * Correspondents are requested to notice that all communications not accompanied with the name and address of sender are disregarded.

The Metropolis.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 16, 1889, in Three Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5018 CHANGES;

Tenor 36 cwt.

JOHN ROGERS† Treble.	JAMES HANNINGTON .. 7.
HENRY DAINS 2.	WALTER PARTINGTON* .. 8.
WILLIAM BARON.. .. 3.	HENRY SWAIN 9.
ARTHUR JACOB 4.	†GEORGE WILD 10.
C. E. MALIM* 5.	GEORGE NEWSON 11.
THOMAS TITCHENER 6.	HENRY HOPKINS Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN ROGERS.

The above peal has the 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th bells in full Tittum position, regularly coursing each other throughout, and is the first peal of Cinques in any method on this plan ever rung. *First peal of Stedman Cinques. †First peal of Stedman with a bob bell. ‡First attempt at Stedman as conductor.

HACKNEY, MIDDLESEX.

On Saturday, March 16, 1889, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES:

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

E. MARRIOTT Treble.	A. CUTMORE 5.
F. RUMENS 2.	W. BURKIN 6.
G. J. SMITH 3.	A. S. BARRELL 7.
T. PAGE 4.	H. SPENCER Tenor.
	H. T. SCARLETT

Conducted by W. BURKIN.

The Provinces.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 16, 1889, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. Treble.	WILLIAM G. CRICKMER .. 5.
GEORGE PERRY 2.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, SEN. 6.
GEORGE WIGHTMAN 3.	DAVID G. WIGHTMAN .. 7.
GEORGE THURLOW 4.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN COX and Conducted by DAVID G. WIGHTMAN.

This is a one-part peal containing the 5th and 6th their extent wrong and right. For calling see Snowdon, Part II, page 50. This peal was rung in honour of the 121st anniversary of the 10080 of Bob Major rung in this tower in six hours and one minute.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.

On Thursday, March 14, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE "HALBERD" INN, NORTHGATE STREET,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 19 size in F.

WILLIAM MOTTS 1-2.	WILLIAM P. GARRETT.. 5-6.
CHARLES MEE 3-4.	FREDERICK TILLET .. 7-8.
	SAMUEL TILLET .. 9-10.

Composed by DANIEL PRENTICE, of Ipswich, and Conducted by CHARLES MEE.

This peal, which is in one-part, has the 2nd and 4th each six courses at home, the 5th three courses wrong, and the 6th its extent in 5-6, and is now rung for the first time. All the above belong to The Ancient Society of College Youths and the Norwich Diocesan Association. Umpire—Mr. H. Bowell.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND CO. Printers, Exeter

ST. ALBANS.—THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, March 12, 1889, in Two Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE REFRESHMENT ROOMS, GEORGE STREET, ST. ALBANS,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

ALFRED BARNES 1-2.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 5-6.
E. PERCY DEBENHAM .. 3-4.	THOMAS WALLER 7-8.

Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

Umpire—Mr. W. Little.

The above ringers also belong to the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Hertfordshire Association.

MARSHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 13, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 9 cwt.

FREDERICK KNIGHTS Treble.	THOMAS BLACKBOURN 5.
ARTHUR J. NEALE 2.	GEORGE MOY 6.
FREDERICK HOWCHIN* 3.	JAMES SKINNER 7.
FREDERICK H. KNIGHTS* .. 4.	ROBERT STACKWOOD .. Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS, of London, and Conducted by FREDERICK KNIGHTS.

F. Knights, J. Skinner, F. H. Knights, Jun., and F. Howchin are members of St. Peter's Mancroft Society, Norwich. Mr. T. Blackburn hails from Salisbury; the rest are local men. *First peal.

STAUNTON HAROLD, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 13, 1889, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 21 cwt.

WILLIAM LIGGINGS Treble.	WILLIAM OWEN 5.
HERBERT CANNER 2.	JOHN H. DUNMORE 6.
THOMAS JACQUES 3.	WALTER CANNER 7.
JAMES HOPKINS 4.	JOSEPH CURTIS Tenor.

Conducted by WALTER CANNER.

All the above belong to the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Society.

HULL.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 14, 1889, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

FREDERICK MERRISON .. Treble.	HY. JENKINS 5.
JOHN POLLARD 2.	TOM STOCKDALE 6.
JAMES DIXEY 3.	ROBT. CHAFFER 7.
WILLIAM SOUTHWICK .. 4.	CHARLES JACKSON .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES JACKSON.

This peal has the 4th and 6th their extent in 5-6, and is one of the 112 variations of Mr. C. H. Hattersley's fourteen-course peal, in which the 5th and 6th are their extent in 5-6. It was rung with the bells muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Charlie Bennett, who died on March 12th, 1889.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(CHRIST CHURCH BRANCH.)

On Thursday, March 14, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SHIPWAY'S TEN-PART.

R. HOWSE Treble.	G. H. HOWSE 5.
W. SIGGS 2.	J. SHARP 6.
E. BABER* 3.	T. M. SMITH 7.
A. PIPER 4.	*J. PARKS Tenor.

Conducted by T. M. SMITH.

*First peal.

MAIDENHEAD, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, March 15, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 17½ cwt.

HEZEKIAH ROGERS Treble.	SAMUEL QUINTIN 5.
JAMES W. WILKINS 2.	EDWARD ROGERS 6.
ALFRED HOSKINS 3.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 7.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 4.	ROBERT SMITH Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

First peal of Stedman by all except the Rev. F. E. Robinson and J. W. Washbrook.

MARLOW, BUCKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, March 15, 1889, in Two Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. TRUSS,

ON HANDBELLS RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

CHARLES SMITH* 1-2.	JOHN C. TRUSS, JUN. .. 5-6.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 3-4.	JOHN C. TRUSS, SEN. .. 7-8.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

Referee—H. Buckingham. *First peal on handbells.

WIDFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, March 15, 1889, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

RICHARD C. BURRELL .. Treble.	WILLIAM J. PIPER 5.
JOHN DAINS 2.	ALFRED TARBUN 6.
ARTHUR EDWARDS 3.	WILLIAM LINCOLN 7.
CHARLES ELLIOTT* 4.	*CHARLES HAWKES .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM LINCOLN.

*First peal.

RAWTENSTALL, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(THE MANCHESTER, ROCHDALE, AND ROSSENDALE BRANCHES).

On Saturday, March 16, 1889, in Three Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 6048 CHANGES.

Tenor 14 cwt.

JOHN HARRISON Treble.	GEORGE E. TURNER 5.
JOHN SHEPHERD 2.	A. EDWARD WREAKS 6.
JAMES B. TAYLOR 3.	JOHN MILLETT 7.
GEORGE HOYLE 4.	FRANK BIRTWISTLE .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP and Conducted by A. EDWARD WREAKS.

This is the first peal in any method on the bells, which were opened on December 20th, 1888. First peal in the method by Messrs. Shepherd and Taylor. The above ringers wish to tender their most hearty thanks to the Vicar for his kindness in granting them the use of the bells.

FAREHAM, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, March 19, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

G. HACKETT Treble.	REV. H. A. SPYERS 5.
D. J. JEFFERY* 2.	FREDERICK HILL 6.
GEORGE GRAHAM 3.	J. W. WHITING 7.
CHARLES PRIVETT 4.	GEORGE PASSINGHAM .. Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK HILL.

*First peal with a bob bell. This peal was rung on the occasion of the visit of the Bishop of Winchester to the town for the double purpose of holding a Confirmation and consecrating a new cemetery.

OLDBURY, WORCESTERSHIRE.
SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Saturday, March 16, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 10½ cwt.

JOSIAH COOPER Treble.	REUBEN HALL 5.
SAMUEL REEVES 2.	JAMES HALL 6.
JOHN R. FRISBY 3.	CHARLES TIMMS 7.
T. HORTON 4.	JOSIAH HARFORD Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

WARNHAM.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(THE WARNHAM BRANCH.)

On Monday, March 18, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY PLEASURE TRIPLES,
5040 CHANGES.

THOMAS HOGSFLESH .. Treble.	WILLIAM SHORT 5.
WALTER CHARMAN 2.	FELIX KNIGHT 6.
HENRY H. CHANDLER .. 3.	HENRY BURSTOW 7.
THOMAS ANDREWS 4.	GEORGE WOODMAN Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by WALTER CHARMAN.

The above peal is a six-part one.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 19, 1889, in Two Hours and Nineteen Minutes,
AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. SMITH, 32, ORDISH STREET,
ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S FOUR-PART. Tenor 15 size in C.

WILLIAM J. SMITH .. 1-2.	LEONARD BULLOCK .. 5-6.
JOHN JAGGAR 3-4.	JOHN AUSTIN 7-8.

Conducted by WILLIAM J. SMITH.

Referee—Mr. George Robinson.

HULL.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 19, 1889, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
REV. C. D. P. DAVIES'S VARIATION OF HOLT'S SIX-PART.
Tenor 25 cwt.

HENRY JENKINS Treble.	JOHN POLLARD 5.
JOHN FRANCIS MALLABY .. 2.	JOHN WM. STICKNEY .. 6.
JAMES HIGHFIELD 3.	CHARLES JACKSON 7.
FREDK. MERRISON 4.	*JO. WM. DALE Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES JACKSON.

Rung with the bells muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of Charlie Bennett, who died on Tuesday, March 12th. *First peal.

Date Touches.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

DARLASTON.—On Sunday evening, March 3rd, for Divine Service at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 8 mins. E. Unitt, 1; H. Morlbom, 2; W. Smith, 3; J. Tinsley, 4; J. Gough, 5; S. Atkins (conductor), 6; J. Fullwood, 7; T. Lowe, 8. Composed by John Carter, of Birmingham. Tenor 19½ cwt.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CHELTHENHAM.—On Friday evening, March 15th, at St. Mark's church, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins. W. T. Pates (conductor), 1; F. Musty, 2; E. Holman, 3; F. Nicholson, 4; J. Bowden, 5. Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

HALIFAX (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, March 10th, for Divine Service at All Souls church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major

(1889 changes), in 1 hr. 12 mins. H. Reynolds, 1; T. Parker (conductor), 2; J. S. Ambler, 3; F. Salmons, 4; G. H. C. Copping, 5; C. E. Stewart, 6; A. F. Nicholl, 7; S. W. Stewart, 8. Tenor 25½ cwt. First date touch by F. Salmons. And on Tuesday evening, March 12th, another date touch in the same method was rung in 1 hr. 14 mins. H. Reynolds, 1; T. Parker, 2; J. S. Ambler, 3; M. Moore, 4; G. H. C. Copping, 5; C. E. Stewart, 6; A. F. Nicholl, 7; S. W. Stewart (conductor), 8. M. Moore hails from Keighley.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Monday, March 11th, at the parish church, a date touch of Stedman Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 11 mins. H. Mills, 1; Wm. Cheshire, 2; J. Astbury, sen., 3; W. R. Small, 4; D. Chapman, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; A. E. Law, 8. Messrs. Astbury and Chapman hail from Walsall; Law and Cheshire from Coseley; the rest are of the local company. Composed by A. P. Heywood, Esq.

SHEFFIELD.—On Sunday evening, March 10th, at the church of All Saints, eight members of the St. Peter's Amalgamated society, rang a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 8 mins. H. Bower, 1; J. Rowley, 2; W. Smithson, 3; W. Gardiner, 4; E. F. Rippon, 5; J. Rew, 6; F. Willey (conductor), 7; J. M. Fitzclarke, 8. Tenor 15 cwt. Composed by C. Jackson of Hull.

MANUDEN (Essex).—On Thursday, March 7th, at the parish church of St. Mary, a date touch (1889 changes), was rung in 1 hr. 10 mins., being three 6-scores each of the following: Old Doubles, Dream, St. Dunstan's, Antelope; and 449 of Grandsire. F. W. Harby, 1; J. Harvey, 2; A. M. Key, 3; H. Prior (conductor), 4; G. Prior, 5. Tenor 11 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

WALTHAMSTOW (Essex).—On Monday, March 18th, at St. Saviour's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, containing the twelve 4-6's and the twelve 6-7's. W. R. Pinsent, 1; G. Bower, 2; H. Reeves (composer and conductor), 3; T. Wood, 4; H. Nunn, 5; R. Elliott, 6; A. Estall, 7; T. Watson, 8.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, March 10th, at the parish church, 720 New London Pleasure in 23 mins. J. Akehurst, 1; R. Jordan, 2; E. Jordan, 3; *F. Wickens, 4; *A. Hillier, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent. J. Akehurst, 1; R. Jordan, 2; E. Jordan, 3; F. Wickens, 4; M. Heffer, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And 720 College Exercise. J. Akehurst, 1; J. Newnham, 2; R. Jordan, 3; F. Wickens, 4; A. Hillier, 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also 360 Oxford Bob. J. Akehurst, 1; R. Jordan, 2; G. Cox, 3; F. Wickens, 4; M. Jenkins, 5; D. Jordan, 6. *First 720 in the method. Messrs. Wickens and Heffer hail from Charlwood; Newnham and Hillier from Crawley; Cox from Ockley; the rest are local men.

DORKING (Surrey).—On Wednesday, February 27th, at the parish church, with the bells deeply muffled at backstroke, 630 Grandsire Triples. E. Dodd, 1; H. Woolgar, 2; H. Dobinson, 3; F. Arnold, 4; R. Arnold, 5; H. Boxall (conductor), 6; W. Sadler, 7; F. Hudson, 8. And 160 in the same method, standing as before, with the exception of C. Dudley, 8. The above was rung as a mark of respect to the late Mr. C. Boxall, who died on February 27th, 1888.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On Sunday, March 3rd, for Divine Service at the church of St. Nicolas, 518 Grandsire Triples. And on Thursday, March 7th, for practice, 462 Grandsire Triples. Also on Sunday morning, March 17th, for Divine Service, 350 Grandsire Triples. And for evening service, 672 Grandsire Triples. C. W. Miller, 1; T. H. Colburn, 2; J. Heathorn, 3; F. W. J. Rees, 4; J. J. Jones, 5; F. Bennett (conductor), 6; W. Grove, 7; E. Stone, 8. Tenor 22½ cwt.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, March 11th, at St. John's church, 1022 Stedman Triples in 38 mins. *F. Lees, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; *W. Eggleston, 3; *E. Wallis, 4; T. Denton, 5; J. Simm, 6; S. Power (conductor), 7; *R. Simm, jun., 8. *Longest touch in the method. And on Monday, March 18th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 27 mins. F. Lees, 1; S. Power, 2; H. Fergusson, 3; E. Wallis, 4; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 5; T. Denton, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—On Monday, February 11th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob. *T. Bozyard, 1; W. Charlton, 2; H. C. Mayne, 3; T. Wick, 4; E. Titt, 5; F. Charlton (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. And on Sunday, February 17th, 720 Kent Treble Bob, with the exception of the fifth and sixth men

changing. Also on Sunday, February 24th, 720 Plain Bob Minor, (thirty singles and six bobs), standing as before. Also on Monday, March 4th, 720 Woodbine. J. Pallister, 1; W. Charlton, 2; H. C. Mayne, 3; E. Titt, 4; F. Charlton, 5; J. Cleminson (conductor), 6. And 720 Woodbine, with J. Cleminson, 1; J. Pallister, 4; E. Titt (conductor), 6; the other three standing as before. First 720 of Woodbine by all.

HURWORTH.—On Monday, March 4th, at the Association Meeting, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. J. Temple (Hurworth), 1; R. Moncaster (Darlington St. John's), 2; L. Newton (Durham), 3; C. J. Butterworth (Durham), 4; G. Garbutt (Hurworth), 5; R. S. Story (Whitby, conductor), 6. Also six 6-scores of Bob Doubles. J. Temple, 1; T. Hudson (Bishopwearmouth), 2; R. S. Story, 3; L. Newton (conductor), 4; G. Garbutt, 5; C. J. Butterworth, 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Simpson (Hurworth), 1; H. S. Taylor (Darlington St. John's), 2; R. Alcock (South Bank), 3; L. Newton, 4; G. Garbutt, 5; C. J. Butterworth (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Oxford Bob Minor. J. Bolton (Darlington St. John's), 1; H. S. Taylor, 2; R. S. Story, 3; R. Moncaster, 4; J. Temple, 5; G. J. Clarkson (Stockton, conductor), 6. And 720 of Bob Minor. A. Thompson (Chester-le-street), 1; J. Temple, 2; L. Newton, 3; C. J. Butterworth, 4; G. Garbutt (conductor), 5; R. Newton (Hurworth), 6. And 720 of Kent Treble Bob. R. Alcock, 1; H. S. Taylor, 2; L. Newton, 3; R. Moncaster, 4; C. J. Butterworth, 5; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Bob Minor. J. Bolton, 1; J. Simpson, 2; R. Moncaster, 3; R. Alcock, 4; J. Temple (conductor), 5; G. Garbutt, 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

SUNDERLAND.—On Monday, March 11th, at St. Michael's church, 120 Bob Doubles. R. C. Hudson, 1; J. Cook, 2; T. Hudson, jun., 3; T. Hudson (conductor), 4; J. Field, 5; R. Langton, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. This is the first 120 of Doubles by this band, which has recently commenced learning the Art.

THE HORNSEY GUILD.

On Sunday, March 10th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Plain Bob Minor (twenty bobs and ten singles), in 27 mins. J. Ward, 1; W. Dixon, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; A. Howell, 4; J. Barber, 5; G. Griffin, 6. After service in the evening, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. E. King, 1; T. Ringrose, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; A. Howell, 4; T. Card, 5; H. Spencer, 6. And 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 26 mins. H. Scarlett, 1; T. Card, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; A. Howell, 4; J. Barber, 5; G. Griffin, 6. And 720 Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles). T. Ringrose (first 720), 1; J. Hannington, 2; T. Card, 3; A. Howell, 4; C. Martin, 5; H. Scarlett (conductor), 6. Tenor 17½ cwt. Messrs. Ringrose and Spencer hail from Stoke Newington.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BOUGHTON, NEAR FAVERSHAM (Kent).—On Sunday, March 10th, for Divine Service at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-six singles and sixteen bobs), in 26 mins. W. W. Soulden (conductor), 1; J. Burch, 2; H. Foreman, 3; E. E. Foreman, 4; T. J. Harris, 5; G. A. Ransom, 6. Also after service 720 Bob Minor (thirty-five bobs and six singles), in 25 mins. J. Burch, 1; W. W. Soulden, 2; H. Foreman, 3; E. E. Foreman, 4; T. Harris, 5; G. A. Ransom (conductor), 6. And on Monday, March 11th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles), in 25 mins. A. Smith, 1; G. A. Ransom, 2; E. E. Foreman, 3; H. Foreman, 4; R. Castle, 5; F. T. Harris (conductor), 6. Also 360 Bob Minor (twelve singles). A. Smith, 1; H. Foreman, 2; G. A. Ransom, 3; E. E. Foreman, 4; F. T. Harris, 5; R. Castle (conductor), 6.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—On Tuesday, March 5th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 1680 of Grandsire Triples, in 59 mins. A. Harris, 1; W. Preston, 2; J. Baker, 3; W. Cooke, 4; W. Evans, 5; A. Haigh (conductor), 6; W. Haigh, 7; G. Lindoff, 8. And on Saturday, March 16th, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major, a quarter-peal, 1344 changes, in the same method. W. Haigh, 1; F. Hayes, 2; A. Haigh, 3; W. Harper, 4; W. Martin, 5; G. Hayes, 6; G. Martin, 7; G. Lindoff (conductor), 8. Also one of Mr. Carter's 360 of Forward Major. G. Hayes, 1; F. Hayes, 2; J. Baker, 3; W. Harper, 4; W. Martin, 5; A. Haigh, 6; W. Haigh, 7; G. Lindoff (conductor), 8. Brothers Martin, Hayes, and W. Harper hail from Swnscombe, the rest belong to the local company.

ROCHESTER (Kent).—On Sunday morning, March 17th, for Divine Service at St. Margaret's church, 720 Plain Bob, in 25 mins. J. P. Kidd, 1; E. Rayner, 2; G. Chantler, 3; A. Osborne, 4; J. Rayner, 5; W. Baker (conductor), 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

THATCHAM (Berks).—On Thursday, March 14th, at St. Mary's church for practice, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. F. Denness,

1; E. Witts (conductor), 2; T. Diggins, 3; A. W. J. Bird, 4; C. Witts, 5; C. Wheeler, 6. Tenor 18 cwt. This is the first 720 by all the band.

HUGHENDEN (Bucks).—On Monday, March 11th, at St. Michael's church, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples (2520 changes), in 1 hr. 25 mins. S. Goodchild, 1; W. Goodchild, 2; F. Biggs, 3; R. Biggs, 4; F. L. Free, 5; J. Evans (conductor), 6; H. Stratford, 7; R. Page, 8.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

CAMBERWELL (Surrey).—On Saturday, March 16th, an attempt was made to ring Holt's Original at St. George's church, which came to grief after ringing 30 mins., and as there was not time to start again a quarter-peal (1260 changes) was rung in 43 mins. J. George (Conventry, first quarter-peal on the treble), 1; J. Barry, 2; W. Jones, 3; R. French, 4; A. Hayward, 5; W. H. George, 6; W. W. Thorne (conductor), 7; W. Freeman, 8. Tenor 14 cwt.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

CROYDON.—On Sunday, March 17th, for evening service, 518 Grandsire Triples. H. Dudley, 1; A. Arnold, 2; W. J. Chambers, 3; H. Brooker, 4; R. E. Pearson, 5; W. States (conductor), 6; T. Verrall, 7; A. T. Miller (first 518), 8. Tenor 32 cwt. in Eb.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL.—On Sunday, March 17th, for Divine Service at Holy Trinity Church, 742 of Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled, being the last part of Holt's Original. J. Smelt (Beverley), 1; W. Southwick, J. Highfield, 3; J. F. Mallaby, 4; J. Pollard, 5; J. Dixey, 6; C. Jackson (conductor), 7; J. W. Dale, 8.

BISHOPS STORTFORD (Herts).—On Sunday, March 10th, for morning service, two touches of Forward Minor, with 7-8 covering. G. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; H. Prior, 3; F. W. Chapman, 4; P. Springham, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6; T. Newman, 7; F. Harris, 8. First in the method by all.

BRISTOL.—On Sunday, February 24th, at the church of St. Mary-le-Port, 704 Treble Bob Major. C. H. Gordon, 1; C. Trevett, 2; G. H. Colston, 3; C. Burden, 4; F. Elles, 5; F. Price, 6; W. Emery, 7; J. Hinton (conductor), 8. Also 672 Plain Bob Triples. C. H. Gordon, 1; J. Hinton, 2; G. H. Colston, 3; C. H. Burden, 4; F. W. Elles, 5; F. Price, 6; W. Colston, 8. The bells were rung muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mr. W. Northcott, who died on February 18th, aged fifty-two years.

BROMLEY (Kent).—On Sunday, March 10th, for morning service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. J. Gold, 1; W. J. Smith, 2; E. Dunn, 3; T. Durling, 4; T. Harford, 5; W. Fright, 6; H. Fruin, 7; W. James, 8. Composed and conducted by H. Fruin. This was rung on the 53rd birthday of Mr. E. Dunn, the ringer of the 3rd, and it was T. Harford's second attempt at Triples.

DALLINGTON (Sussex).—Recently at the parish church by the local company, two 120's of Grandsire Doubles. *J. Booth, 1; *E. Lovell, 2; J. Jones, 3; P. J. Peters (conductor), 4; *J. Gadd, 5. Tenor 14½ cwt. *First 720; also the first on the bells.

DARLINGTON.—On Friday, March 15th, at St. Cuthbert's church, by a company belonging to St. Cuthbert's and St. John's, 1008 Bob Major in 36 mins. W. Allen, 1; W. Park, 2; J. Little, 3; W. Lister, 4; J. K. Whitefield, 5; J. Coverdale, 6; R. Moncaster, 7; G. A. Overton (conductor), 8.

FARNHAM (Essex).—On Sunday evening, March 10th, for service, a start was made for a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, which came to grief after ringing 690 changes. H. J. Tucker (conductor), 1; F. W. Chapman, 2; G. Prior, 3; W. Prior, 4; H. Prior, 5; P. Springham, 6. After service, 720 Treble Bob Minor, in 24 mins. C. Prior, 1; H. Prior, 2; F. W. Chapman, 3; W. Prior, 4; G. Prior, 5; P. Springham, 6.

GREAT BROMLEY (Essex).—On Sunday, March 17th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. J. Taylor (Bromley), 1; J. Smith (Colchester), 2; A. Fuller (Little Bentley), 3; W. Smith (Colchester), 4; W. Nevard (Great Bentley), 5; *A. Aviss (Colchester), 6. *First 720 and first attempt. And 720 Oxford Treble Bob was unfortunately lost in the four last leads. G. Bowell, 1; J. Smith, 2; J. Starling, 3; W. Smith, 4; W. Nevard, 5; J. Taylor (conductor), 6. And on handbells, touches of Bob Major, Grandsire Triples, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, and College Single, by twelve mixed members from Higham, Langham, Great and Little Bentley, Bromley, and Colchester.

GREAT MARLOW (Bucks).—*Tapping.*—On Friday, March 15th, at the residence of Mr. Truss, Mr. J. W. Washbrook tapped on the

piano, a course each of Grandsire Cinques and Caters, Bob Royal and Maximus, Treble Bob Major and Royal, and 504 of Grandsire and 252 of Stedman Triples. Also a short touch of Grandsire Triples, called by J. C. Truss, Jun.

LISCARD (Cheshire).—On Saturday, March 9th, the members of the St. Peter's society, Woolton, Lancashire, paid a visit to this place, and rang 168 Grandsire Triples at the parish church. H. Richardson, 1; P. Leather, Jun., 2; H. Fyles, 3; G. Hyslop, 4; R. Leather, 5; P. Ball, 6; T. Kay (conductor), 7; J. Edwards, 8. Also 168 with J. Edwards, 3; R. Roughley, 4; C. Collins, 6; H. Fyles, 8. And another 168 with H. Fyles, 3; R. Roughley, 4; R. Williams, 6; J. Edwards, 8; the rest standing as in the first touch. The ringers wish through "THE BELL NEWS," to thank Mr. Leather, sidesman, for his kind hospitality, and also the vicar for the use of the bells. All returned home highly pleased with their first day's outing.

MATHERN NEAR CHEPSTOW (Monmouth).—On Tuesday evening, March 12th, the ringers of St. Mary's, Chepstow, paid a friendly visit to the above village, and rang 360 Grandsire Doubles, at the church of St. Theudrick, which bears the date of the year 600. T. Collinson, 1; J. Prickett, 2; G. Watkins, 3; J. Powell, 4; J. Morley (conductor), 5; C. Davis, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

MINEHEAD (Somersetshire).—On Thursday, March 14th, on the occasion of confirmation, the members of the Dunster Guild rang before service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins. R. Thorne, 1; T. Elliott, 2; E. Hole, 3; J. Tudball, 4; R. Hole, 5; J. Grabham, 6; C. B. Craze (conductor), 7; J. Payne, 8.

MILVERTON (Somerset).—On Monday evening, March 11th, for practice at St. Michael's church, 360 Grandsire Minor (eighteen bobs). T. Andrews (conductor), 1; W. Andrews, 2; R. Scott, 3; Rev. C. H. Griffith, 4; R. Andrews, 5; W. Chapman, 6. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. W. Chapman, 1; W. Andrews, 2; R. Scott, 3; Rev. C. H. Griffith, 4; R. Andrews (conductor), 5; J. Richards, 6. First six-score in the method by all except the Rev. C. H. Griffith, who hails from Bath.

MOULTON (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday, March 17th, at All Saints church, for morning service, five 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, by the following: G. Skeef, R. Skeef, J. W. Jarvis, E. Jarvis, C. Quinton, all of Spalding, and G. Ladd, of Pinchbeck.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday evening, March 10th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Double Bob Minor in 25 mins. G. Wood, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; J. Wood, 5; W. Baddeley (conductor), 6.

OLDBURY (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, March 16th, at Christ Church, 518 Grandsire Triples. J. W. Sayer, Esq., 1; S. Reeves, 2; J. R. Frisby, 3; T. Horton, 4; J. Hall, 5; J. R. Hall, 6; J. Parish, 7; N. Gould, 8.

PRESTWICH (Lancashire).—Recently for afternoon service at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor in 27½ mins. J. Hardman (conductor), 1; R. Fitton, 2; J. Brooks, 3; W. Warburton, 4; H. Percival, 5; J. Heywood, 6. And after evening service, 720 Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Hardman (conductor), 1; R. Fitton, 2; J. Brooks, 3; H. Chatman, 4; W. Warburton, 5; W. Hilton, 6. J. Hardman hails from Pendleton; Chatman from Salford, and is one of the ringers at Manchester Cathedral; Warburton and Hilton from Whitefield; the rest belong to the local company. Tenor 15½ cwt.

SALISBURY.—On Sunday, March 3rd, for Divine Service, 1260 Grandsire Triples. W. W. Gifford, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; A. W. Barkus, 4; S. Lawrence (composer and conductor), 5; T. Blackburn, 6; W. S. Wise, 7; W. M. Lush, 8. And on Sunday, March 17th, for Divine Service, 1260 in the same method. W. M. Lush, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; A. W. Barkus, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; S. Lawrence (composer and conductor), 5; W. S. Wise, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; J. Hallett, 8.

STOWMARKET (Suffolk).—On Friday, March 8th, for practice at the club room, 560 Bob Major. W. Driver, 1; G. Ponder, 2; J. Souter, 3-4; W. Souter, 5-6; J. Wade, 7-8.

SCOTHERN (Lincolnshire).—On Saturday, March 2nd, at the parish church, six 6-scores of Bob Doubles. T. Seagrave, 1; J. Bennett, 2; E. Baldwin, 3; C. Johnson, 4; J. Seagrave, sen., 5. C. Johnson hails from Lincoln; the rest belong to the local company.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Tuesday, March 12th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples (1260 changes). W. E. Emery, 1; J. J. Everary, 2; A. Edwards, 3; F. Radley, 4; R. Wood, 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; A. Bonnington, 8. And on Sunday, March 17th, for evening service, Tucker's quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, containing twelve 4-6's, twelve 7-4's, and twelve 6-7's. R. C. Burrell, 1; J. J. Everard, 2; W. Hawkes, 3; W. Rowland, 4; A. Edwards, 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; F. Radley, 8.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

By the Angmering Branch at Angmering.—On Saturday, March 9th, 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, in 24½ mins. F. Finch, 1; C. Clear, 2; J. Hills, 3; T. Linfield, 4; T. Parsons, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. First 720 in method by all. Also on Monday, March 11th, 720 of Yorkshire Court, in 24 mins. E. Parsons, 1; F. Finch, 2; J. Hills, 3; T. Parsons, 4; C. Clear, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 25 mins. F. Finch, 1; C. Clear, 2; T. Linfield, 3; T. Parsons, 4; J. Hills, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. First 720 in method.

By the Arundel Branch at Arundel.—On Thursday, March 7th, 504 of Grandsire Triples. G. Treagus, 1; W. Challey, 2; S. Long, 3; Rev. R. F. Tompkins, 4; G. Baker, 5; G. Balchin (conductor), 6; F. Luxford, 7; R. Goatcher, 8. Also 350 of Grandsire Triples. G. Treagus, 1; S. Long, 2; W. Twigg, 3; F. Luxford, 4; W. Challen (conductor), 5; Rev. R. F. Tompkins, 6; G. Baker, 7; R. Goatcher, 8. On Sunday, March 11th, 504 of Grandsire Triples. G. Treagus, 1; W. Twigg (first time with bob bell), 2; S. Long, 3; G. Balchin, 4; E. Ede, 5; C. Blackman, 6; G. Baker (conductor), 7; R. Goatcher, 8. Also 504 of Grandsire Triples. G. Treagus, 1; S. Long, 2; W. Twigg, 3; G. Balchin, 4; E. Ede, 5; C. Blackman, 6; G. Baker (conductor), 7; R. Goatcher, 8. Also 546 of Grandsire Triples. G. Treagus, 1; W. Twigg, 2; O. Evershed, 3; C. Blackman (conductor), 4; Rev. R. F. Tompkins, 5; G. Baker, 6; G. Balchin, 7; R. Goatcher, 8.

By the Brighton Branch at St. Peter's, Brighton.—On Sunday, March 3rd, for morning service, 504 of Grandsire Triples. D. Ross, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; H. Weston, 3; J. Jay, 4; E. C. Merritt, 5; J. Reilly, 6; J. Hart (Eastbourne), 7; H. Tugwell, 8. Also for afternoon service 503 of Grandsire Triples. J. Jay, 1; H. Rann, 2; E. C. Merritt, 3; A. A. Fuller, 4; G. F. Attree, 5; J. Reilly, 6; H. Weston, 7; H. Tugwell, 8. Also on Sunday, March 10th, for morning service, 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 15½ mins. D. Ross, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; C. E. Golds, 3; A. A. Fuller, 4; G. Thwaites (conductor), 5; G. A. King, 6; J. Jay, 7; H. Tugwell, 8. Also for afternoon service, 504 of Stedman Triples, in 17 mins. H. Weston, 1; A. A. Fuller, 2; J. Jay, 3; J. Reilly, 4; J. Searle, 5; G. A. King, 6; G. F. Attree (conductor), 7; H. Tugwell, 8. Also for evening service, 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. J. Batts (Hambledon), 1; G. A. King, 2; E. C. Merritt, 3; G. F. Attree, 4; A. A. Fuller, 5; J. Reilly (conductor), 6; H. Cornwall, 7; J. Mockett, 8.

By the Chailey Branch at Chailey.—On Saturday, February 16th, 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. Reynolds, 1; J. Langridge, 2; A. Gorrington, 3; H. Cornwall, 4; W. Turner, 5; W. Pelling (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, February 21st, 720 in same method, standing as above. Also 360 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Reynolds, 1; E. Brooks (first touch), 2; A. Gorrington, 3; H. Cornwall, 4; W. Turner, 5; W. Pelling (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 23rd, 720 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Reynolds, 1; J. Langridge, 2; J. Gasson, 3; H. Cornwall, 4; W. Turner, 5; W. Pelling (conductor), 6. E. Brooks hails from Newick, and Gasson from Balcombe.

By the Worth Branch at Worth.—On Sunday, March 3rd, 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, in 23 mins. W. Owden, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Streeter, 3; B. Payne, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6.

On Sunday, March 3rd, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 23 mins. B. Payne, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Streeter, 3; E. Streeter, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 3rd, 360 of Warnham Court. W. Owden, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Streeter, 3; B. Payne, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, March 6th, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Tullett, 1; B. Payne, 2; W. Denman, 3; F. Rice, 4; E. Streeter, 5; G. Illman (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, March 6th, 720 of Duke of York, in 23 mins. J. Tullett, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Streeter, 3; F. Rice, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, March 6th, 360 of Plain Bob. E. Streeter, 1; B. Payne, 2; J. Tullett, 3; F. Streeter, 4; F. Rice, 5; W. Denman (conductor), 6.

THE PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.—On another page will be found some extracts from the fortieth Annual Report issued by the directors of this company. In the Ordinary branch the number of Policies issued during the year has been 42,475, assuring the sum of £4,399,769. The Premiums received during the year were £718,848, being an increase of £183,717 over the year 1887. In the Industrial branch the Premiums received during the year were £3,256,346, being an increase of £197,845. The claims of the year amounted to £1,231,186. The number of deaths was 142,751. The expenses are one-and-a-quarter per cent. lower than those of the previous year. Perhaps the most remarkable feature is that the total assets of the Company have been raised during the year from £7,867,103 to £9,302,007, being an increase of £1,434,904. The "Prudential" is certainly a most remarkable assurance company.

THE following extracts from letters received concerning Mr. Tuke's death and burial will, we feel sure, be read with mournful interest :

"Philadelphia, 1-30-89.—After my last, Robert's condition did not mend, and yesterday a consultation of the surgical staff was held, and it was concluded that the amputation of the left foot at the ankle would give him his only chance for life, and the foot was removed. . . . At

twelve o'clock (noon) to day, he seemed prepared for the worst, and resigned to such a disposition of his case as Providence should see fit to make, and after one o'clock p.m. began to sink, until he finally passed away peacefully at 1.45 o'clock."

"Philadelphia, 2-3-89.—When the time came for his burial (yesterday), we had him brought to our own dwelling in his casket, that those who loved him might assemble and look on his face once more. His face so handsome in death shewed no trace of suffering. Men, women, and children came to do him honour. A cross and an anchor of immortelles were sent by 'his English friends,' and many tears were shed. . . . A guard of honour, his bell-ringers, were sent up by the Rev. Dr. Foggo, the clergyman, to carry him to the hearse, and we all followed in carriages to the old church, when we were greeted at the gates by the chimes he so loved. The minister met us at the door, and the sad procession was escorted to seats round the bier. Mr. Foggo read Corinthians xv. very solemnly, and the little girls, whose voices Robert so loved, sang a hymn. An earnest prayer followed, and we left the church while another hymn was being sung by the children. The clergyman followed, and all went to the old Christ Church burying ground, a few blocks distant, where lie the honoured dead of many years. Dr. Franklin is interred there, and many others of our great men. The Rev. Dr. Foggo read at the grave the closing burial service. The scene in the church was most impressive; the antique place with the many tablets of most valued members on the walls, and the light through the fine stained-glass windows falling upon the coffin; indeed, all was solemn and affecting. Robert has left a pleasant memory behind him, and my household gathered about his casket with tearful eyes, for they had seen and known him through his courteous and gentle bearing."

HOLBORN BARS, LONDON.

Extracts from the FORTIETH ANNUAL REPORT. Year ending 31st December, 1888.

ORDINARY BRANCH. The number of Policies issued during the year was 42,475, assuring the sum of £4,399,769, and producing a New Annual Premium Income of £235,487.

The Premiums received during the year were £718,848, being an increase of £183,717 over the year 1887.

The Claims of the year amounted to £210,056. The number of Policies in force was 146,966.

INDUSTRIAL BRANCH.—The Premiums received during the year were £3,256,346, being an increase of £197,845.

The claims of the year amounted to £1,231,186. The number of Deaths was 142,751.

The expenses are one-and-a-quarter per cent. lower than those of the previous year.

It is a source of much satisfaction to the Directors to be able to state that their efforts to promote the stability of Industrial Policies continue to be most successful, for, notwithstanding the enormous increase in this Branch during the past two years, the average duration of the 8,063,293 policies in force on 31st December last is now no less than six years.

Upwards of 40,000 Free Policies have been granted during the year to those Policy-holders of five years' standing who have desired to discontinue their payments.

The total assets of the Company have been raised during the year from £7,867,103 to £9,302,007, being an increase of £1,434,904.

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET OF THE PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED, ON THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1888.

[illegible]

THOS. C. DEWEY, } *Managers.*
WILLIAM HUGHES, }
W. J. LANCASTER, *Secretary.*

EDGAR HORNE, *Chairman.*
HENRY HARBEN, } *Directors.*
PATRICK FRASER.

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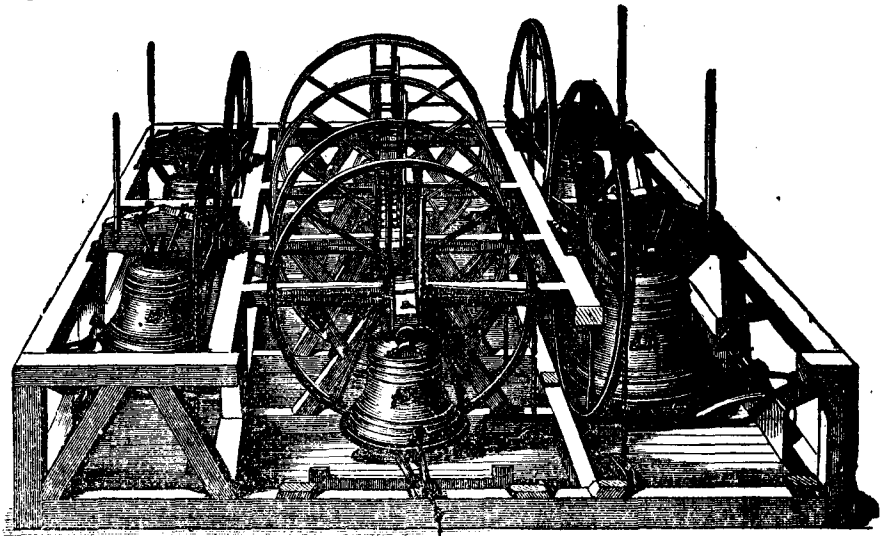
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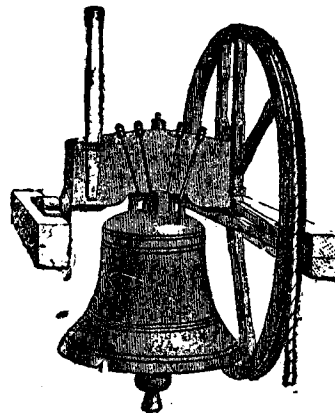
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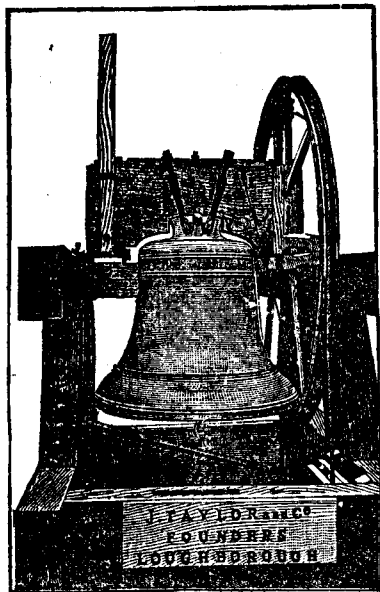
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JAMES BARWELL,
 Bell Founder,

40, GREAT HAMPTON ST., BIRMINGHAM.

CHURCH BELLS, with all requisite Fittings and Framework Singly or in Peals. CLOCK and CHIME BELLS to any size and Note.

SCHOOL BELLS with ringing arrangements suitable for any position.

Existing Peals economically and efficiently restored.

CRACKED BELLS RECAST, and ANCIENT INSCRIPTIONS reproduced in fac-simile when required.

Men who are ringers sent to inspect Towers and report upon the tune and condition of Bells and Fittings.

MUSICAL HANDBELLS tuned in Diatonic and Chromatic Scales, in sets of any numbers.

