

BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 1142. - VOL. XXII.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1904.

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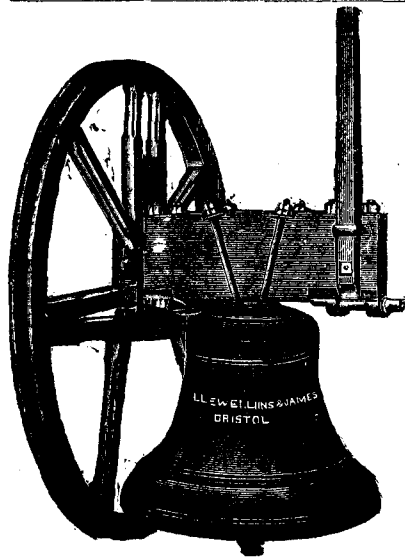
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1904.

[Vol. XXII.]

OUR CHURCH BELLS.

THEIR CONDITION AND SURROUNDINGS:

Being the Report of the Committee appointed by the Central Council to investigate the state of rings of 8, 10, and 12 bells in England, and to collect information calculated to promote the advance of change-ringing.

In the following schedule, which will be continued week by week, the towers are placed in alphabetical order; the name of the place being put first, followed by the dedicatory designation of the church. It is earnestly requested that the omission of any tower, with the name and address of the representative ringer—also alterations required in the information scheduled, may be at once notified to Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart., Duffield, Derby, with the envelope endorsed:—C.C.C.B.R. Unless corrections are promptly pointed out, the value of the Report, when subsequently published in pamphlet form, will be seriously impaired.

SCHEDULE (continued).

OXHEY (Herts). St. Matthew. Hertfordshire Association. Eight bells. All by Warner, 1887. Tenor 9 cwt., diameter 3 ft. 1 in. Timber frame. Bells go well. Ropes good. Methods: Grandsire, Stedman, Plain and Treble Bob. Sunday ringing: 10 to 11, and 5.30 to 6.30. Practice: Wednesday, 8.

OXTON (Cheshire). St. Saviour. Chester Diocesan Guild. Eight bells. All by Taylor, 1895. Tenor 20 cwt., diameter 4 ft. 1 in. Iron frame. Bells go well. Clocking permitted. Ropes new 1895, good. Methods: Grandsire, Plain and Treble Bob. Sunday ringing: 10.30 to 11, and 6.30 to 7. Practice: Tuesday, 8.

PAINSWICK (Gloucestershire). Gloucester and Bristol Association. Twelve bells. The two trebles by Mears, 1887; the rest by Rudhall, 1731. Tenor 26 cwt., diameter 4 ft. 6 in. Iron frame, Bells go well. Rehung by Taylor, 1908. All repairs at once attended to by the church authorities. A chiming apparatus fitted. Methods: Grandsire and Plain Bob. Sunday ringing: 1st and 3rd in month, 10.15 to 11; 2nd, 4th and 5th, 5.45 to 6.30. Practice: Tuesday, 7.30.

PATTINGHAM (Staffordshire). St. Chad. Eight bells. The trebles by Mears, 1864; the rest by Smith, 1724. Tenor 14 cwt., diameter 3 ft. 8 in. Timber frame. Bells go well. Clocking permitted. Rehung by Mears, 1897. Ropes new 1897, good. No half-pull ringing, but call-changes "according to method." No Sunday ringing except on festivals. Practice: alternate Thursdays from October 29th to February 2nd.

SHIPWAY'S ART OF RINGING.—The publisher has on hand a few copies of this great work. Price to clear—5s, per copy (nett). The whole bound in cloth.—E. W. ALLEN, Ave; Maria, Lane, London.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A special meeting of the North-Eastern District was held at Bocking on Saturday, February 6th, to open the recently rehung peal of six bells. This beautiful ring (tenor 19 cwt. in E flat), had for some years past gone rather shaky, and a few months back it was decided that they could no longer be rung in safety. On this news reaching the ears of the Dean—who although 90 years of age still takes great interest in his bells—he at once sent a cheque to cover the total cost of rehanging them. The work was entrusted to Mears and Stainbank, who found it necessary to replace all stocks and fittings, but were able to use the frame again after bolting it. The work has been carried out in the usual efficient way for which the firm is noted. The only necessary improvement now to this grand ring of six is its augmentation to eight, and the suggestion was heard on all sides that next year being the sixtieth anniversary of the present Dean's incumbency, no more fitting appreciation of his life's work amongst them could be given by the parishioners than by adding two trebles to complete the octave. The tea, which was held at The Black Boy inn, was given by the kind Dean and his churchwarden, to whom a hearty vote of thanks was passed.

During the afternoon and evening 720s of Cambridge Surprise, New London Pleasure, Oxford Treble Bob and Bob Minor were rung, and at the social evening which followed the tea, touches in various methods, and tunes were rung on the handbells, and several songs sung by those present. In addition to the local company ringers were present from Braintree, Rayne, Coggeshall, Feering, Maldon, Stisted, Great Bentley, Stebbing, and Writtle.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A meeting of the Guildford District was held at Mellow and Clandon on Saturday, February 13th, and was well attended, members being present from Guildford, Godalming, Farnham, Dunsfold, Shere, Mellow, Haslemere, Shalford, etc. The quarterly tea, at which fifty were present, took place in the West Clandon schoolroom, under the genial chairmanship of the Vicar, the Rev. G. F. Dalton. At the business meeting afterwards it was decided to hold meetings at Chiddingfold on May 14th; Seale and Puttenham, August 20th; and the annual district meeting at Guildford on Wednesday, November 16th. The Vicar then addressed the local ringers, and urged the advantages of the Guild upon them. The Secretary (Mr. Jones) also spoke, and removed a few misapprehensions of the objects and work of the Guild, and the band and Vicar were then formally elected amidst applause.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar was accorded musical honours, and in response the rev. gentleman said their thanks should really be given to Mr. Goacher who had done the work in providing the tea, which was no small undertaking in a little village like theirs. The musical rings of six at both churches were kept going in various methods during the afternoon and evening.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF SALOP.

A quarterly meeting of the above society was held at Shifnal on Saturday afternoon, and there were many members present from Shrewbury, Wellington, Bridgnorth and other parts of the archdeaconry. The Hon. Secretary of the Guild (the Rev. J. Mackay, Shrewsbury) having read the office, ringing was begun and continued without intermission until about five o'clock, when the members were invited by the Shifnal ringers to an excellent tea. The Rev. J. Mackay occupied the chair during the meal, and upon its conclusion, thanked the Shifnal ringers, on behalf of the Guild, for their kind hospitality and hearty welcome. The ringers again repaired to the belfry, and made a good use of the bells until late. The ringing consisted of touches of Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob and other methods, and the members spent a very pleasant time.

EXETER RINGERS CYCLING CLUB.

The first annual supper of the members of the Club was held on February 14th, at their head-quarters, 5, Catherine Street, when the City Marshal, S. Herbert, Esq., presided over a happy company of twenty-five ringers. "Go" was called at 7.30 to some excellent viands provided by the genial host, Richards, and justice was done can be assured as there was not a false blow struck. Letters of apology were read from H. Hems, H. B. Kindersley, Esq., H. Stokes, bellhanger, Woodbury, J. Ridler, Thorverton, R. Davey, Woodbury, W. G. Marsh, also from the Secretaries of the Exeter Rovers and Towers Cycling Clubs and others.

Kindred societies were given by W. Acreman, (St. Sidwell's), who express the benefits that would be derived by being in touch with other bands, and was suitably responded to by T. J. Stokes, St. Thomas.

The Chairman, in proposing the toast of the evening, "The Exeter Ringers' Cycling Club," said it afforded him very great pleasure to be present and assist in any way he could the efforts of a band of ringers. He congratulated the Club on the strides it had taken and the progress they had made, for although only in its infancy it had visited several country towers and given exhibitions of change-ringing. He thought nothing could be more healthful or enjoyable than a spin of a few miles in the country, a pleasant ring and home again. It was good for the members and for our country ringers, and he was sure good would ultimately come of it. Country ringers would begin to realise that there was an art as well as a science in ringing, and would want to be taught to do the same. He threw out the suggestion that perhaps the lady ringers and cyclists would join the Club, so as to strengthen and help each other in ringing.

The Secretary, in acknowledging the compliments paid the Club, said their thanks were due to the various clergy who had given permission to ring their bells.

The evening was then spent in harmony, including some excellent songs and duets, Mr. A. Stokes with his mystic rod, and lantern pictures of the Club excursions.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (LATE THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY).

The annual meeting of the above was held on Saturday, January 23rd, at St. Clement Danes, Strand. The tower was open for ringing from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. when touches in various methods were rung. The special service was held at 6 p.m. and

was well attended, especially considering what a foggy disagreeable night it was in London. Moreover, owing to the length of time men make their engagements in advance, it will probably be well to give more previous notice on future occasions, but taking all these into consideration, the service for a first attempt of its kind at St. Clements was a distinct success, and it is a great pleasure to say that this was the view of the Rector of St. Clement Danes, the Rev. J. J. H. Septimus Pennington, M.A., who has kindly consented to be the Honorary Chaplain of the Association, and of whose ready sympathy and cordial help no words can express too high an appreciation, and with him we must also thank the Rev. W. Earle, B.D., his assistant-curate, and Mr. Marchmont, the organist, and the gentlemen and boys of the choir, who gave ungrudging sympathetic assistance.

The order of service was the special form adopted by the Association, with the approval of the Hon. Chaplain, as lessons Ecclesiasticus xlv. to verse 15, and Romans xii. and the *Te Deum*. The J. J. H. Septimus Pennington addressed the congregation, impressing upon them that everything that stood the test of continuous progress and development must be of a kind to receive the blessing of God, or else it could not continue, and therefore he felt sure that change-ringing had the approval of the Almighty. He spoke of his warm sympathy with ringing, dating from the time of his boyhood. He congratulated the Association on having decided on a special order of worship at the outset of their work, and impressed on his audience the teaching of the second lesson, that men should from the highest motive put the best they had into all they did.

The Hon. Chaplain's words were listened to with the greatest attention and respect.

The members then went to the parish house, Clare Market, for the business meeting.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and signed as correct, the election took place of Miss Amy Jacob as an honorary member, and Mr. C. Carew Cox as a ringing member. It was proposed and carried that the peals that had been rung be entered in the grand peal book.

The secretary reported that during the past year an extraordinary amount of business had been disposed of. They had reconstituted the Association for the purpose of teaching young and local ringers; they had held a Grand Concert according to rule, that of social purposes, which was an immense success; excellent united practices had been held on alternate Mondays at St. Clement Danes, though he should like to see more present to ring on the first Sunday in the month for morning service. Bands had been arranged for Sunday service ringing at different churches, including St. Michael's, Cornhill, where Stedman Cinques was rung; St. James's, Bermondsey, where Stedman Caters and Treble Ten had been rung; St. Magnus, London Bridge; St. Luke's, Chelsea, and several others. Ten peals had been rung, being three of Stedman Caters, five of Stedman Triples, and one each of Grandsire Caters and Double Norwich. Forty-six ringers had taken part in these peals, some had rung their first peal, and they were called by seven different conductors. They had elected forty-three new members, which was a record. The balance-sheet could not be finished in time for the meeting, but it showed a balance in hand of £9 2s. 3d., which was the largest sum ever held by the Association. They regretted to say that death had taken away a most enthusiastic member and officer, the junior steward, Mr. George Turl, one whom all respected; but considering all they had had a year of complete success, one that they could congratulate themselves on.

The meeting then proceeded with the election of officers for the ensuing year. It was proposed and carried that Mr. Arthur Jacob be the Master, Mr. Challis F. Winney, to be hon. treasurer, Mr. Thomas H. Taffender, be hon. secretary; Mr. Thomas Langdon (P) be senior steward and Mr. Frank Smith junior steward; Mr. R. A. Daniell and Mr. Mark Woodcock trustees; and the following gentlemen as the committee: Mr. J. Fryer of Chelsea, Mr. C. Carew Cox of Hammersmith, Mr. Richard Bevan of the North, Mr. E. Wallage of Whitechapel, Mr. A. B. Peck of Bow, Mr. H. Stubbs of Stoke Newington, Mr. F. G. Perrin of Newington and Mr. T. Langdon of Walworth. The members then adjourned to the Association meeting-room at The Cheshire Cheese, Milford Lane, where the remainder of the evening was spent in a social manner. Mr. W. Sear presided at the piano, and with his brother-string from Chelsea, Mr. J.

Pryer, who always carries the room, gave the crowded company some excellent songs. Mr. Tom Walker manipulated the gramophone, Billy Weatherstone trolled out the terrible 'crocodile,' Mr. William Truss sung Tom Tolliday's 12,000 of Grandsire Caters at Fulham, which it is worthy to note was rung by this society, and at the time was the greatest number of changes rung on ten bells; and a course of Stedman Caters on handbells by T. H. Taffender, H. Langdon, C. F. Winney, T. Langdon and W. S. Langdon. Mr. Daniell gave a selection, but the hours of midnight was fast approaching so rounds had to be brought up. The company dispersing, brought to a close a most successful annual meeting.

THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

The monthly meeting was held January 2nd, 1904, at St. Peter's, Bramley. Tower ringing commenced during the afternoon, touches of Bob Minor, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor, Grandsire Triples, &c., being rang.

The business meeting being announced for 7.30 p.m., an adjournment was made to The Cardigan Arms. Previous to the meeting, an excellent luncheon was provided and served by members of the Bromley company, and was heartily enjoyed by all present. The business meeting now took place, Mr. George Barraclough in the chair, Mr. T. Maude, vice-chair, and upwards of forty members being present from the following towers:--Burley, Holbeck, Pudsey, Headingley S. Chad's and S. Michael's, Huddersfield, Tong, Leeds and local company. The meeting now being opened, the Secretary was called upon to read the minutes of previous meeting. Having been read, no discussion being forthcoming, they were proposed as read by Mr. G. Backhouse, seconded by Mr. P. Johnstone, and carried. Other business having been brought before the meeting, the vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for use of the bells was proposed by Mr. T. Maude, and seconded by Mr. G. Gay, and carried. A special vote of thanks to the local company for the excellent luncheon provided, was proposed by Mr. H. Lockwood and seconded by G. Bolland, and unanimously carried. Mr. J. T. Holgate, in reply to the vote of thanks, said it had given him great pleasure to see so many present, and also to thank the members on behalf of the local company for so hearty a vote of thanks. One new member was elected, Selections on the handbells by the Headingley St. Chad's company of handbell ringers during the evening were greatly appreciated. Methods on handbells rung were Bob Minor, Oxford Treble Bob Minor, Grandsire Triples, &c.

The meeting closed at a late hour, everyone present having thoroughly enjoyed themselves at the first meeting in the new year.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of this Association was held at The Gresham hotel, Gloucester, on Thursday evening, January 11th. Previous to the meeting there was a special service in St. Michael's church, at which the Rev. G. F. Coleridge preached, the Master (Rev. C. D. P. Davies) read the lessons, and the Rev. E. B. James read the service. The Master (the Rev. C. D. P. Davies) presided at the meeting, and was supported by the Venerable Archdeacon Hayward, the Revs. G. F. Coleridge, H. A. Cockey, H. C. Courtney, E. B. James, and C. E. D. Boutflower. A vote of condolence with the family of the late Venerable Archdeacon Sheringham was proposed from the chair, Mr. Davies also expressing the great loss the association felt at the death of one of their vice-presidents. The Rev. E. B. James seconded, and the motion was carried in silence. The branch reports were read and ordered to be embodied in the annual report. The Gloucester report regretted a falling off in peal-ringing. The election of branch reports and new members (84 in number) was unanimously confirmed by the meeting. In the course of the twenty-sixth annual report it was stated that they had 350 performing members, 126 life members, 50 hon. members, and 13 out-diocesan members. In 1905 the annual meeting will be held at Cirencester. The Chairman detailed the number of peals rung last year, making a grand

total of 604. The report was adopted. The financial statement, which showed a balance in hand of £32 3s. 2d., despite 100 subscriptions still owing, was adopted. Election of officers followed. Earl Bathurst, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, and Sir John E. Dorrington were elected vice-presidents. The Rev. C. D. P. Davies was unanimously re-elected Master, Mr. F. G. May, hon. secretary, and Mr. F. E. Ward, hon. treasurer.

The Rev. H. A. Cockey proposed the rescindment of a resolution passed in 1885, debarring the Master from more than two consecutive years' service, and proposed that the election be annual, and with no restriction as to the length of time of office, which was carried unanimously.

The Chairman referred to the division of the association into three archidiaconal branches, which he regarded as good, but possessing one drawback, namely, that it had practically cut the association up into three. He asked their consideration of this, that they might evolve a scheme to cement the association together. They only had one joint meeting in the year. Archdeacon Hayward suggested a joint committee representing the three archidiaconies. The Rev. H. A. Cockey thereupon proposed that the officers of the various branches be requested to meet at least once before the annual meeting, which was carried.

It was proposed that a special meeting be held at Stroud on Easter Tuesday to consider the question of changing the date of the annual meeting from the winter to the summer. The Chairman referred to the clashing of meetings and to the necessity for conductors to send to the Master a record of their peals. Discussion followed, and it was decided to embody those suggestions in the report.

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."

TREBLE DOMINATED—OR DOMINATED TREBLE?

SIR,—However gratified I ought to feel that my last letter has interested some of your correspondents, I am somewhat embarrassed in replying, because besides the three letters from Mr. Trollope, Mr. Bayley and Mr. Dains, appearing in your last issue, Mr. Dains has written me one, and Mr. Trollope two private letters on this subject. The consequence is that it is difficult to avoid dealing with one or two points which have not been plainly brought forward in your columns, and if therefore I fail to make myself clear, I trust your readers will make what excuses they can for me, and hurl their maledictions at Mr. Trollope and Mr. Dains.

Now, first of all, what is a method? Mr. Trollope, in the p.s. to his public letter says that the hunting course is certainly a method according to all rules, myself notwithstanding. Mr. Bulwer, Sir Arthur Heywood, Mr. Snowdon, Mr. Davies, Mr. Dains, and Mr. N. J. Pitstow tell us, in "The Glossary," that a method is "any special way in which continuous changes on five or more bells are produced by the regular and orderly movement of all, without repetition of any one change, which is also capable of yielding either the full possible number of distinct changes, or not less than 5000." The italics are mine, and I use them to draw attention to the difference between Mr. Trollope's statement and the Glossary definition; and as the hunting course does not comply with the Glossary's conditions, I reply that it is *not* a method, Mr. Trollope notwithstanding. If then, the hunting course is not a method, how is it to be made into one? By interfering with it by place-making, and it certainly seems to me that the place-making is the dominating factor, because that, and that alone enables, nay more compels the whole hunt to run into a method. Still, whatever view individuals may take of this question, the terms I have proposed appear to cover the case, subject to any objections that may be raised; for it is evident that the specific difference between the two groups of methods we are considering is the same whatever the dominating factor may be.

Now Mr. Trollope in his public letter criticises "Huntful" without saying why; in his private letter No. 1 he asks me how a method is more "full" of a hunt than it is dominated by a

hunt? and in the p.s. to his private letter No. 2 he says that my huntless methods are *all* hunts, and my huntful methods are *not* full of hunts; and Mr. Dains both in his public and private comments recommends the substitution of "Hunting" for "Huntful."

With regard to Mr. Trollope's first question, he surely knows that the suffix "full" signifies nothing more than possession. If you say that a man is grateful you only assert that he is possessed of gratitude, as distinguished from a man who is not, and you do not thereby assert anything about what other qualities he may or may not have, or about what may be his dominating characteristic. So "Huntful" only means possessed of a hunt, and no inference can be drawn from such a term as to any other qualities or any dominations. It is simply the contradictory term to Huntless. As regards Mr. Trollope's second objection, it must be remembered that I was only dealing with "whole hunts," and I have no objection to "whole huntful" and "whole huntless," if he would prefer the longer terms, but as "whole hunt" is treated in the Glossary as obsolete, I thought it might appear pedantic to suggest those terms, though it is clear that this so-called obsolete term is a most convenient one for use in such a discussion as this.

But Mr. Trollope's second objection is fatal to Mr. Dains's suggestion, for I conceive that in all methods there is hunting of some sort—thus running in and out quick in Stedman is clearly plain hunting—and what has to be emphasized is the presence or absence of a bell engaged in an *unvarying* hunt. The consequence is that "Hunting" and "Huntless" are not contradictory terms, and mutually exclusive as "Huntful" and "Huntless" are; these latter, so to speak, dividing the universe between them.

So far as the terms go I think this is all I have to say, merely adding that I have no wish to urge them upon the acceptance of the Exercise. I set them out simply as the best I can do in answer to Mr. Trollope's challenge.

I hardly appreciate Mr. Dains's distinction about foundations. More than twenty years ago a scheme was started for constructing an opera house on the Thames Embankment, near Westminster Bridge. The foundations were laid, and the walls carried up a few feet above the ground, and then the enterprise collapsed, I suppose from failure of funds. After remaining for some years in this state the property was acquired for the new headquarters of the Metropolitan Police, and a large superstructure of red brick with stone dressings was raised on these foundations, quite regardless of the original architectural design. Now what difference as regards domination by the superstructure does it make that the foundations were ready laid? I ask Mr. Dains this because he has not only built a method on the ready laid foundation of the plain hunt, but in the case of "Alliance" he has laid a new foundation to build on, and what could he do with either beyond a hunting course without dominating each of them with place-making?

I thank Mr. Bayley for his letter, and will only notice those points in it which are not incidentally referred to elsewhere. I hardly see the need of using the word "Treble" in the name of what I have called Huntful methods, for if all the whole hunts are treble, it seems no more necessary to use the word than, in pricking, to mark the figure, and besides, suppose some ingenious method-builder should build one on some hunt other than the treble, our terms in that case would not fit. I quite agree as to the practical use of the treble in ringing, but that is not the point: the classification of a thing, as it actually is, is a totally different process from the application of the thing in practice. As regards what Mr. Bayley calls my first metaphor I am afraid I must have expressed myself obscurely. Of course all houses must have foundations and so must all methods. But I was only dealing at the moment with those founded on the whole hunt, and by the word "if" in the third line of my third paragraph, I meant "if Mr. Dains elects to found on a whole hunt instead of on the foundation of every bell working alike, which is the alternative open to him, what is he," &c. I did not say that place-making was characteristic of either group—I said it dominated both groups. With regard to the frying-pan, I entirely agree with Mr. Bayley that working bells are subject to limitation—like everything else with which we have to do. The question is—Having a whole, all of whose component parts are subject to their appropriate limitations, which of

these component parts is the strongest? Agreeing the facts, conclusions from them may naturally differ. Mr. Bayley says the hunt, I say the place-making.

Now, a closing word to Mr. Trollope. In his letter in your issue of the 13th inst., he says that Mr. Drake "ought to know that Grandsire and Plain Bob are constructionally identically the same method, one for odd and the other for even numbers." Well, if Mr. Drake ought to know it, I suppose I also ought to. But I don't, and up to the time of writing I am unable to believe it. Grandsire is an extension of three-bell work, Plain Bob of Minimus. This is how Grandsire gets its thirds place, and thereby lets in the second plain hunting bell. This is how Plain Bob gets its second place, which does not let in a second plain hunting bell. It seems to me, therefore, a strong thing to say that these two methods are constructionally identically the same. Will Mr. Trollope kindly tell us exactly what he means by these words as applied to these methods? The classification in The Glossary (page 52 and thereabouts), shows these two methods and their off-shoots as distinct groups. Is or is not this reconcilable with Mr. Trollope's statement? R. A. DANIELL.

TREBLE DOMINATED.

SIR,—I agree with Mr. Daniell that *Huntless* would be a good term: though I should prefer *Hunted* to Mr. Dains's suggested *Hunting*.

Mr. Bayley forgets that it is not necessary to a method that the reble should be the hunt. His argument about "dominated" would prove that it is the compass which dominates the ship, as it is "supreme as a guide," or in Mr. Dains's words: "demands a clear passage."

All these terms seem to me superficial: they simply classify according to a symptom instead of going down to the cause. I am not, as I said, going to defend my own suggestions very heartily, but I should like to hear more well-founded objections to them than Mr. Trollope raises.

He says that Grandsire is simple rather than Stedman; that is only because we have been accustomed to take Grandsire as one criterion. If we adopted that excellent suggestion of Mr. Davies in "Stedman," and taught that method first, we should see that it was really the simplest essentially. But Mr. Trollope appeals to the ordinary ringer. As it happens I have during the last few months been teaching Stedman to a number of those who had already learnt Grandsire. They all of them expressed their pleasure in it in different ways, but one term was common to all their opinions: namely, the word "simple." These ringers I may say are of several companies, and vary much in their education and position in life.

He also says *compound* has been used in "a totally different sense:" if so, this will therefore *not* interfere with its use in this sense. But I do not find it in the index to the Glossary.

As for the Grandsire and Plain Bob system, my nomenclature would display its structure completely. It would be a principle which employed a "Plain" method on even bells and an "Involved" method on odd bells. H. DRAKE.

STEEPLEAGE AT ST. NICHOLAS' CHURCH, BRIGHTON.

SIR,—Possibly it may interest many of your readers to know that at the adjourned annual meeting of the ancient society of change-ringers connected with the above church, which was held on Tuesday, February 16th last, the question of Steepleage was duly debated. A compromise being arrived at, the worthy steeplekeeper (Mr. Palmer) withdrew his claim to the recently-established fee of 2s. 6d. Visitors in future attempting a peal on these bells (the only 10-bell ring in the Diocese of Chichester), will be invited to deposit a sum equivalent to the fee in the offertory box for church expenses within the sacred edifice. Owing, unfortunately, to the exigence of a rule, peal-ringing at St. Nicholas is limited to one peal a month being attempted.

Feb. 23rd., 1904.

BRIGHTONIAN.

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Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEVERLEY.—On Tuesday, February 2nd, at the Minster, 1904 Grandsire Caters, in 1 hr. 18 mins. A. Osgerby, T. Morton, G. T. Marshall, C. Constable, J. Taylor, F. Osgerby, C. Jackson composer and conductor, W. Gibson, G. Ford, W. Middleton.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HUNTSFILL (Somerset).—On Wednesday, February 10th, at St. Peter's church, a date touch of 1904 Grandsire Doubles, in 1 hr. 7 mins. W. G. Sellick, jun., F. Iley, J. Baker, H. Parkhouse, E. Lane, C. Hancock, F. Iley conductor.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BECCLES.—On Tuesday, February 2nd, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, taken from T. Thurstans' five-part, in 1 hr. 14 mins. H. Ling, C. E. Parnell, H. Reynolds, G. Baxter, H. Hopson, G. E. Symonds conductor, E. Poppy, E. Etheridge.

HOLBECK.—On Sunday evening, February 14th, for Divine Service a date touch of 1904 Bob Major, in 1 hr. 10 mins. H. Tomlinson, J. Boshell, H. Howland, W. Burns, J. Matthews, C. Moss, J. A. Teale, W. Bittles. Composed and conducted by Harry Tomlinson.

Miscellaneous.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

WOORBURN (Bucks).—On Friday, January 22nd, 720 Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. W. Leader, T. Leader, W. H. Fussell, E. Hooper, F. V. H. Sinkins, R. Flaxman.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

SONNING.—On Thursday, February 11th, for practice, 546 Grandsire Triples. T. Martin, H. Hammans, G. J. Wright, J. Wadhams conductor, W. Hands, J. Sumner, T. Russell, G. E. Brown.

READING (Berks).—On Sunday evening, February 7th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Laurence, 840 Grandsire Triples in 27 mins. A. Holliday, J. Fuller, G. Hope, E. Holloway, H. Runham, W. Newell conductor, E. Denham, R. Dowsett. On Sunday evening, February 14th, for Divine Service, 503 Grandsire Caters in 25 mins. H. Glanville, A. Holliday, G. Hope, J. Fuller, E. Denham, E. Holloway, H. Runham conductor, T. E. Glanville, W. Newell, R. Dowsett

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BRIDGNORTH (Salop).—On Friday, February 12th, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor in 23 mins. W. Hall, W. Hayward, G. Jones, G. Case, W. Rudd conductor, W. Short. Also some 6-scores of Stedman and Grandsire Doubles. On Sunday morning, February 14th, before Divine Service, 180 and 120 Bob Minor. And before evening service 720 Bob Minor in 24 mins., conducted by W. Short.

BRECON.—On Monday, January 4th, at St. Mary's church, 336 Grandsire Triples. S. Watkins, F. Stedman, W. Short, W. Hargest, R. Moy, S. Brooks, W. Evans, D. Price. Also a 336. E. Williams, 3; the rest as before. On Tuesday, January 5th, two 336s. W. Hargest, W. Short, G. Hardwick, E. Williams, R. Moy, S. Brooks, W. Evans, F. Stedman. On Thursday, January 7th, 812 Grandsire Triples. S. Watkins, W. Short, G. Hardwick, W. Hargest, R. Moy, S. Brooks, W. Evans, D. Price. Also a 420. W. Hargest, E. Williams, R. Moy, F. Stedman, S. Brooke, W. Short, W. Evans, D. Price. On Friday, February 8th, a 434. S. Watkins, R. Moy, W. Short, W. Hargest, E. Williams, S. Brooks, W. Evans, F. Stedman. On Saturday, January 9th, a 1260. W. Short, E. Williams, G. Hardwick, W. Hargest, R. Moy, S. Brooks, W. Evans, D. Price. This is the longest touch on the bells by the local band. On Sunday morning, January 10th, for Divine Service, a 630. S. Watkins, E. Williams, W. Short, W. Hargest, R. Moy, W. Evans, G. Hardwick, D. Price. For evening service a 640. S. Watkins, W. Short, E. Williams, W. Hargest, R. Moy, W. Evans, S. Brooks, D. Price. After service a 532. S. Watkins, W. Short, E. Williams, W. Hargest, R. Moy, W. Evans, S. Brooks, D. Price. All the above touches were conducted by W. Short during his visit as Instructor to the Guild.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

SELLY OAK.—On Sunday, January 10th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. T. A. Cole, J. Eaton, F. Withers, W. Mumford, J. Withers, J. Dowler conductor, A. Chambers, S. Grove.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

EPSOM.—On January 10th, at Christ Church, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples. H. Griffiths, T. Goff, A. Mason, T. Miles, J. Crawford, T. Tutte, A. Gower conductor, E. Fisher.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BLACKBURN BRANCH.)

BURNLEY.—On Sunday, January 3rd, 576 Kent. T. Howarth, N. Townend, W. Walton, T. Burrows, R. Hartley, R. Ashworth, T. Mouncey, T. Redman conductor. And 640 Kent. T. Howarth, R. Hartley, W. Walton, N. Townend, R. Ashworth, T. Mouncey, T. Redman conductor. On Sunday, January 10th, 608 Bob Major. T. Howarth, T. Burrows, W. Walton, R. Hartley, N. Townend, R. Ashworth, T. Mouncey, T. Redman conductor. On Sunday, January 17th, 1280 Kent. T. Howarth, N. Townend, T. Burrows, R. Hartley, W. Walton, R. Ashworth, T. Mouncey, T. Redman conductor. On Sunday, January 31st, 640 Kent. T. Howarth, W. Walton, T. Burrows, S. Cornish, R. Hartley, R. Ashworth, T. Mouncey, T. Redman conductor. On Sunday, February 7th, 672 Kent. N. Townend, R. Hartley, T. Burrows, W. Walton, S. Cornish, R. Ashworth, T. Mouncey, T. Redman conductor. Also 720 Bob Minor. T. Howarth, W. Walton, T. Burrows, R. Ashworth, T. Mouncey, T. Redman conductor. On Sunday, February 14th, 688 Bob Major. T. Howarth, T. Burrows, W. Walton, S. Cornish, N. Townend, R. Ashworth, T. Mouncey, T. Redman conductor.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

FAREHAM (Hants).—On Monday, December 14th, at St. Peter's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 43 mins. H. Privett, C. Privett, G. Grafham, Rev. W. H. Gordon, A. Coghlan, G. Passingham, J. W. Whiting conductor, G. Grant.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—On Sunday, February 7th, for Divine Service, and also as a birthday compliment to Mr. E. O. Masters, 1260 Oxford Bob Triples. W. Aldridge, E. Wells, W. Watchorn, H. Hill, A. Pye, R. Carter conductor, H. Humphries, A. Bangay.

BUCKLEY (Flintshire).—On Monday, February 15th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 48 mins. H. Jones, T. J. Price, H. Hughes, Herbert Hughes, J. Usher, W. Short conductor, E. H. Griffiths, W. Bellis.

CHELMSFORD (Essex).—On Thursday, January 28th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Oswick, W. Rowland, sen., H. Richell, B. Thompson, W. Newman, A. Whight, H. F. Cooper conductor, R. H. Rolfe.

CLARE (Suffolk).—On Sunday, January 10th, after evening service, 1008 Bob Major. H. Curtis, H. Thompson, A. Richardson, B. Francis, O. Evan, W. Atkinson, W. Dains, G. More conductor.

HULL (Yorks).—On Sunday, January 10th, 504 Stedman Triples. J. Highfield, F. Merrison, T. Stockdale, G. T. Marshall, C. Jackson, G. T. Miller, A. Naylor, J. W. Dale.

LAVENHAM (Suffolk).—On Monday, January 4th, at the church of St. Peter and Paul, 1440 Kent Treble Bob Major. S. H. Symonds, E. Simpson, F. Parker, J. Moore, T. King conductor, H. Smith, L. Leeks, A. Symonds. Longest length in the method by a entirely Lavenham company.

MALDON.—On January 6th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. E. Mansfield, R. Hudson, W. Mansfield, P. Sayers, F. Chalk conductor, E. C. Lambert.

READING (Berks).—On December 1st, for the Queen's birthday, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins. A. Halliday, E. Holloway, G. Hope, J. Fuller, T. E. Glanville, H. Runham conductor, W. Newell, R. Dowsett.

TOTHAM (Essex).—On January 11th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. F. Newman, T. Hammond, H. Brown, P. Sayers, E. C. Lambert, F. Chalk conductor.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Sunday evening, January 31st, for Divine Service at the church of All Saints, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins. J. Poole, W. Newman, H. Richell, A. Whight, H. Head, H. F. Cooper conductor, A. Head, R. H. Rolfe.

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1904.

OUR contemporary, *The Daily Chronicle*, is what may be called an up-to-date newspaper. It has among its regular daily contributors a writer who is something akin to our "Plain Speaker," and the following paragraph emanated from this gentleman one day this week:—

"Spain is not a progressive country; but the Municipal Council of Bilbao has set us an example in prohibiting, under pain of fine, the ringing of church bells. It is a public nuisance, thinks Bilbao, and no longer necessary in a modern city. Church bells are among the most superfluous noises of London. They are usually by no means attractive to the hesitating wayfarer; few Londoners believe that they exorcise the Evil One; and few church-

goers are without a watch or a possible glance at a public clock."

Newspapers like the one from which the above extract is culled, are generally abreast of the times, and the editors are aware of the nature of almost every movement going on around them. But on matters appertaining to Church bells they are extraordinarily ignorant. The plea that there is no difficulty in these days of ascertaining the hour of the day because every one possesses a watch, or public clocks are plentiful, is childish, absurd, and puerile. The time of day could be known centuries ago easily enough. People who scribble their paragraphs about Church bells should know that they are a national institution of the growth of centuries; and those gentlemen responsible for the appearance of such tirades as we read of now and then should acquaint themselves with some of the facts and un-legendary lore connected with them, and then they would be competent to use efficiently a revisory power before allowing such nonsense to appear in print.

We would recommend Editors, sub-editors, and others who have the ordering of their news columns, to become acquainted with some more data about church bells than that which they already possess, or else refrain altogether from referring to the subject. Change-ringing is a mathematical science, requiring great ingenuity and skill. It is known in the United Kingdom and a few of the colonies only, though it is making some progress in the United States. Its peculiarly British habitat demands the greatest sympathy; that is more than can be said for the walks of jockeydom or any other thing called "sport."

The Metropolis.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Monday, February 15, 1904, in Three Hours.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES, BERMONDSEY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'S.

Tenor 25 cwt.

GEORGE N. PRICE 1.	JAMES E. DAVIS 5.
CHARLES C. BURDEN .. . 2.	FRANK SMITH 6.
ALBERT COLES 3.	ALFRED B. PECK 7.
JOHN W. GOLDING .. . 4.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE .. . Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE.

Rung in honour of the birthday of John Porter, Esq., late churchwarden at this church.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE ALL SAINTS (FULHAM) SOCIETY.

On Monday, February 15, 1904, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, PUTNEY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES.

Tenor 16 cwt.

JOHN H. B. HESSE Treble.	*JAMES W. DRIVER 5.
ARTHUR JONES 2.	*WILLIAM PICKWORTH 6.
WILLIAM E. JUDD 3.	*WILLIAM T. ELSON 7.
WILLIAM S. SMITH 4.	CORNELIUS CHARGE Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by CORNELIUS CHARGE.

*First peal in the method. First peal of Double Norwich by the Fulham Society.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 20, 1904, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW, UPPER CLAPTON,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 14 cwt.

CHARLES KENNEDY Treble.	DANIEL F. GIBBONS 5.
ALBERT COLES 2.	WILLIAM WOODHEAD 6.
THOMAS LANGDON 3.	HENRY C. ALFORD 7.
ARTHUR COLES* 4.	EDWARD C. EWER Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS LANGDON.

*First peal with a bob bell. Further reference elsewhere.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Saturday, January 23, 1904, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH, BLACKFRIARS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS'S FOUR-PART.

Tenor 18 cwt.

FREDERICK G. PERRIN .. Treble.	JAMES E. DAVIS 5.
WILLIAM R. CROCKFORD .. 2.	WILLIAM WOODHEAD 6.
HERBERT LANGDON 3.	MARK WOODCOCK 7.
FRANK SMITH 4.	ARTHUR N. HARDY Tenor.

Conducted by HERBERT LANGDON.

The Provinces.

CASTLEMORTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

On Monday, February 8, 1904, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

WILLIAM GOODWIN* .. Treble.	RICHARD PENDRY 4.
CHARLES YOUNG* 2.	CHARLES PRICE 5.
WILLIAM E. PENDRY .. . 3.	*GEORGE GILLIAM Tenor.

(No conductor mentioned.)

*First peal. First peal on the bells.

DISS, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 10, 1904, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

VICARS'.

Tenor 24 cwt.

GEORGE ARCHER Treble.	WILLIAM WISKINS 5.
WILLIAM IRELAND 2.	ELLIS HAYWARD 6.
JOHN SMITH 3.	JOHN SOUTER 7.
WILLIAM SALTER 4.	WILLIAM CHENERY Tenor.

Conducted by J. SOUTER.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(THE HOLY TRINITY SOCIETY.)

On Wednesday, February 10, 1904, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 25 cwt.

THOMAS MAYNARD Treble.	CHARLES WILLSHIRE 5.
HENRY HUTTON 2.	RALPH WOOD 6.
GEORGE GUNNER 3.	BEN CHORLEY 7.
ARTHUR FRANKUM 4.	ALFRED H. PULLING Tenor.

Composed by H. J. TUCKER, and Conducted by ALFRED J. PULLING.

Rung in honour of the return from South Africa after four year's service of Lieut. H. A. Grant, of the Leicestershire Regiment, eldest son of the Rector of this parish.

THE RINGERS' ONLY TRUE BADGE.—In Gold, Silver or Bronze.—Clocks, Watches, and all kinds of Jewellery.—COLDWELL (Ringer), Mirfield, Yorks.

STANSTED, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 10, 1904, in Three Hours and Three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR. 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 13 cwt.

Table listing names and positions for the Cambridge Surprise Major peal, including John Luckey, Frederick J. Pitstow, George Jordan, Henry J. Tucker, Arthur F. James, Thomas J. Watts, Thomas J. Jordan, and William Watts.

Composed by C. MIDDLETON, and Conducted by WILLIAM WATTS.

*First peal in the method with a bob bell. *First peal in the method. *First peal in the method as conductor.

WAKEFIELD, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 11, 1904, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes, AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES. Tenor 31 cwt.

Table listing names and positions for the Grandsire Caters peal, including William England, David Whiting, Joseph Broadley, Geo. Cheesbro, Albert Scott, John T. Eason, Thos. L. Moorhouse, Thos. H. Ormond, Francis Woodhead, and Francis Barker.

Composed by CORNELIUS CHARGE, and Conducted by ALBERT SCOTT.

*First peal of Caters.

TEYNHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 11, 1904, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. Double Oxford, Canterbury, College Single, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

Table listing names and positions for the Minor peal, including William Fairbeard, George Gilbert, Jun., Joseph E. Grensted, Fredk. A. Fairbeard, William H. B. Wilkins, and Albert J. Day.

Conducted by ALBERT J. DAY.

This is W. H. B. Wilkins' fiftieth peal, a list of which appears elsewhere.

SIDCUP, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, February 12, 1904, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720s of Grandsire and Plain Bob, and one each of Canterbury Pleasure, Oxford Bob and College Single.

Tenor 9 cwt.

Table listing names and positions for the Minor peal, including William J. Browning, Richard Hims, Henry Wilkes, Thomas Groombridge, John H. Preston, and Francis Fraser.

Conducted by THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE.

*First peal, only having rung one 720 of Minor previously. It was intended to ring seven methods, but one of the band failing to appear, Mr. Browning stood in at the last moment. This is the first 5040 on the bells, and was rang as a birthday compliment to F. Fraser; also the son of the conductor.

BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 13, 1904, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes, AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

Table listing names and positions for the Grandsire Triples peal, including Fred Sear, Ernest J. Gale, Harry Sear, Walter Sear, James George, Charles W. Clarke, Richard Nichols, and Valentine Sear.

Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

Rung in memory of the wife of the Rector (Rev. W. Bennitt), the bells being rung open, the deceased lady's wish being that no muffles should be used.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 13, 1904, in Three Hours, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES.

Table listing names and positions for the Superlative Surprise Major peal, including Lewis Chapman, John B. Martin, Frederick Palmer, Walter Perkins, William V. Newman, John J. Mawby, Anderson Y. Tyler, and James Garratt.

Composed by YORK GREEN, and Conducted by JAMES GARRATT.

*First peal in the method.

NEW MILLS, DERBYSHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(BOWDON AND STOCKPORT BRANCH.)

On Monday, February 15, 1904, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes, AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13 1/2 cwt.

Table listing names and positions for the Treble Bob Major peal, including Rev. A. T. Beeston, William Lowery, Egbert Stamper, John W. Ashton, Samuel Fernley, Fred Holt, Matthew G. Bennett, and Tom Marshall.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN, and Conducted by the REV. A. T. BEESTON.

SAWSTON, CAMBS.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 13, 1904, in Three Hours and One Minute, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; THURSTANS'S FOUR-PART. Tenor 13 cwt.

Table listing names and positions for the Stedman Triples peal, including A. E. Pitstow, F. J. Pitstow, E. H. Lewis, F. S. Poole, H. S. T. Richardson, G. Taylor, F. Pitstow, and F. Matthews.

Conducted by F. PITSTOW.

*First peal.

HASLINGDEN, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(ROSSENDALE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 13, 1904, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; PRITCHARD'S SIX-PART.

Table listing names and positions for the Grandsire Triples peal, including James Taylor, Ormerod Eastwood, J. B. Taylor, Lawrence Taylor, Walter Taylor, Harry Walls, J. T. Wright, and J. W. Ormerod.

Conducted by WALTER TAYLOR.

THORNHAM MAGNA, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 15, 1904, in Two Hours and Thirty-seven Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Oxford, Kent and Woodbine Treble Bob, Double Court, College Single, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

Table listing names and positions for the Minor peal, including Charles Rose, Edward Youngs, Charles Nunn, Alphaeus Berry, Harry Symonds, and William Rose.

Conducted by WILLIAM ROSE.

Rung in honour of the birth of a son to Mr. and the Hon. Mrs. Clifford. *First peal in seven methods.

HANDKERCHIEFS FOR RINGERS.—Splendid Quality.—Purest Silk—Very suitable for a present.—W. MATTHEWS, Change, Ringer, Macclesfield.

SLEAFORD, LINCOLNSHIRE:
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, February 16, 1904, in Three Hours and Four Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DENYS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 23 cwt. in E.

WILLIAM TOWNSEND.. ..Treble.	JOHN R. GREEN 5.
RUPERT RICHARDSON 2.	THOMAS B. WOOD 6.
ARTHUR J. FARR 3.	JOHN T. HOLMES 7.
WILLIAM RICHARDSON 4.	JOHN W. WOOD.. ..Tenor.

Composed by H. HUBBARD, and Conducted by JOHN W. WOOD.
First peal as conductor.

ASHTEAD, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 16, 1904, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

FREDERICK C. UPHILL*..Treble.	FREDERICK W. CHALLEN .. 5.
D. SNELLING† 2.	F. A. HOLDEN 6.
WILLIAM H. CORBETT .. 3.	WILLIAM SEARING 7.
JOHN WYATT 4.	*ALBERT COLEMANTenor.

Conducted by F. A. HOLDEN.

*First peal. †First peal with a bob bell. Rung as a birthday compliment to G. Moore.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, February 16, 1904, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS'S FOUR-PART.

W. H. HOLLIERTreble.	ALLAN H. TABER 5.
EVERED J. WALSON.. .. 2.	FREDERICK GODDARD .. 6.
EDWARD I. GRIFFIN .. 3.	HENRY BROWNING 7.
JOHN BASDEN 4.	THOMAS BEADLETenor.

Conducted by JOHN BASDEN.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Messrs. Basden, Goddard, and Hollier.

PULHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 16, 1904, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 14½ cwt.

FREDERICK BORRETT ..Treble.	CHARLES BAKER 5.
BOBERT PEAKE 2.	FREDERICK ROOPE 6.
ALBERT WIER 3.	FREDERICK SURRIDGE .. 7.
EDWIN CALVER 4.	WILLIAM ROOPETenor.

Composed by W. HARRISON, and Conducted by F. BORRETT.

Silent Peal.

WORCESTER.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 18, 1904, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 18½ cwt.

WILLIAM BRIGHTTreble.	WILLIAM PAGE 5.
WILLIAM POWELL 2.	GORDON CHECKETTS 6.
WILLIAM C. JONES 3.	ABRAHAM WINTERTON .. 7.
ALBERT HILL 4.	HENRY WILKES.. ..Tenor.

Umpires—G. Hinton and J. Perry. This is the first peal rung by the Association and in the county non-conducted.

OXHEY, HERTS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 20, 1904, in Two Hours and Fifty Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 9½ cwt.

HUBERT EDENTreble.	CONOR O'BRIEN.. .. 5.
HENRY R. NEWTON.. .. 2.	ALFRED B. PECK 6.
JOHN W. GOLDING 3.	FREDERICK DENCH 7.
GEORGE N. PRICE 4.	HARRY R. PASMORE.. ..Tenor.

Composed by FREDK. DENCH, and Conducted by HARRY R. PASMORE.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD AND HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1904, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 13 cwt.

BERTRAM PREWETT ..Treble.	ISAAC G. SHADE 5.
WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD 2.	ERNEST E. HUNTLEY .. 6.
FRANCIS A. SMITH 3.	WILLIAM PYE 7.
ALFRED W. BRIGHTON .. 4.	JOHN R. SHARMANTenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

PENSHURST, KENT.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 20, 1904, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 17½ cwt.

THOMAS CARDTreble.	GEORGE A. CARD 5.
JAMES MAYNARD 2.	GEORGE TURLEY 6.
EDWARD MANKELOW.. .. 3.	CHARLES CHAPMAN 7.
WILLIAM STEED 4.	WILLIAM SPICETenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by THOMAS CARD.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Messrs. Mankelow, Turley and Spice, who received the usual congratulations from the rest of the band.

CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' AND THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, February 20, 1904, in Three Hours Twenty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES. Tenor 24½ cwt.

GEORGE HOLLISTreble.	BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS .. 5.
GEORGE W. BEMROSE* .. 2.	WILLIAM LAMBERT 6.
JOHN FLINT 3.	ARTHUR KNIGHTS 7.
THOMAS BETTISON 4.	SAM THOMASTenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and Conducted by SAM THOMAS.

*First peal in the method.

LIGHTCLIFFE, YORKSHIRE.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT AND YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS

On Saturday, February 20, 1904, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Oxford Delight, New London Pleasure, Woodbine, Violet, Duke of York, Oxford and Kent. Tenor 15 cwt.

THOMAS SHARMANTreble.	GEORGE WHITEAKER 4.
JAMES E. CARTER 2.	JAGGER RUSHWORTH.. .. 5.
BERTIE COWLING 3.	FRED WHITELEYTenor.

Conducted by F. WHITELEY.

First peal by ringers of 2 and 4.

SHEFFIELD, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 20, 1904, in Three Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5021 CHANGES.

Tenor 41 cwt.

WILLIAM BURGAR Treble.	*ALFRED WINDSOR 7.
JOHN HENRY BOWER 2.	GEORGE HOLMES 8.
WILLIAM LOMAS 3.	EDWARD WOODWARD 9.
FRANK BURGAR* 4.	SAM SEED 10.
JOHN MULLIGAN 5.	*FRANCIS WOODHEAD 11.
THOMAS HATTERSLEY 6.	*SIDNEY F. PALMER Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM LOMAS.

*First peal of Stedman Cinques. Rung on the 49th birthday of the conductor.

BRISTOL.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1904, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt.

ALFRED PEARCE Treble.	JOHN BURFORD 5.
ALBERT STOWELL 2.	JOHN THOMAS 6.
FRED G. MAY 3.	WILLIAM STOWELL 7.
R. JOHN WILKINS 4.	GEORGE T. DALTRY Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by GEORGE T. DALTRY.

This is the 50th peal by John Burford in the Association.

NORTHAMPTON.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1904, in Three Hours and Twenty-nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES.

Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

HERBERT C. LAWRENCE* Treble.	FRED HOPPER 5.
SIDNEY J. LAWRENCE 2.	*ARTHUR MOORE 6.
HERBERT RAINBOW* 3.	*WILLIAM ROBERTS 7.
ALFRED P. HENSMAN* 4.	†FRED WILFORD Tenor.

Composed by G. LINDOFF, and Conducted by FRED WILFORD.

*First peal in the method; also on the bells. †First peal in the method as conductor. This is the first peal ever rung in the town by an entirely local band.

ROTHWELL, NEAR LEEDS, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Saturday, February 20, 1904, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of College Pleasure, City Delight, College Exercise, Arnold's Victory, London Scholars' Pleasure, Duke of York and Oxford.

ALFRED CHAPMAN Treble.	WILLIAM ABBISHAW 4.
JOSEPH C. ABBISHAW 2.	GEORGE W. STEEL 5.
J. W. T. HOLGATE 3.	WALTER CHAPMAN Tenor.

Conducted by WALTER CHAPMAN.

CALVERLEY, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1904, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 11 cwt.

EZRA KEIGHLEY Treble.	HENRY ODDY 5.
CHARLES PRATT 2.	TOM LATIMER 6.
WILLIAM HOLLINGS 3.	GEORGE BOLLAND 7.
WILLIAM BOLLAND 4.	FRANK BIRKS Tenor.

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY, and Conducted by G. BOLLAND.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.

On Saturday, February 20, 1904, in Three Hours and Forty-two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6240 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 15 cwt.

SAMUEL HARROP Treble.	CHARLES BROOKS 5.
DANIEL JAMES 2.	JOSEPH MALONEY 6.
WILLIAM HARROP 3.	SAMUEL KNOTT 7.
HENRY COOPER 4.	JOHN PYE Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL KNOTT.

Rung in commemoration of a 10,176 of Kent Treble Bob rung by the same band, and in the same positions, eighteen years ago.

MIDDLETON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(ROCHDALE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 20, 1904, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN HOLLOWES Treble.	SAMUEL HOLT 5.
WILLIAM SCHOFIELD 2.	†GEORGE STAFF 6.
EDMUND SCHOFIELD 3.	JOHN HARRISON 7.
JAMES BASTOW* 4.	ANDREW SIDEBOTTOM Tenor.

Composed by J. BARKER, and Conducted by ANDREW SIDEBOTTOM.

*First peal. †First peal of Major with a bob bell.

LYE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1904, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
GROVES'S VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 3½ cwt.

JOSEPH PIGOTT Treble.	RICHARD JAMES 5.
THOMAS PIGOTT 2.	ROBERT MATTHEWS 6.
JAMES KEY 3.	JOHN BASS 7.
GEORGE PIGOTT 4.	WILLIAM MASON Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH PIGOTT.

Reference elsewhere.

CAVERSHAM, OXON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, February 22, 1904, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

E. J. MENDAY Treble.	C. STONE 5.
G. IRVIN 2.	H. SMITH 6.
G. ESSEX 3.	T. NEWMAN 7.
T. GWYNNE 4.	H. SIMMONDS Tenor.

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK, and Conducted by T. NEWMAN.

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Notices.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is one Penny per line (five words may be reckoned to a line). Repetitions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The monthly meeting will be held at Christ Church, Armley, to-day, Saturday, Feb. 27th. Bells (6) available at 2.30 p.m. Business meeting will be held at The White Horse Inn at 7.30 p.m. Nomination of officers for ensuing year. F. BARRACLOUGH, *Hon. Sec.*
29, Elsworth Place, Armley.

The London County Association, late St. James' Society.—A meeting for united practice will be held to-day, Saturday, Feb. 27th, at St. Luke's, Sydney Street, Chelsea, S.W. Tower open from 5 till 9. Members and others are requested to attend.
T. H. TAFFENDER, *Hon. Sec.*
91, Darwin St., Southwark, S.E.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—The subscription of 1s. 8d. is now due, and should be paid before February 29th. Meeting for practice will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on Wednesday March 2nd.

W. T. COCKERILL, *Hon. Sec.*
'Frodingham,' Elmhurst Street, Clapham, S.W.

The St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—Johnson Anniversary Commemoration Dinner.—This will be held as usual this evening, Saturday, February 27th next, at Ye Olde Royal Hotel, Temple Row, Birmingham, at 6.30 prompt. Chair will be taken by R. A. Daniell, Esq.
W. H. GODDEN, *Hon. Sec.*
61, Roland Rd., Handsworth, Birmingham.

The Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild.—South and West District.—A meeting of the above will be held at St. Leonard's, Heston, to-day, Saturday, February 27th. Bells ready at 4. Tea kindly provided by the local band at 5.30. As a special favour the bells of St. Paul's, Hounslow, will also be available from 2.30 to 4.30. Members kindly note this is not for practice but to endeavour to interest the officials in change-ringing.
J. J. PRATT, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*
Hillingdon.

The Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—The next meeting of this Guild will be held at Crossens to-day, Saturday, Feb. 27th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Tea at 5.30 p.m. Business meeting at 6 p.m.
Rev. W. T. BULPIT } *Hon.*
W. BENTHAM } *Secs.*

The Herts Association.—A district meeting will be held at Knebworth to-day, Saturday, 27 February.
J. SHEPPARD, *Dist. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. James's church, Haslingden, on Saturday, March 5th. Bells ready at 4.30. Meeting at 6.30 prompt.
W. ASHWORTH, *Sec.*

The Kent County Association.—Swanscombe Branch.—The Bishop of Southwark will dedicate the new ring of eight bells on Saturday, March 5th, at 3.15 p.m. After service the bells will be available for ringing. All are welcome.
F. J. RING, *Secretary.*

Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Curry Rivel on Saturday, March 5th. Bells available all day at the following towers: Curry Rivel (8), Drayton, one mile (8), Langport (6), and Huish Episcopi (6), two miles. Service at Curry Rivel church at 4 p.m. Tea, kindly

given by E. C. Trevilian, Esq., at Midelney Place at 5 p.m. Business meeting follows. Members intending being present at tea should inform me not later than Tuesday, March 2nd.
A. E. COLLS, *Hon. Sec.*

Bridgwater.

The Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. John's church, Manchester, on Saturday, March 12th. Bells ready at 5 o'clock. Meeting at 7.
J. SMITH, *Branch Sec.*

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Longton on Saturday, March 5th. Members intending to be present must give notice to Mr. W. Wade, 40, Ashwood Longton, by Thursday, March 3rd.
D. PRESTON, *Hon. Sec. pro. tem.*

NOTES TO PEALS.

THE PEAL AT LYE.—This peal was arranged and rung as a 21st birthday compliment to W. Mason, with the usual good wishes, being his first peal. This is the first peal of Triples on the bells, and the second peal only, these being the lightest ringing peal of bells in the kingdom, the weight of the treble being only 60 lbs. The band wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS" to thank the Vicar for allowing the attempt to be made at short notice; also the local and visiting ringers for coming to hear the peal, the same at the conclusion congratulating the band on their excellent striking throughout.

THE PEAL AT UPPER CLAPTON.—The peal was rung half-muffled as a last token of deep regard to the memory of the late William Burkin, who for several years was a ringer at the above church, and took an active part in teaching the amateur ringers there. The interment took place at Nutfield, Surrey, on the 18th inst. He was Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths for three years in succession.

MR. W. WILKINS' 50 PEALS.—One peal of Minor in three methods; two in four methods, conducted 2; two in six methods, conducted 2; forty in seven methods, conducted 37; one (10,080) in nine methods, conducted 1; Stedman Caters, 1; Kent Treble Bob, 1, conducted 1; Grand sire Triples, 2. Total 50; conducted 43.

THE DOMINANT TREBLE.

Now what is all this fuss about?
About the Treble hunting out;
About the Treble's homeward turn,
No difficulty can I discern.
And now we read of "dominate,"
It's quite the regular word of late;
Yet years ago no ringer would
So queer a word have understood.
Of course the Treble dominates
And reigns supreme o'er other fates;
Bob-caller not his course can change,
He strikes contempt on all his pains.
No matter what the method be,
The Treble is the King you see;
Except in Stedman, Duffield too,
There may be others, one or two.
Even then he's just as good as they,
And always bound to have his way;
They cannot start till he says "go,"
And when rounds come he's first you know.
And then the Treble is the bell
Which all the others has to tell
When they should dodge, or places make,
And keep the bob-caller awake.
And when the Treble straight would go,

The others clear the way you know;
Or stop and just fill up a space,
But on he goes in any case.
All other bells may have to change,
To make a great or lesser range;
But Treble—No! no change he needs,
Nor allows a call except he leads.
And yet the question comes of late,
As to whether he does dominate;
But surely it is but in fun,
He always was the "number one." P.

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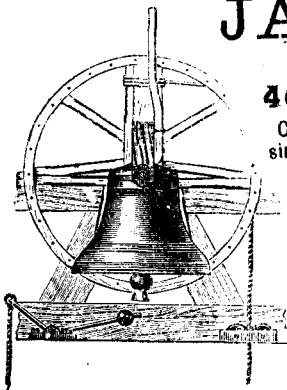
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