

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

Old Bells at Wichenford, Worcestershire.

The Bishop of Coventry lately visited the remote village of Wichenford, in West Worcestershire, to re-dedicate the three church bells which have been recently rehung. Two of the bells have, owing to the unsafe state of the timbers, hung in silence for nearly thirty years, and the third has not been rung for a year. The one bell is pre-Reformation; the others are dated 1664 and 1673. After the service the Bishop held a confirmation—believed to be the first ever held in the parish—when fifty-seven candidates were presented.

Surprise Major Methods.

The following SURPRISE MAJOR methods have been sent us by Mr. Carter, of Birmingham:—

Champion.	Burton.	Forward.
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
2 1 4 3 5 6 8 7	2 1 4 3 5 6 8 7	2 1 3 4 6 5 8 7
1 2 4 3 6 5 7 8	1 2 4 3 6 5 7 8	1 2 4 3 6 5 7 8
2 1 3 4 6 5 8 7	2 1 3 4 6 5 8 7	2 1 3 4 5 6 8 7
1 2 4 3 5 6 7 8	1 2 3 4 6 5 7 8	1 2 4 3 5 6 7 8
2 1 3 4 5 6 8 7	2 1 4 3 6 5 7 8	2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7
1 2 3 4 6 5 7 8	2 4 1 6 3 8 5 7	2 4 1 6 3 8 5 7
2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7	4 2 6 1 3 8 7 5	4 2 6 1 3 8 7 5
2 4 1 6 3 8 5 7	4 2 1 6 8 3 5 7	4 2 1 6 8 3 5 7
4 2 6 1 3 8 7 5	2 4 6 1 3 8 7 5	2 4 6 1 3 8 7 5
4 2 1 6 8 3 5 7	2 4 1 6 8 3 5 7	2 4 1 6 8 3 5 7
2 4 6 1 8 3 7 5	4 2 6 1 8 3 7 5	4 2 6 1 8 3 7 5
4 2 1 6 8 3 5 7	4 6 2 8 1 7 3 5	4 6 2 8 1 7 3 5
4 2 6 1 3 8 7 5	6 4 2 8 7 1 5 3	6 4 2 8 7 1 5 3
4 2 1 6 8 3 5 7	6 4 8 2 1 7 3 5	6 4 8 2 1 7 3 5
2 4 6 1 8 3 7 5	4 6 2 8 7 1 5 3	4 6 2 8 7 1 5 3
4 2 1 6 3 8 5 7	4 6 8 2 1 7 3 5	4 6 8 2 1 7 3 5
2 4 6 1 3 8 7 5	6 4 8 2 7 1 5 3	6 4 8 2 7 1 5 3
2 4 1 6 8 3 5 7	6 8 4 7 2 5 1 3	6 8 4 7 2 5 1 3
4 2 6 1 8 3 7 5	8 6 4 7 5 2 3 1	8 6 4 7 5 2 3 1
4 2 1 6 3 8 5 7	6 8 7 4 5 2 1 3	6 8 7 4 5 2 1 3
2 4 6 1 3 8 7 5	8 6 4 7 2 5 3 1	8 6 4 7 2 5 3 1
2 4 1 6 8 3 5 7	6 8 7 4 2 5 1 3	6 8 7 4 2 5 1 3
4 2 6 1 8 3 7 5	8 6 7 4 5 2 3 1	8 6 7 4 5 2 3 1
4 2 1 6 3 8 5 7	8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1	8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
2 4 6 1 3 8 7 5	7 8 6 5 3 4 1 2	7 8 6 5 3 4 1 2
2 4 1 6 8 3 5 7	8 7 5 6 3 4 2 1	8 7 5 6 3 4 2 1
4 2 6 1 8 3 7 5	7 8 6 5 4 3 1 2	7 8 6 5 4 3 1 2
4 2 1 6 3 8 5 7	8 7 5 6 4 3 2 1	8 7 5 6 4 3 2 1
2 4 6 1 3 8 7 5	7 8 5 6 3 4 1 2	7 8 5 6 3 4 1 2
2 4 1 6 8 3 5 7	7 5 8 3 6 1 4 2	7 5 8 3 6 1 4 2
4 2 6 1 8 3 7 5	5 7 8 3 1 6 2 4	5 7 8 3 1 6 2 4
4 2 1 6 3 8 5 7	5 7 3 8 6 1 4 2	5 7 3 8 6 1 4 2
2 4 6 1 3 8 7 5	5 7 8 3 1 6 2 4	5 7 8 3 1 6 2 4
2 4 1 6 8 3 5 7	5 7 3 8 6 1 4 2	5 7 3 8 6 1 4 2
4 2 6 1 8 3 7 5	5 7 8 3 6 1 4 2	5 7 8 3 6 1 4 2
4 2 1 6 3 8 5 7	5 7 3 8 1 6 2 4	5 7 3 8 1 6 2 4
2 4 6 1 3 8 7 5	5 3 7 1 8 2 6 4	5 3 7 1 8 2 6 4
2 4 1 6 8 3 5 7	3 5 1 7 8 2 4 6	3 5 1 7 8 2 4 6
4 2 6 1 8 3 7 5	3 5 7 1 2 8 6 4	3 5 7 1 2 8 6 4
4 2 1 6 3 8 5 7	5 3 1 7 8 2 4 6	5 3 1 7 8 2 4 6
2 4 6 1 3 8 7 5	5 3 7 1 2 8 6 4	5 3 7 1 2 8 6 4
2 4 1 6 8 3 5 7	3 5 1 7 2 8 4 6	3 5 1 7 2 8 4 6
4 2 6 1 8 3 7 5	3 1 5 2 7 4 8 6	3 1 5 2 7 4 8 6
4 2 1 6 3 8 5 7	1 3 2 5 7 4 6 8	1 3 2 5 7 4 6 8
2 4 6 1 3 8 7 5	3 1 2 5 4 7 8 6	3 1 2 5 4 7 8 6
2 4 1 6 8 3 5 7	1 3 5 2 7 4 6 8	1 3 5 2 7 4 6 8
4 2 6 1 8 3 7 5	3 1 5 2 4 7 8 6	3 1 5 2 4 7 8 6
4 2 1 6 3 8 5 7	1 3 2 5 4 7 6 8	1 3 2 5 4 7 6 8
2 4 6 1 3 8 7 5	1 3 5 2 7 4 8 6	1 3 5 2 7 4 8 6
2 4 1 6 8 3 5 7	1 2 3 5 7 4 8 6 bob.	1 2 3 5 7 4 8 6 bob.
4 2 6 1 8 3 7 5		
4 2 1 6 3 8 5 7	5040 Bob Royal.	
2 4 6 1 3 8 7 5	W M H	W M H
2 4 1 6 8 3 5 7	2 3 4 5 6	4 3 2 5 6
4 2 6 1 8 3 7 5	4 3 6 2 5 s 1	2 5 4 3 6 1 1
4 2 1 6 3 8 5 7	5 6 4 3 2 1 1 1	4 3 5 2 6 s 1
2 4 6 1 3 8 7 5	4 5 2 6 3 1 1	5 4 3 2 6 1
2 4 1 6 8 3 5 7	3 2 5 6 4 1 1	3 5 4 2 6 1
4 2 6 1 8 3 7 5	4 5 3 2 6 1 1 1	4 2 3 5 6 1 1
4 2 1 6 3 8 5 7	3 4 5 2 6 1	3 4 2 5 6 1
2 4 6 1 3 8 7 5	5 3 4 2 6 1	2 5 3 4 6 1 1
2 4 1 6 8 3 5 7	4 2 5 3 6 1 1	3 2 5 4 6 1
4 2 6 1 8 3 7 5	5 4 2 3 6 1	5 3 2 4 6 1
4 2 1 6 3 8 5 7	2 3 5 4 6 1 1	2 4 5 3 6 1 1
2 4 6 1 3 8 7 5	5 2 3 4 6 1	5 2 4 3 6 1
2 4 1 6 8 3 5 7	3 5 2 4 6 1	4 5 2 3 6 1
4 2 6 1 8 3 7 5	2 4 3 5 6 1 1	2 3 4 5 6 1 1
4 2 1 6 3 8 5 7	3 2 4 5 6 1	

Loughborough.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	6 4 8 2 7 1 5 3	7 5 3 8 6 1 4 2
2 1 3 4 6 5 8 7	6 8 4 7 2 5 1 3	5 7 3 8 1 6 2 4
1 2 4 3 5 6 7 8	8 6 4 7 5 2 3 1	5 3 7 1 8 2 6 4
2 1 3 4 5 6 8 7	6 8 7 4 5 2 1 3	3 5 1 7 8 2 4 6
1 2 3 4 6 5 7 8	8 6 7 4 2 5 3 1	3 5 7 1 2 8 6 4
2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7	6 8 4 7 5 2 1 3	5 3 1 7 8 2 4 6
2 4 1 6 3 8 5 7	8 6 7 4 5 2 3 1	5 3 7 1 2 8 6 4
4 2 6 1 3 8 7 5	8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1	3 5 1 7 2 8 4 6
4 2 1 6 8 3 5 7	7 8 5 6 4 3 1 2	3 1 5 2 7 4 8 6
2 4 6 1 3 8 7 5	8 7 6 5 3 4 2 1	3 5 1 7 2 8 4 6
2 4 1 6 8 3 5 7	7 8 6 5 4 3 1 2	3 1 2 5 4 7 8 6
4 2 6 1 8 3 7 5	8 7 5 6 4 3 2 1	1 3 5 2 7 4 8 6
4 2 1 6 3 8 5 7	7 8 5 6 3 4 1 2	3 1 2 5 7 4 8 6
2 4 6 1 3 8 7 5	7 5 8 3 6 1 4 2	1 3 5 2 7 4 8 6
2 4 1 6 8 3 5 7	5 7 8 3 1 6 2 4	1 3 5 2 7 4 8 6
4 2 6 1 8 3 7 5	5 7 3 8 6 1 4 2	1 2 3 5 7 4 8 6 bob.
4 2 1 6 3 8 5 7	7 5 8 3 1 6 2 4	

JOHN CARTER.

The Liverpool Diocesan Guild.

The Annual Meeting of the Guild was held at Ormskirk on Saturday, May 20th, and notwithstanding other attractions there was a good attendance of members. Ringing commenced at 3 p.m., several touches of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES being rung till 4 p.m., when a short service was held in the church, at which the Rev. A. J. Hulley delivered an impressive sermon, which was greatly appreciated by the ringers present. Tea was afterwards provided, followed by the business meeting, at which the Rev. A. J. Hulley presided, supported by Messrs. W. L. Hutton and Martin, and others. The Chairman gave the Guild a hearty welcome to Ormskirk and regretted the absence of the Vicar and the Rev. W. T. Bulpit. The Secretary then read the minutes of the last meeting, and the balance-sheet and Benevolent Fund account, which showed a substantial increase. Both reports were adopted and passed. Mr. Martin (Crosby) was elected treasurer; Mr. W. Bentham, secretary; and Messrs. J. Gardner and Sholicar, auditors. Messrs. Hutton and Martin then addressed the meeting, both gentlemen expressing themselves greatly pleased at the steady increase that had been made; several honorary and performing members were elected, and the usual vote of thanks brought a pleasant meeting to a close.

The Speldhurst (Kent) Ringers' Holiday.

THROUGH the kindness of Miss Rosa Macalpine Leny, the ringers of the above village had a day's trip on Monday, May 22nd, to Richmond, Surrey. The day's arrangements were carried out by Miss Leny personally, accompanied by her brother, the Rector. The start was made from the rectory by brake at six o'clock, to catch the first train up, breakfasting in the train, and arriving at London Bridge at 8.30. The next move was for the steam-boat, and a ride on the water, which was charming; it being fine, warm weather, the river scenes could not but be admired. Richmond was reached at one o'clock, where a substantial luncheon was in waiting. Thanks returned, a move was made for the Public Gardens, Richmond Hill. At the 'Star and Garter,' a peep through the telescope was taken, Windsor Castle being the object. Richmond Park was then entered, the exit being made at Robin Hood Gate for Barnes, to catch a train for London, the party reaching Evans' Restaurant, St. Paul's, at 7.30, where tea was provided. Afterwards to Cannon Street Station for home at 8.42; Tunbridge 10.10, where the brake was in readiness; Speldhurst at 11.10. The members of the above band wish to thank Miss Leny through the medium of *Church Bells* for such a pleasant day's holiday.

CHANGE-RINGING.

At the Parish Church, Gillingham, Kent.

ON Saturday, the 27th ult., eight members of the Kent County Association rang a peal of 5056 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR in 3 hrs. 8 mins. P. Taffs, 1; G. Lindoff (composer and conductor), 2; C. Waterman, 3; W. Kings, 4; W. Baker, 5; W. Easter, 6; W. W. Cooke, 7; W. Haigh, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt. The first peal in any Surprise method by the Association, and the first by all the band and on the bells.

At St. Peter's, Caversham, Oxford.

ON Saturday, the 27th ult., eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of 5040 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR in 2 hrs. 55 mins. H. Simmonds, 1; Rev. G. H. Coleridge, 2; H. Bridgeman, 3; J. Hands, 4; R. T. Hibbert, 5; G. Essex, 6; E. W. Menday, 7; T. Newman, 8. Composed by N. J. Pitstow and conducted by T. Newman. Tenor, 14 cwt., in F sharp.

At the Parish Church, Handsworth, Staffordshire.

ON Monday, the 29th ult., eight members of the St. Martin's Guild (Birmingham) rang Holt's Original peal of 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES in 2 hrs. 49 mins. R. Faux, 1; W. H. Godden, 2; W. Kent, 3; B. Starkey (first peal), 4; S. Reeves (conductor), 5; T. Westwood, 6; W. Verry, 7; W. Painter, 8. Tenor, 12 cwt.

At St. Mary's, Town Malling, Kent.

ON Monday, the 29th ult., a peal of 5040 BOB TRIPLES was rung in 2 hrs. 54 mins. by the following members of the Kent County Association:— J. Capon,* 1; E. Newman, 2; W. Bell, 3; Rev. A. L. Brine,* 4; W. Harden, 5; D. Hall, 6; J. W. Leonard, 7; W. Buss,* 8. Tenor, 12 cwt., in G. Composed by B. Annable, and conducted by J. W. Leonard. All except E. Newman belong to the local company. [* First peal, and at first attempt.]

Continues the 6th twenty-four times right. Rang at Dudley, March 21st, 1893.

Lately the following peals and touches have been rung:—

AT ST. MICHAEL'S, FRAMLINGHAM, SUFFOLK.—On Wednesday, the 24th ult., being the Queen's birthday, a peal of OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR was attempted by the following members of the Norwich Diocesan Association, but came to an end after about an hour's ringing, owing to one of the clock chiming hammers slipping and getting foul of the wheel:—J. Motts (conductor), 1; H. Baldrey, jun., 2; W. Motts, 3; Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, 4; Rev. J. Holme Pilkington, 5; W. G. Crickmer, 6; W. Flory, 7; F. Day, 8. Afterwards several courses and touches were rung of BOB MAJOR, KENT TREBLE BOB, DOUBLE NORWICH COURT, DUFFIELD, and STEDMAN TRIPLES. On Thursday, the 1st inst., the anniversary of the reopening of the bells, the following members of the Framlingham company rang 1440 BOB MINOR (being two 720's called differently) in 59 mins. W. Ostler,* 1; C. Harper,* 2; Rev. J. Holme Pilkington (conductor), 3; A. E. Read,* 4; S. Garnham,* 5; J. Self, 6. [* Longest length yet rung.]

AT WILLESDEN OLD CHURCH, MIDDLESEX.—On Saturday, the 6th inst., a peal of 720 KENT TREBLE BOB was rung by members of the Society of Cumberland Youths, in honour of the marriage of Alfred Pittam (for ten years a ringer at the above church) with Mary Skinner Redman.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, CHESHUNT, HERTS.—On a Sunday evening, for Divine service, 720 BOB MINOR in 27 mins. C. Clarke (first 720), 1; F. Jelf, 2; W. Johnson, 3; G. Green, 4; H. James (first 720), 5; G. Maxim (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 that has been rung on these bells for over twenty years. Messrs. Maxim, Green, and Jelf came from Waltham Cross. Tenor, 21 cwt.

AT BARNET, HERTS.—On a Monday, an attempt for a peal failed. Afterwards some short touches were rung, including 504 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. E. Pratchett, 1; H. J. Martin, 2; J. Nixon, 3; R. Bevan, 4; J. Cawley, 5; C. H. Martin, 6; G. Smith (conductor), 7; F. Blondell and E. Dolton, 8.

AT ISLEWORTH, LONDON.—On a Friday, for practice, 644 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, taken from Holt's Original, conducted by J. Basden; 322, conducted by W. Meaton; and 504, conducted by the Rev. H. Shears. The following, in addition to the above, took part in the ringing:—T. Beadle, G. Ilsley, E. J. Walsom, W. Etherington, W. Fenwick, W. Bishop, and W. Stanney.

An Ancient Bell.

THERE has been brought to light at Forteviot, Perth, a bronze bell of the old Celtic type. It is of the usual quadrangular form, with a strong, heavy handle set on the round top of the bell, so that the upper part of the loop is horizontal and the sides bent inwards. It differs from other bells known in Scotland in having on the centre of one of its flat sides the letter 'M' in relief. Judging from the form of the letter, the bell, it is supposed, might date from about the beginning of the tenth century. It measures eleven inches in height, including handle, which rises two and a half inches above the top of the bell, while its width at the mouth is seven inches. It has lain in the Session House of Forteviot Church for a long time, no one apparently attaching any importance to it until the minister of a neighbouring parish discovered its real worth and antiquarian interest.

Old Ashton (Lancashire) Bell-ringers.

We have been supplied with the following notices of two old Ashton bell-ringers, who departed this life over forty years ago:—

Mr. Aaron Walker, of Charlestown, Ashton-under-Lyne, who died January 30th, 1851, in the seventy-seventh year of his age, and was buried February 5th, was the last surviving member of the Society of College Youths of Ashton, and had been a ringer of the parish church of St. Michael, Ashton, upwards of fifty-seven years. In the course of his lifetime he had rung fifty-seven 5000's and two 7000's besides his ordinary and regular ringing; he was the first man that ever rang the tenor of Ashton single-handed in a 5000. He was borne to his last resting-place by the combined societies of change-ringers of Ashton, Oldham, and Mottram-in-Longendale. On each side of the pall was to be seen hanging his favourite pair of handbells covered with crape, and followed by upwards of 100 relatives. After the interment, the above societies ascended the tower and rang, in a mournful style (the bells being muffled or capped), the last part of a peal of 7001 GRANDSIRE CATERS, the part consisting of 1565 changes, which was brought round in one hour and three minutes; the above 7001 being a peal in which the deceased distinguished himself at the Collegiate Church, Manchester, January 2nd, 1826, the latter part being his favourite peal. He rang his last 5000 in his seventy-fifth year; and, considering the weight of the bell, has never been equalled by any man of his age.

On the 9th inst. (October, 1848), Mr. Samuel Moss, of this town, departed this life, aged seventy-one years. The deceased has been a well-known ringer for the last fifty-four years, and was the last of the Moss family, who had been ringers at Ashton upwards of a century. He was a most able composer and conductor of peals, and was remarkably fond of change-ringing, even at the time of his death. His remains were interred on Monday, the 16th inst., and were followed to their last resting-place by his former colleagues in the science of ringing, who were desirous of paying their last tribute of respect by ringing a muffled peal on the bells of the Parish Church. This, however, was prevented by the churchwardens, although it has always been the custom. We are informed there has been no ringing for divine service on Sundays, at Ashton, during the last three months, the churchwardens having refused to pay the ringers their accustomed salary. It would seem that because they would not ring for nothing they were forbidden to ring on the above occasion. They, however, rang a

muffled peal on the handbells over the grave of their departed brother, and the society of change-ringers at Mottram, hearing that the Ashton churchwardens had denied them the privilege of ringing at Ashton, rang a mourning peal on their church bells to the memory of their departed colleague. Their kindness will be long remembered in thus paying that last tribute of respect to brother Moss, so unkindly denied in his native town.

RECEIVED ALSO:—T. Still, jun. (thanks); and others.

INTERVIEWS WITH OLD PATIENTS OF MR. CONGREVE.

Reports as to various CASES OF CHEST DISEASE.

NOTE. — A Gentleman engaged in compiling and editing various literary works, has been commissioned by MR. CONGREVE to

VISIT OLD PATIENTS,

in all parts of the country, and to report his interviews with them.

TWENTY-FOURTH INTERVIEW.

INTERVIEW with MRS. FRANCIS, of Cherry Tree Farm, Stanway, near Colchester.

[Case first published August, 1888. The patient was then Miss Letitia Germany, of Fordham.]

The drive from Colchester to the little village of Stanway would, I have no doubt, in favourable weather, have been very pleasant; but on the day of my visit, in January, snow was falling fast, the keen north-east wind was blowing, and, in addition, I felt a little uncertainty as to my destination.

Without much difficulty, however, I found Cherry Tree Farm and its mistress, Mrs. Francis, who, until her marriage, had been Miss Letitia Germany, and had lived at Fordham, a few miles away.

In the short chat I had with Mrs. Francis, that lady was good enough to tell me briefly the history of her illness, and her remarkable recovery.

'I had always been delicate,' she said, 'and early in 1885 had an attack of bronchitis, followed by fresh colds. After that I became very ill, and showed all the symptoms of chest disease—the cough, the shortness of breath, severe pains, perspirations, loss of flesh, great weakness, and worst of all, the phlegm mixed with blood.'

'Did you have advice Mrs. Francis?'

'Yes, and the doctor said my lungs were going. Soon I was confined to my bed, and my condition was regarded as hopeless.'

'And then I believe you applied to Mr. Congreve?'

'Yes, on the recommendation of the Rev. W. King, at that time minister of the Countess of Huntingdon's Church at Fordham. After I had commenced Mr. Congreve's treatment I soon began to get better, and in two months was able to get about again. Of course, I kept on with the medicine some time after this—in fact, until I had quite recovered.'

'And have you had any relapse since! I see Mr. Davidson, who succeeded Mr. King, wrote to Mr. Congreve in April, 1888, saying that "Letitia Germany, whose case was considered hopeless, and who in a few months completely recovered, has continued well ever since."'

'That is quite true. I have recommended Mr. Congreve's treatment to others, and have only recently lent his book to a young man a short distance from here.'

Mrs. Francis's mother was present at our interview, and she added her testimony as to the cure accomplished.

'Mr. Congreve did wonders for my daughter after the doctor had given her up,' she said.

'She must have been very ill at that time. Did you think she would get better?' I asked.

'No, that I did not,' was the reply, 'nor did anyone else that saw her.'

Thanking the two ladies for the information they had given me, I left them to pursue the household duties which my call had interrupted, and made my way back to Colchester.

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