

**London Ringers and Ringing in the
Seventeenth and Eighteenth
Centuries**

Volume VI

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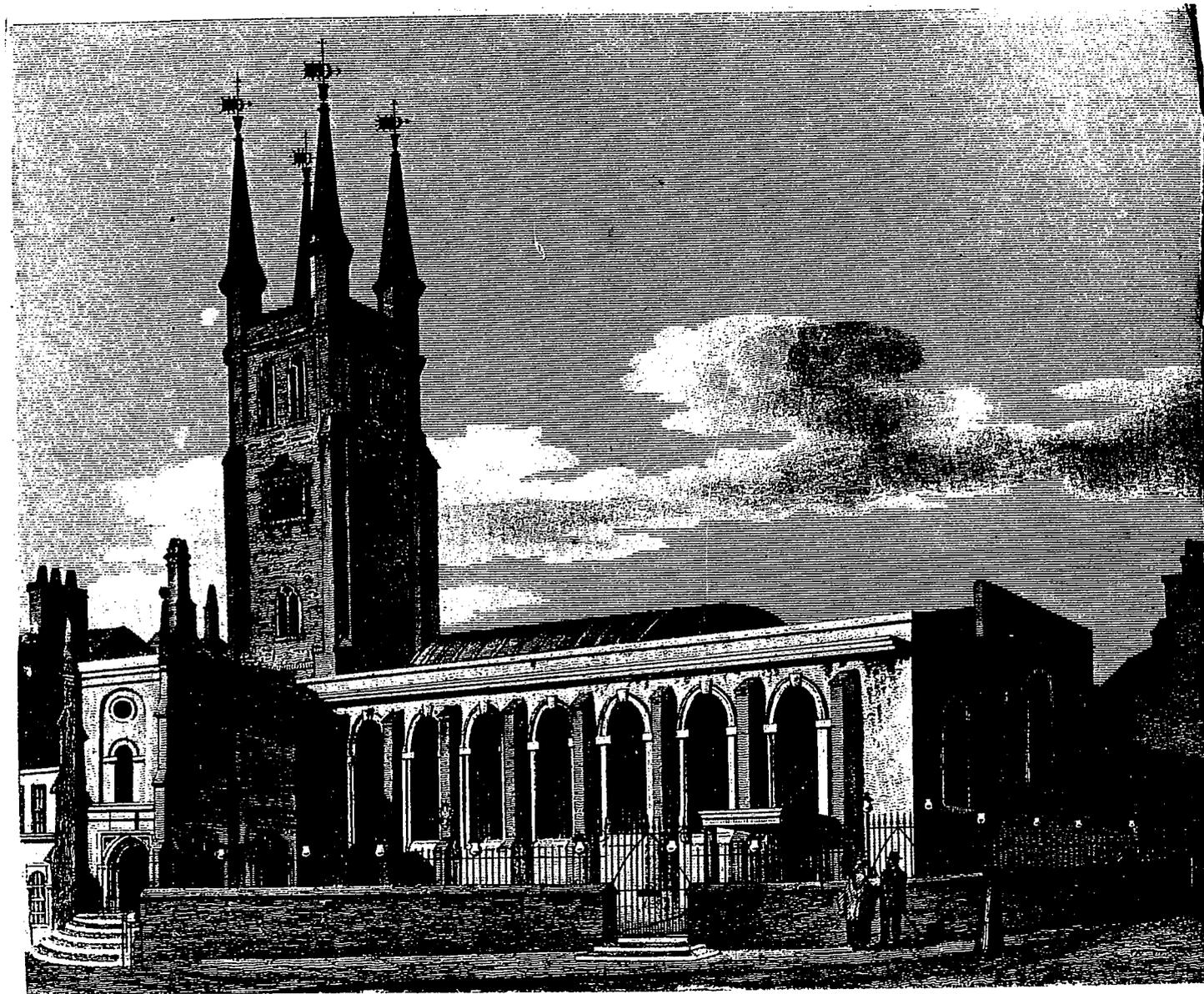


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London
Ringers & Ringing
in the
Seventeenth and Eighteenth
Centuries

By J. Armiger Trollope

Volume VI.

Chapter Eight
Continued

London
Bells and Bell Towers.

1938

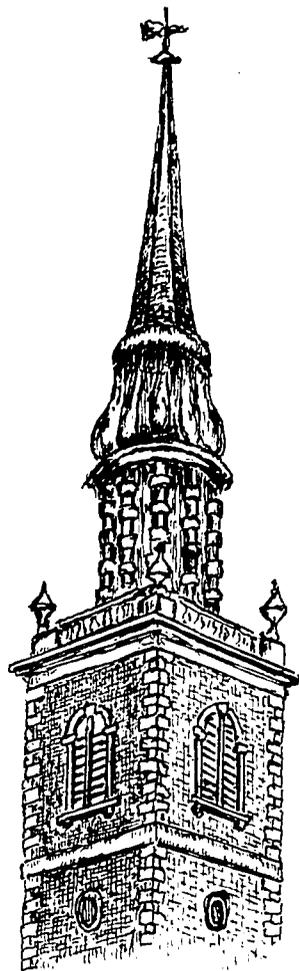
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St. Mary,
Islington,

The Edwardian inventories for the ancient parish church of Islington have not survived but in the eighteenth century there was a ring of six bells in the tower. There in

1734, Laughton and
 the Ramblers rang a
 funeral peal for William
 Abbott - five Grandsires
 and 720 Plain Bob. It
 was the earliest muffled
 ringing of which we have
 any definite account,
 although the custom was
 already an established
 one.



In 1751 St. Mary's church had become
 very much dilapidated and it was resolved
 to pull it down and build a new one. The
 old tower of flint and rubble proved stonger
 than was at first thought, and for a time

resisted all attempts at destruction.

1284

Gunpowder was tried unsuccessfully for it had to be used sparingly; then the building was shored up with timber, the foundations undermined and the wooden supports burnt with fire. The foundation stone of the new Church was laid on August 21st 1751, and the building was finished and opened for public worship on May 26th 1754.

In 1774 the ring of six bells was recast and made into eight at the Whitechapel foundry. The Cumberlands rang the opening peal, one of Bob Major on January 7th 1775; and next day the College Youth's rang 5088 Changes of Oxford Treble Bob Major.

Inscriptions on the Bells.

(685)

1285

1. ALTHOUGH I AM BUT SLIGHT AND SMALL
I WILL BE HEARD ABOVE YOU ALL
2. AT PROPER TIME OUR VOICE YELL RAISE
IN SOUNDING OUR BENEFACTORS PRAISE
3. IF YOU HAVE A JUDICIOUS EAR
YOU'LL OWN OUR VOICES SWEET AND CLEAR
4. TO HONOUR BOTH OUR GOD AND KING
OUR VOICES SHALL IN CONCERT RING.
5. WHILE THUS WE JOIN IN CHEERFUL SOUND
MAY LOVE AND LOYALTY ABOUND
6. IN WEDLOCK BANDS ALL YE WHO JOIN
YOUR HEARTS WITH HAND UNITE
SO SHALL OUR TUNEFUL VOICES SOUND
TO LAUD THE NUPTIAL RITE
7. YE RINGERS ALL THAT PRIZE
YOUR HEALTH AND HAPPINESS
BE SOBER MERRY WISE
AND YOU'LL THE SAME POSSESS.

Tenor. CAST 1808 PRESENT EDWARD FLOWER
CHURCHWARDEN THOMAS WHITEMORE JOHN
BLOUNT EDWARD MARSTON THOMAS MEARS
& SON LONDON FECIT.

Boards at St. Marys, Islington (652)

1286

On Sunday Dec 11th 1791 the Society of Cumberland
Youths rung in this Steeple a Complete Peal of
Oxford Treble Bob being the first on these bells.
Performed in 3 hours 19 minutes

William Stephens	Tide	James Truscoat	5.
John Darby	2.	Will: Gibson	6.
Chas. Cunmor	3.	William Shipway	7
Thos. Norris	4	James Burlers	Tens

Conducted by Mr. William Shipway

On Monday Sept 13th 1802 the Society of Cumberlands
rung in this Steeple a Complete peal of Imperial
Place Major Consisting of 5040 Changes in 3 hours
and 15 minutes being the first ever performed in
this method

Performed by

George G	1	Thomas F	5
Sam ^l : Clewly	2.	John Hensli	6
Willm: Jackson	3	William Shipway	7.
Thos. Harris	4	Thomas East	Tens

Composed and called by W Shipway Author of the
System of Ringing.

Wednesday March 6th 1813 The Society of
Cumberland Youths rung in this steeple a Complete
peal of 5040 of Grandure Triples in 3 hours and
6 minutes

Performed by

Wm Chaplin	1	Ths. Harris	4	Wm Williams	6
Rd Bates	2	Ths. Frith	5	Wm Shipway	7
Jas Golly	3			St Smith	8

Called by Wm Williams

The Society of St James's Juniors.

1287

Thursday, Feb 8th 1838 rung in this Steeple a true and complete Peal of Grandire Triples Consisting of 5040 Changes in 3 hours and 7 minutes by the following members -

Ed. Edmunds	Tull	Geo Pickham	5
Wm. Lobb	2.	Thomas C Page	6.
Charles Clary	3.	Jam ^r . Thomas	7.
Thos. Tolladay	4.	John Bulgin	Tenor.

Conducted by Thomas Tolladay.

A Friendly Society

On Saturday Feb 7th 1857 the following persons rung on the bells in this steeple an excellent peal of Grandire Triples Consisting of 5040 changes in 2 hours and 55 minutes being the first Peal on these bells for a lapse of nineteen years

Nicholas White	Tulle	George Sheritt	5.
John Rogers	2.	Robert Rose	6.
John Melmes	3.	Richard Jones	7
Joseph Cattle	4.	Thomas Smith	Tenor

The above peal was Called and Conducted by John Melmes.

Yeals rung at P. Chauy's
Islington.

1288

1775	Jan 7	5040	Bob Major	Cumberlands.
	8	5088	Gx. T. B. Maj	College Youths
1776	Nov 3	5040	Dbl B. Maj	do
	Dec 15	5040	Gran. Trup.	London Yths.
1777	Mar 2	5040	Bob Maj	College Yths.
1789	Nov 15	5040	Gran. Trup.	Cumberlands.
1791	Dec 11	5280	Gx. T. B. Maj	do.
1797	Jan 9	5040	Gran. Trup.	do.
1802	Sep 13	5040	Imperial Place Major	do.
	Dec 27	6128	Gran. Major	do.
1809	Mar 8	5040	Gran. Trup.	do.
1821	Feb. 6	6208	Gx T. B. Maj	do.
1828	Mar 12	5040	Gran. Trup.	do.
1833	Oct 7	5040	do	do.

St. Mary, Abbot's
Kensington.



The parish of Kensington is mentioned in the Domesday Book and there was a church there before 1102. The manor and the advowson were granted to the Abbot of Abingdon whence came the title by which the church has ever since been known. In 1370 it was wholly or partly rebuilt and at the time of Edward VI there were "three small bells and a saunce bell

in the steeple." The church also 1290
possessed "a sacarynge bell and a hand
bell." The sacring bell was probably
hung on the screen or the wall of the
chancel.

In 1694 the building had become
dilapidated and was pulled down and
a new church of brick erected. It was
badly built and in 1704 had to be
almost entirely reconstructed. As was
the case with so many of the other
Middlesex churches the medieval tower
had been left standing and now
contained a ring of six bells of which
no particulars seem to have survived.
On May 2nd 1692 the parish paid for

ringing when the news came of
 the victory gained by His Majesty at and
 near the Boyne" In 1704 Mr Jackman
 was paid for a barrel of beer for the
 victory over the French and Bavarians.
 The beer cost fifteen shillings and presumably
 was shared by many people. Another
 laconic and regretful entry in the
 parish accounts reads - "For Limerick's
 being taken and 'twas false 18d."

In 1772 the steeple was taken down
 and a new one built and in it
 Thomas Janaway of Chelsea hung a
 new ring of eight bells with a tenor
 about a ton in weight. The sixth
 (the present seventh) bears the couplet

much used by Janaway -

1292

The Runners are our grateful Notes prolong
Apollo listens and approves the Song. -
which has been cited as the "worst specimen
of the taste of the period". The other inscriptions
Musica est mentis medicina (psith) Intactum
piles Percute dulce cano (psith) Be it
known both great and small, Thos Janaway
made us all (tenor) - are much less
objectionable though they fall far short
of the medieval mottoes, and would not
now-a-days be considered suitable.

On the fifth (the present psith) are
the initials E.L. These stand for Edward
Lulham who was Janaway's foreman or
bellhanger. The pinor of the ring of rose
at Trechurst in Sussex which was cast

in 1771 by Janaway has the following

1293

doggerel verse -

This is to show to ages yet to come

That by subscription we were cast and hung

And Edward Lulham is his name

That was the actor of the same.

The first peal on the bells was one of Bob Major by the Cumberland Junks on March 21st 1773 conducted by George Gross. Two men were needed for the tenor. The treble was rung by John Frazer who seems to have had control of the belfry. He joined the London Junks and the next ~~two~~ three peals were by that company, Grandson Triples and Oxford Treble Bob, in 1775 and Union Triples in 1775.

About this time a very excellent band was formed in the district belonging to the "ancient" Society of College Junks. They included William Jones the author

of the Clavis and James Worster.

1294

Worster called five peals of Rob Major at St. Mary's in 1776 and during the following forty years a steady succession of peals was achieved. It was this band which supplied most of the peal ringing energy shown by the College youths during the early years of the nineteenth century when the men at headquarters were getting older and less inclined to start for long lengths. The principal man in the power besides William Jones was Charles Barber a Kensington tradesman who was churchwarden in ⁽⁶⁸⁶⁾1792, and another prominent local ringer was James ⁽⁶⁸⁷⁾Partlett a whip thong maker by trade.

1295

The first five-thousand in the peeples
was Oxford Treble PDB in 1780, Conducted
by John Povey with the younger Muggendage
at the tenor. Ten years later Reeves's
8448 of the same method and a 6720 were
rung and these are the longest lengths
on the bells.

The most interesting performance in the
tower was in 1803 when the whole peal
of Triples on Hedman's Principle as
composed by Mr Thomas Edwards was
completely rung. It was the fourth
five thousand achieved in the method
and the first that we know to have been
true. (192) Barber called it from the sixth
and William Jones rang the fourth. (688) The
treble ringer William Paris was a

1296

Hammersmith man, and the
rings of the seventh Edward Parrell
came from Spitalfields.

Another of Edwards's compositions was
rung - Grandine Triples with a call,
bob, single, or double, at every lead.
The figures of this are lost but, of course,
it was on the 3-lead course plan.

Old Kensington Church was but a
mean and humble structure, and in
1869 it was pulled down and the present
building begun, the tower and spire being
finished ten years later. It is from the
designs of Gilbert Scott and is perhaps
his most ambitious parish church. It
is a very fine building but rather cold
and formal.

When the tower was finished 1297
John Warner and Sons recast the pebble
second and sixth of Janaway's ring
and added a new pebble and pinow, the
latter about 32 cwt. (847)

The present belfry contains the peal
boards from the old tower. When the old
building was pulled down they were
fortunately preserved by Mr. Jubal Webb
who was churchwarden when the bells
were restored and augmented. (689)

The part that Kensington bells take
in the history of the London Exercise
is shown by the fact that from 1773 to 1896
fifty nine peals were rung on them. Of
these forty-three were by the College youths;
eight by the Cumberland youths; four by

the S. James's Society; three by the
London Yachts; and one by the Junior Cumberland
Yachts.

Inscriptions on the Bells. (690)

1299

1. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON THIS BELL
WAS ADDED TO THE OLD PEAL OF BELLS IN KENSINGTON
PARISH CHURCH AD 1879 I INVITE I WARN I REJOICE
I MOURN THE HON^r AND REV^d EDWARD CARR CLYNN
VICAR ROBERT HENRY PEARSON JUBAL WEBB CHURCH
WARDENS REUBEN GREEN VESTRY CLERK.
2. PROSPERITY TO THE PARISH OF KENSINGTON
THO^s JANAWAY FECIT 1772 RECAST 1879 THE HON^r
AND REV^d EDWARD CARR CLYNN (etc as before) CAST BY
JOHN WARNER & SONS.
3. WHEN FROM THE EARTH OUR NOTES REBOUND
THE HILLS AND VALLEYS ECHO ROUND
THO^s JANAWAY FECIT 1772 (etc as Second).
4. MUSICA EST MENTIS MEDICINA THO^s JANAWAY FECIT 1772
5. INTACTUM SILEO PERCUTE DULCE CANO. THO^s (etc as fourth)
6. LET AARONS BELLS CONTINUALLY BE RUNG
THE WORD STILL PREACH^d AND HALLELUJAH^s SUNG
THO^s JANAWAY FECIT 1772 ETL
7. THE RINGERS ART OUR GRATEFUL NOTES PROLONG
APOLLO LISTENS AND APPLAUDS THE SONG
THO^s JANAWAY FECIT (etc as third)
8. YE RULERS THAT ARE PUT IN TRUST TO JUDGE OF
WRONG AND RIGHT
BE ALL YOUR JUDGMENTS TRUE AND JUST REGARDING
NO MANS MIGHT
THO^s JANAWAY FECIT 1772.

9. CAST JULY 1772 BY SUBSCRIPTION JAMES
 WALLER VICAR THOS STOKES & WM SIMPSON
 CHURCHWARDENS JOHN LESSINCHAM ESQUIRE
 TWENTY POUNDS

BE IT KNOWN BOTH GREAT AND SMALL
 THOS JANAWAY MADE US ALL

Tenor. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON
 THIS BELL WAS ADDED TO THE OLD PEAL OF BELLS
 IN KENSINGTON PARISH CHURCH A D 1879
 THOSE EVENING BELLS HOW MANY A TALE
 THEIR MUSIC TELLS THE HON^{ble} AND REVD
 EDWARD CARR GLYNN VICAR ROBERT HENRY
 PEARSON JUBAL WEBB CHURCHWARDENS.

Edward Carr Glynn was afterwards Bishop
 of Peterborough. Robert Henry Pearson was
 head of a well known firm of ironmongers at
 Notting Hill Gate.

Peal Boards at Kensington

1301

On Sunday, Jan^y 16 1774 The Society of London Youths rang in this Steeple the true and complete Peal of Grandure Triples in three hours and 10 minutes it being the first ever rung on these bells

Performed by.

Edw ^d Butler	Treble	Francis Beale	5
Jno Frazier	2.	David Davis	6.
Wil ^m Hadden	3.	Edw ^d Eagin	7.
Tho ^s Groves	4.	Jn ^o Topfield	Tenor

The Peal was Called by John Frazier.

The Whole Peal of Triples on Piedman's Principle as Composed by Mr Tho^s Edwards was Completely Rung in this Steeple Sunday Dec^r 4 1803 by the following College Youths

Will ^m Paris	Treble	Jn ^o Stratford	5.
Will ^m Brooke	2.	Cha ^s Barber	6.
Jon ^o Langley	3.	Edw ^d Barrell	7
Will ^m Jones	4.	Rich ^d Eddes	Tenor

Call'd by C. Barber.

Thursday April 19th a Complete
 5040 Grandiose Tripples with a Call, viz
 B♭ Double or Single Every Treble Leading
 was Performed in two Hours and Fifty
 Minutes by the College Youths

Philip Measly	Treble	John Eddis	5.
Edw ^d Rumball	2.	Chas Barber	6.
Jon ⁿ Longley	3.	W ^m Paris	7.
Will ^m Jones	4.	Rich ^d Eddis	Tenor.

This Ingenious Composition being the First
 on that Principle the Production of Mr.
 T. Edwards.

Seals rung at St. Mary, Abbots.

1303

1773.	Mar. 21	5040	Bob Major	Cumberlands.
1774.	Jan 16	5040	Grand. Trip	London Yths.
	26	5056	Ox. T. B. Maj.	do.
1775	Apr. 25	5040	Union Trip.	do.
1776	Jan 22	5264	Bob Major	College Youths.
	Mar 26	5040	do	do.
1780	Jan 24	6056 (sic)	Ox. T. B. Maj	do.
1781	Oct 31	5040	Bob Major.	do.
1782	Feb 10	5040	do	do.
	Dec 1	5040	Grand. Trip.	do.
1783	Feb 16.	5040	Bob Major	do.
	Sep 21	5104	do.	do.
	Oct 12.	5344	do.	do.
1785	Dec 4	5040	Grand. Trip.	do.
1788		5040	do	do.
1789		5120	Bob Major	do.
1790		8448	Ox. T. B. Maj.	do.
1791		6720	do	do.
1795		5162	do	do.
		5040	Gran. Trip.	do.
1798		5040	do.	do.
1800		5040	do	do.
		5040	do	do.
		5040	Bob Major	do.
1801		5040	Gran. Trip.	do.

1801		5120	Gx. T. B. Maj.	College Youths.
1803		5088	\$ do	do.
	Dec 4 th	5040	Stedman Tr.	do.
1804.		5040	Grand. Trup.	do.
1805.		5040	Bob Major.	do.
1806		5040	Rev. Bob Maj	do.
1808.		5040	Bob Major.	do.
1813.		5088	Gx. T. B. Maj	do
1815		5088	do	do.
	July 7 th	5040	Gran. Trup.	J. Cumberlands.
1818		5088	Gx. T. B. Maj	College Youths.

St Andrew Kingsbury

The ancient church of St Andrew is a small and not very interesting building. It has three bells one of them, the oldest in Middlesex, cast about 1350 by Peter of Weston and inscribed PETRVS DE WESTON ME FECIT. The second is by James Butler 1604, and the third by Samuel Newton, 1708. (1735)

Adjoining the old church is the new church of St Andrew, which formerly stood in Wells Street, London, and was removed stone by stone to its present situation in 1934.

It is a very fine building, one of the best examples of nineteenth century gothic in existence, and possesses a ring of

eight bells which have a definite 1306
place in the history of English bell
casting and tuning.

The founder was Thomas E. Lewis of
Brixton, who was a builder of organs
and a maker of pianofortes, as well as
of bells. He was a man who held very
definite views as to the qualities of tone,
and an artist who would not sacrifice
his artistic ideals to commercial or
financial interests. In bell founding
he held two opinions strongly, both of
which are denied or ignored by the
modern bellfounders. (736)

The first was that a bell should be
cast in the form and with the note that
it is intended finally to produce. After

it has come from the mould it must not be tuned in any way. ⁽⁷³⁷⁾ The second was that the system of tuning which is associated with the name of Canon Simpson is a wrong one.

To cast a maiden bell, one which from the very first was perfect and needed no tuning, was always an ideal of the old founders, and the better the craftsman the nearer he got to the ideal. But there was this disadvantage that bells were sometimes left in a defective state and slightly out of tune so that the founder could claim that they were maiden bells. ⁽⁷³⁸⁾

Lewis did not tolerate defects of tune. If a bell did not come out of the mould with the exact note that was required

he broke it up and cast another;
and it is said that he made more than
seventy bells before he produced eight
for St. Andrew's that satisfied his ear.
Such conscientious devotion to artistic
ideals is beyond praise, but unfortunately
it did not pay, and Lewis was compelled
to give up bell founding after he had cast
a few rings.

The reason given for not tuning a bell
was that a casting when it comes from
the mould possesses a "skin" which is
tougher than the interior of the casting,
and if this skin is removed by the tuning
lathe the bell suffers in tone and
resonance. Modern founders design
their bells so that a certain amount

of metal can be removed by the 1309
lathe and the required notes produced.

Every bell gives not one note but a combination of notes varying in power and prominence. Following Canon Simpson the modern founder recognises five distinct notes in a bell - the strike note, the hum note or octave below, the octave above, the third, and the fifth. If all these notes can be produced correctly the bell will be true to itself, and (say the advocates of this system of tuning), it must be obvious to any one that a bell which gives a common chord will be far more musical than one which gives a number of notes out of harmony and discordant with each other.

The argument seems unanswerable and indeed is now very generally accepted as sound. It is the principle on which all bells to-day are tuned. But it was flatly contradicted by Thomas Lewis and the opinions of such a man are at least worthy of consideration.

There are, he said in so many words, only two notes that you need bother about, the tap tone and the hum tone. "There are many harmonics heard but these we pass by as they are quite subordinate in strength." The first supposition would naturally be that the two principal tones should be in the relation of octaves, but experience does not always teach the same thing as theory, and, as a matter

1311

of face, when in a large bell
the octaves are pure the note produced
is a poor one, ⁽⁷³⁹⁾ and the bell gives unsteady
sounds confused and wavering. "In
defiance of seeming harmony a fine bell
with the percussion or tap tone say E
should have its lower or hum tone a
major seventh below, but flatter to the
extent of about a quarter of a semitone."
and "this flattened major seventh
best pleases the bell sounds and seems
in some way to avoid discordances."

A man who has listened to modern
tuned bells can in many cases easily
recognise what Lewis calls "unsteady
sounds, confused and wavering," but
whether the defect is incidental to five

tone tuning, whether the seventh 1312
hum note is the best way to avoid it, or
whether it can, and is, avoided by other (740)
means, are questions for an expert to answer.

Lewis himself did not in all cases
recommend a flattened seventh hum
note. He pointed out that in small
bells with a note higher than E "the
hum note makes itself as powerfully
noticeable as the tap tone, and it is at
this point quite obvious that the smaller
bells should hum their octaves and in
this way content the ear."

The tuning of bells has led to a great
amount of controversy and differences of (741)
opinion, and probably always will do so,
though the decisive word is obviously

with the bell founders. This thing 1313
however we should notice, that in the older
rings of bells where, either by accident or
design, the hum tones are flattened
sevenths, those notes are seldom exactly
in accord with each other. The other
overtones - higher octave, tierce, and
quint - vary enormously, some being
sharp and others flat. Nevertheless
they do not obtrude themselves on an
ordinary musical ear which does not
deliberately listen for them, ⁽⁷⁴²⁾ and, as
Lewis writes, so far as the outside public
is concerned, they may be ignored. ⁽⁷⁴³⁾ But
when the bell is tuned true to itself they
are often distinctly prominent, and the
effect is that of a number of notes in

accord with each other, and not 1314
of a single note. How far that is an
advantage or a defect must be a matter
of opinion.

The bells of S. Andrew's Kingsbury are
interesting as being a deliberate challenge
to the modern ideas of bell casting and
tuning, and they are quite good enough
to show that their founder had some
reason for the faith that was in him. (744)

The first peal on S. Andrew's bells
was 5088 Kent Treble PB Major rung
on August 6th 1888 by the Cumberlands
and conducted by George Newson. Two
men were needed for the tenor.

St Ann's, Limehouse.

St Ann's was one of the churches built under the Act of Parliament of 1711, the money being provided by a duty on coal and culm imported or brought into the port of London, or the river Thames within the Liberty of the same city." It was designed by Nicholas Hawksmoor, the foundation stone was laid in 1712 and the church completed in 1724.

The chief architectural feature of the building is the lofty and massive stone tower, in which was hung a heavy bell weighing 38 cwt. and probably intended to be the tenor of a ring of eight or ten.

This bell had the inscription —

1316

AT PROPER TIMES MY VOICE ILL RAISE
AND SOUND TO MY SUBSCRIBERS PRAISE

It was cast in 1740 and so, probably was
by Thomas Leslie of Whitechapel. There was
also a priest's bell.

On Good Friday 1850 a fire broke out
which completely gutted St. Ann's Church
and destroyed everything in it, including
the bells, leaving the walls and the tower
alone standing.

1317

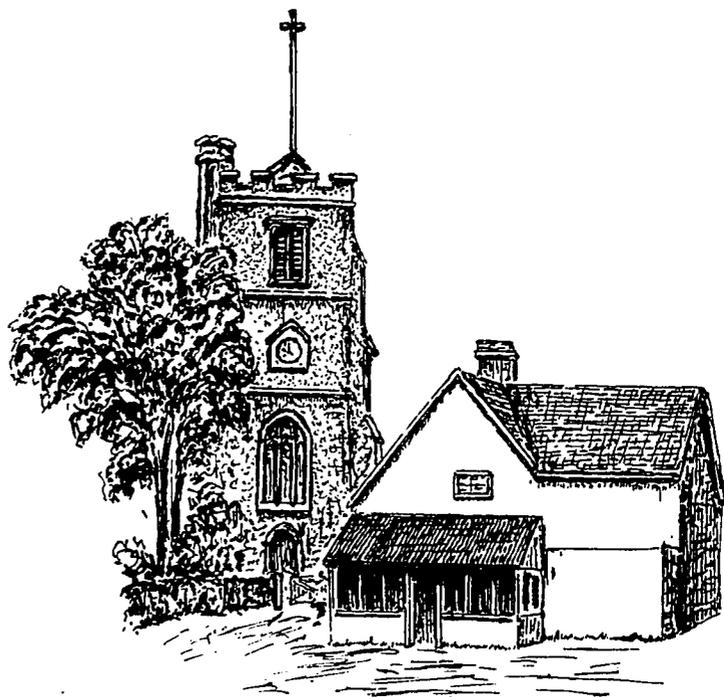
St Mary's Paddington

Paddington Old Church in medieval times was a small building which at the period of the Edwardian inventory had "two bells in the steeple." It became ruinous and was pulled down in 1678. The present church dates from 1791.

St Michael's, Star Street, has a ring of eight by Warners hung in a weak brick tower, and there is a ring of six at St LUKE'S Knutsford Place.

St John
the Baptist,

Pinner.



Pinner was

originally a chapelry

in the parish of Harrow which was under

the immediate jurisdiction of the Archbishops

of Canterbury. The church was consecrated

in 1321. In 1553 there were in the steeple

"vj Bells whereof one is called the Launce

Belle," and in the church ij Hand Bells. (691)

No addition to the number of bells in the

ring was made until 1771 when the present

octave was supplied from the Whitechapel

foundry. The weight of the tenor is
19 cwt.

The Churchwardens' accounts contain many
entries referring to the bells and ringing. The
following are those for the year 1690. (692)

Paid for 3 Ringing days	01. 00. 00.
Paid Henry Coggs for Keying 2 Bells	00. 02. 00
To Henry Coggs for making a new Wheel for ye 2nd Bell	01. 05. 08.
To William Laurence about the Bells	00. 03. 00
To Henry Coggs ye Lesson for rope and looking after ye Clock.	01. 05. 10.

All Saints, Poplar.

1320

Poplar parish church has a ring of ten bells cast at Whitechapel by Thomas Mears ⁽⁸¹³⁾ and rung for the first time on March 25th 1823 at one o'clock in the afternoon on the occasion of the election of the parish officers for the ensuing year. The church was Consecrated on the following July 30th and on that day the Cumberland Youths rang the first peal - 5040 Changes of Grandine Caters conducted by George Gross. Five months later the Junior Cumberlands rang another peal of Grandine Caters for many years the bellry was a stronghold of the senior society.

The most interesting performance in the tower was a peal of Hedman Caters rung in 1846. It had 65 Courses and among

1321

them were the full peal out of
Course fitum Courses with the treble in
seconds place. John Cox had composed
an in Course peal with fifty nine Courses
and had called it for the College Youths at
St. Clement Danes. The Poplar peal was
Haley's attempt to beat it. In 1847 Cox
called at St. James Bermondsey a 6701
without singles and the full peal in Course
Courses save for two Sixes.

Christ Church, Isle of Dogs, which is
in Poplar, has a ring of eight bells,
Tenor 12 Cwt, cast at Whitechapel in 1854.

Peal Boards at All Saints, Poplar. (768) 1322

Society of Cumberlands. On the consecration of this church July 30th 1823 rung a fine and complete Peal of Grandire Caters containing 5040 changes in 3 hours and 27 minutes being the first peal ever rung on these Bells

			Performers		
G. Gross	1.	J. Jones	4.	R. Sherfield	7.
J. Nash	2.	T. Michael	5.	Tom Lupton	8.
T. Gross	3.	H. Burwash	6.	J. Hickling	9.
Called by G. Gross.			T. Wilson Tenor		

Junior Cumberland Society On Monday December 15th 1823 was rung in this Steeple a complete Peal of Grandire Caters containing 5183 changes in 3 hours 28 minutes being the greatest performance ever rung on these bells by ten men only. The performers were

J. Hall	Tulle	J. Austin	6.
H. Williams	2.	J. Harris	7.
T. Merin	3.	T. Betts	8.
J. Blacklock	4.	J. Wedge	9.
J. Thurley	5.	E. Slack	Tenor
Called by H. Williams.			

Cumberland Society. On Monday 1323
 Dec. 5th 1825 the above Society rang a true
 and complete Peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal
 containing 5280 Changes in 3 hours and
 35 minutes. Performers

T. Gross	Treble	W. Atherton	6.
G. Gross	2.	J. B. Arnwell	7.
W. Shipway	3.	E. Foster	8
J. Nash	4.	W. Ludford	9
P. Jones	5.	J. Whiting	Tenor

Conducted by T. Gross.

Society of Cumberland Youths. On Monday
 March 27 1825 rung a true and complete
 peal of Grandure Triples consisting of
 5040 Changes in 3 hours and 12 minutes
 being the first Peal of Triples ever completed
 on these bells.

Thos. Gross	Treble	Edw. Giles	5.
Wm. Hise	2.	J. Rogers	6.
Wm. Atherton	3	Jno Chapman	7.
Chas. Warner	4	Rob ^l Ashley	Tenor.

Conducted by T. Gross.

On Monday March 27th 1826
The above Society rang a true and complete
peal of Grandine Bells containing 5219 Changes
in 3 hours and 35 minutes.

Rob ^o Merfield	1.	Edwd. Giles	6.
Wm. Tree	2.	Wm. Ludford	7.
Jno Chapman	3.	Jno Rogers	8.
Wm. Atherton	4.	Henry Parsons	9.
Chas. Warner	5.	Robt Ashley	Tenor

Composed and Called by R. Merfield.

College Youths
Junior Society of Cumberlands. On Monday
June 25th 1827 the above Society rung in
this Steeple a true and complete Peal of
Oxford Treble Bob Royal containing 5040
Changes in 3 hours and 34 minutes

Performed by

Josh. Harper	1.	Edw ^o Sawyer	6.
Jas. Nash	2.	Saml. Austin	7.
Edwd. Wheel	3.	Edwd. Lansdell	8.
Josh Ladley	4.	John Merren	9.
H. G. Symondson	5.	Wm. Rice	Tenor.

Composed and called by Mr. S. Austin.

5094 for 1st part.

Part 3.

5200 not 5280

H Barnwell on 7th.

Chas Foster on 8th.

Part 4

1826 not 1825

Part 5

Dec 6th not March 27th

Part 7

1828 not 1728

Range of 4th

Josh. Howlett.

Part 8

Range of 5th W H Burwash
9th George Pottier

Society of Cumberlands rung
on Monday November 17th 1728 Mr Hollis
celebrated Peal of Grandsire Triples
Containing 2 doubles in the Last 4 Leads
and 5040 Changes in 3 hours and 8
minutes.

H. G. Whitelocks	1.	Jno Chapman	5.
H. Field	2.	Chas. Warner	6.
Wm Atherton	3.	Edwd. Giles	7.
Josh. Hewitt	4.	Wm. Rose	Tenor

Conducted by E. Giles.

Society of Cumberland Youths. On
Sunday May 30th 1830 the above Society
rung a true and complete Peal of Calers
of Stedman's Principle containing 5392
Changes in 3 hours and 31 minutes. Performers

G. Gross	1.	C. Warner	6.
T. Gross	2.	J. Whiting	7.
W. Atherton	3.	J. Blacklocks	8.
R. Mirfield	4.	T. Potts	9.
E. Giles	5.	W. Rose	Tenor

Called by G. Gross.

Cumberlands Society. 1833 On 1326

May 4th rung in this Steeple a fine and
Complete Deal of Grandeur Patens Containing
5003 Changes in 3 hours and 20 minutes.

Jas Bibbings	Treble	Henry Burwash	6.
Henry Trau	2.	Edward Giles	7.
Robt Ashley	3.	Wm. Field	8.
Wm. Wise	4.	A Frost	9.
Jno Cooc	5.	Jno. Norman	Tenor

Composed and Conducted by Edward Giles.

Society of Cumberlands. on Tuesday
Jan'y 11th 1842 rung a fine and Complete
Deal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal Containing
5440 Changes in 3 hours and 42 minutes

The essent of ten Courses.

Edw Giles	Treble	Wm. Lobb
Jas. Pichbury	2.	Thos. Mitchell
Jas. Hewitt	3.	William Golding
Jno. Wright	4.	Jno. Whiting
Charles Goozee	5.	William Brett.

Conducted by Edw. Giles.

Society of Cumberlands. On Friday, March 17th 1846 was rung in this Peeple A full and complete Peal of Calers on Hedman's Principle consisting of 7025 Changes in 4 hours and 42 minutes

H. H. Haley	Treble	Chas Wilson	6.
H. H. Burwash	2.	Willm. Killitt	7.
Chas. Goozee	3.	Thos Michael	8
Willm. Lobb	4.	Willm. Golding	9
Das Spichbury	5	Willm. Brett	Tenor

The above Peal contains 65 Courses with two Singles one in the 2nd and one in the 62nd there being 60 Courses out of Course with Treble in 2nd place and the 7th 8th and 9th undisturbed, and the first time the extent of 60 Courses has ever been rung; Composed and called by H. H. Haley.

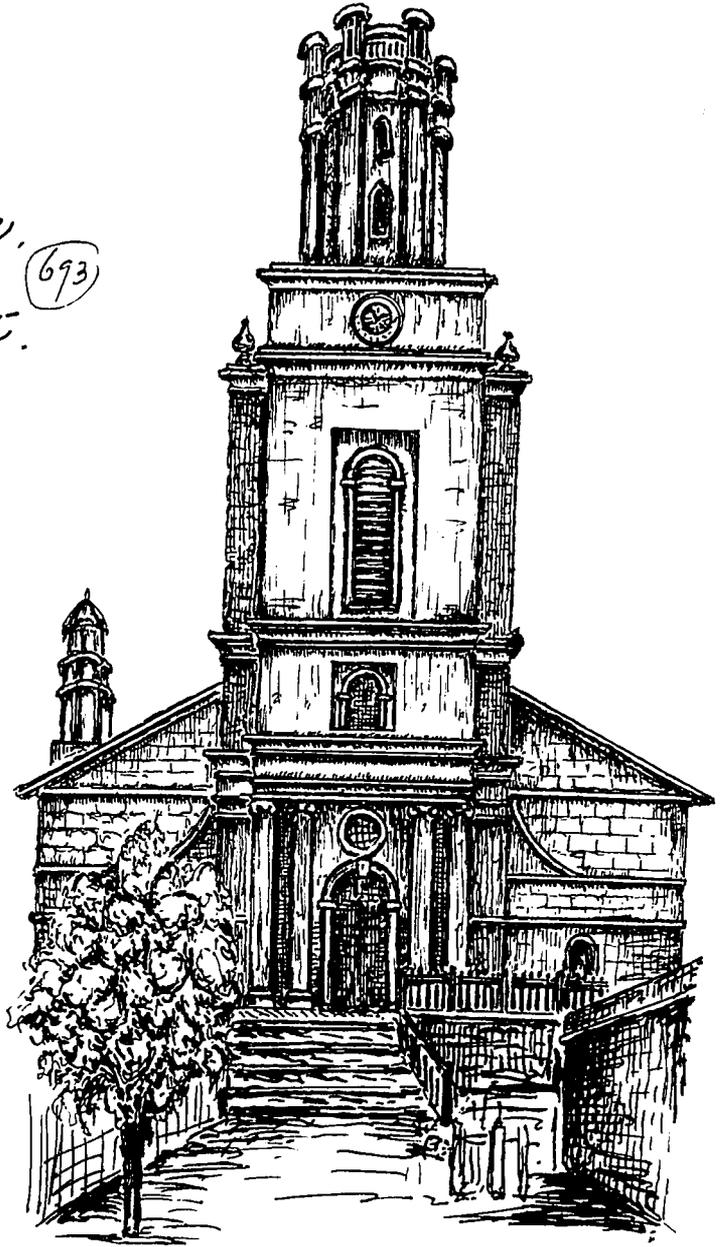
Peals rung at All Saints, Poplar.

1328

1823	July 3	5094	Gran. Caters	Cumberlands
	Dec 15	5183	do	Jr. Cumberlands
1825	Dec 5	5200	Gx. T. B. Royal	Cumberlands
1826	Mar 25	5040	Gran. Trip.	do
	27	5219	Gran. Caters	do
	Nov 4	5040	do	do
1827	Mar 3	5040	do	do
	Apr 24	6101	do	do
	June 3	5040	do	do
	25	5040	Gx. T. B. Royal	Jr. Coll. Youths
1828	Feb 25	5003	Gran. Caters	Cumberlands
	May 25	5147	do	do.
	Nov 17	5040	Gran. Trip.	do.
1829	May 24	5040	Gx. T. B. Royal	do.
	Dec 9	5360	do	do.
1830	May 30	5392	Sted. Caters	do.
1831	Mar 21	6000	Gx. T. B. Royal	do
1833	May 4	5003	Gran. Caters	do
1834	Mar 26	5003	do	do.

St George,
 in-the-East. (693)

The church
 of St George-
 in-the-East,
 or St George's
 Middlesex
 as it was
 frequently



styled, was one of the fifty churches
 which Parliament in the ninth year
 of Queen Anne proposed to erect, and
 was consecrated on June 29th 1729.
 Designed by Hawksmoor and Gibbs,

it is a fine spacious church
and was built regardless of cost. No
part of London has more altered in
character during the last two hundred
years and what is now a squalid
district was then a well-to-do suburb.
As late as the beginning of the last
century the vestry could afford to spend
£4,400 on improving the churchyard
and an equal sum on beautifying the
church and altering the organ, and
to vote £500 for painted windows in
the apse. The tower contains a
heavy ring of eight bells, tenor 30 cwt,
cast in 1751 by Thomas Lester at
Whitechapel. The first peal on

them was 5040 Changes of Rob

Major rung on August 4th 1752 by the Eastern Scholars and conducted by George Sheakins. In the following October George Partrick called 5152 of the same method for the Cumbulands and during the next eight years S. Georges was a popular peal-ringing bellpy with all the leading societies. In 1753 a new society which called itself the London Youth was formed with its head-quarters at the Three Goats Heads in Whitechapel and with S. Mary Matfelon and S. Georges as its principal practice piers. ⁽¹⁹⁴⁾ This Company rang its first peal on January 21st 1753 at the

called belfry. The method was Bob
 Major and a month later they rang one
 of Bob Triples, both being conducted
 by Peter Bailey. The Cumberlands
 rang the first peal of Treble Bob on
 the bells (April 15 1753) and the
 Eastern Scholars the first peal of
 Grand sire Triples. It was conducted
 by William Underwood and probably
 was Hollis Ten-part Composition, though
 it was not until four months later
 that George Partick, (who usually has
 the credit of being the first to conduct
 that peal) called it. Partick called
 another peal of Treble Bob at St. George's
 for the ancient Society of College Juniors
 during his brief sojourn with that

1333

Company. The longest peal on the
bells was 6080 Changes of Oxford Treble
Bob Major rung in 1753. It was the
last peal that Benjamin Annable
called and the last peal rung by
the Society of College Juniors before the
great schism and the rise of the
"junior" society under George Watkins.
After 1760 St. George's bells take little
part in the history of London Change
ringing.

Teal Boards at St. Georges-in-the-East.

(761)

1334

Society of College Youths. On Monday March 11th 1822 the first complete teal of Grandure Triples consisting of 5040 changes on these bells ⁽⁸²⁷⁾ was performed in 3 hours 25 minutes

by four fathers and sons, viz-

Thomas Gross	1.	Jas. Stichbury	5.
George Gross	2.	Jas. Stichbury	6.
John Kerin	3.	Thos. Michael	7.
Benj. Kerin	4.	Thos. Michael	Tenor.

Conducted by George Gross.

Junior Cumberlands Society. On Wednesday January 7th 1824 was rung a fine and complete teal of Bob Major containing 5120 changes in 3 hours 33 minutes being the first in that method and the greatest performance ever completed on the bells ⁽⁸²⁷⁾

Saml. Feecham	1.	Jas Blacklocks	5.
Jno. Kerin	2.	Thos. Betts	6.
Hm. Williams	3.	Jno. Harris	7.
Saml. Austin	4.	Stephen Hedge	Tenor

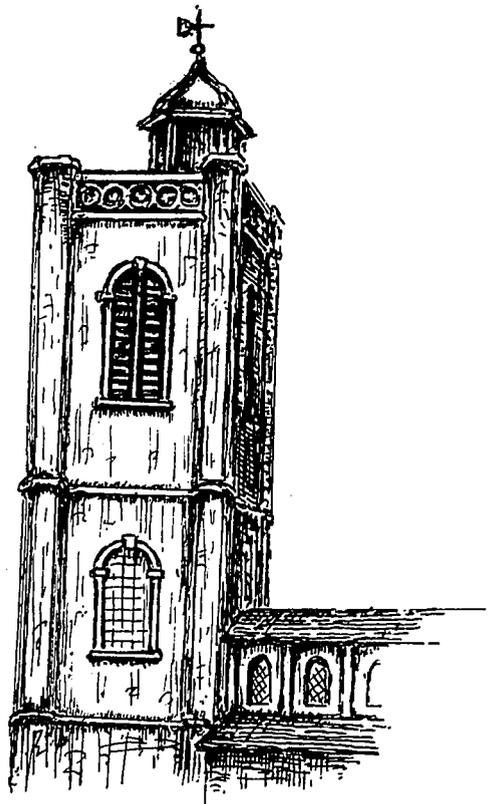
Conducted by H. Williams.

[Now Destroyed.]

Seals rung at St Georges-in-the-East.

1752.	Aug 4.	5040	Bob Major	Eastern Sch.
	Oct. 3	5152.	do	Cumberland
	Dec 3	5040	Double B.M.	Eastern Sch.
1753	Jan 21	5040	Bob Major	London Jtho.
	Feb. 18	5040	Bob Triples	do
	Apr 15	5152	Gr. T. B. Maj	Cumberland
	May 8	6080	do	College Jtho.
	June 3	5040	Bob Major	London Jtho
1754	June 9	5040	Gran. Trip.	Eastern Sch.
1757	July 4	5040	Bob Major	do
	Aug 15	5296	do.	do
1758	Jan 15	5040	do	London Jtho.
1760	Feb 10	5120	Gr. T. B. Maj	"ancient" C.Y.

Saint Giles
in the Fields



Queen Matilda
wife of Henry 1, built
a hospital for lepers
as far back as the
year 1101. The hospital was suppressed by
Henry VIII and the buildings and lands
passed into lay hands but the chapel
still continued to serve the surrounding
population and became a parish church
in 1547. It possessed "a payre of organs
iiij belles wythe a paunce bell," ⁽⁶⁹⁴⁾ and in
their returns to the royal Commissioners
the churchwardens included among their

expenses for the year
1552. Item for making
of a bell whele, ijs viij d,
which shows that the bells
were hung for ringing.

In 1600 the district
was surrounded
by open fields, but
soon afterwards
London began to
push itself outwards



in that direction. A small church was
erected and consecrated on June 26th, 1620
The tower, of which my sketch on page
gives some idea, contained a ring of six
bells put up by Elias Knight in 1635.
(They may have included those from the
old church) In 1685 the two largest
were recast by William and Philip Nighman

the tenor at the expense of the Duchess of Dudley into whose family the old hospital lands had passed, and who had been a great benefactor to the church. By 1700 there were many houses in Drury Lane and by the middle of the eighteenth century the whole of St. Giles' was covered with buildings. They were for the most part a network of mean and sordid streets the haunts of vice and poverty and for long afterwards the district had almost the worst reputation of any in London (The once notorious Seven Dials is in the heart of the parish little more than a stone's throw from the church) It was in Drury Lane that the great plague started in 1664.

The church of 1630 was small and inconvenient, and a century later a

new building had become necessary.

The design was entrusted to Henry Flitcroft a pupil of James Gibbs, and the present building was begun in 1730 and opened four years later. The cost was £10,059.15.9 of which £8000 was granted by Parliament under the act of 1711. The old third and fourth bells were recast and two new trebles supplied by Richard Phelps to complete the octave which still remains in the tower. They are a rather poor unmusical lot but have borne a prominent part in the history of change ringing and several famous peals have been rung on them. In the old tower the first six bells of which we have any notice was rung shortly before 1730. It consisted of fourteen 360's but the particulars of what the

methods were, who called the peal, or what
 the society was are lost. The first peal on
 the eight was 5040 of Plain Bob Major
 rung on March 9th 1736 by the Union
 Scholars and Conducted by John Denmead.
 The following year Annable called 5120
 Oxford Treble Bob for the College youths and
 four months later the Union Scholars rang
 a peal of Triples the name of which cannot
 be made out from the peal book. The
 same society also rang the first peals of
 Bob Triples and Grandine Triples in the
 tower. The latter was the last peal by
 the society before it finally broke up.
 The College youths rang 5280 Morning
 Exercise in 1759 and a month later
 5040 of Double Bob. In 1778 John Reeves
 called 5264 Real Double Bob for the

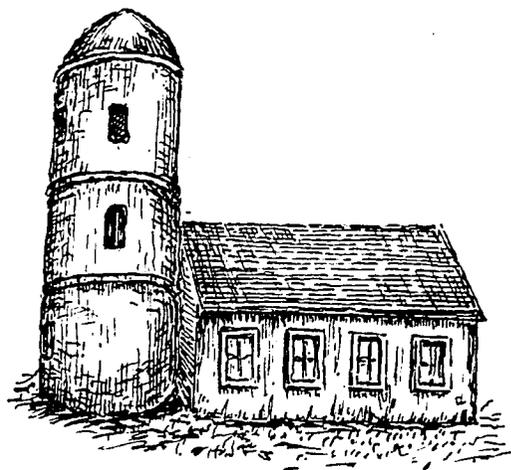
London Youths and in 1780, 5088 of
 Cambridge Surprise for the same society. This
 was the first peal ever accomplished in
 the method but the composition was false
 as was a 5152 rung in the tower by the
 same band in 1783 after they had joined
 the "ancient" Society of College Youths. The
 old Society of London Youths rang in 1782
 a peal in a method they called London
 Union Trebles. The figures are lost but
 probably it was a fairly simple variation
 of Grandeur or Union Triples. On Sunday
 October 23rd 1791 James Bartlett rang
 the peal and called Hollis' Original
 peal of Grandeur Triples. The peal board
 claims this as the first occasion on which
 a man had called this composition while

himself taking part in the ringing,
 but actually the feat had already been
 performed at Norwich and Saffron
 Walden. In 1884 on the ninety-third
 anniversary of Bartlett's feat the Original
 was rung at St Giles' now-conducted for
 the first time. On Wednesday May 22nd
 1799 the Junior Cumberlands rang John
 Noonan's feat of Stedman Triples, the
 Composer calling from the manuscript, and
 not taking part in the ringing. It was
 the first seven-bell feat in the method
 since the two at Norwich in 1731.

Notable feats rung at St Giles in more
 recent times include the first true feat
 of Cambridge Surprise in London (January
 30th 1892 by the Cumberland Youths) the

first feat of Pistol Surprise in London
() and the first feat
ever rung in eleven Spliced Surprise
Major methods. The last two were by
the Middlesex County Association, and
were conducted by William Iye.

Extracts
from Vestry Minutes ⁽⁶⁹⁵⁾



ST GILES, A.D. 1560.

1617. Four persons
appointed by vestry
to inspect the accounts

of Mr Bigg concerning
the charge of building the Steeple and casting
the bells as also of buying some new bells, when
£125-19-5 due to him for money expended thereon
was ordered to be paid

1670. That the care of strengthening the Steeple
for erecting the turret be left to the churchwardens
and that the clock be made to strike on a
bell therein to be hanged and the dyalls painted.

1672 The frame of the bells being found very
defective ordered that contracts be made with
workmen for the repairing or new making
thereof and care to be taken that the turret

of the steeple be fastened if the same should be found to require it.

1685. Care to be taken to get the tenor bell to be new cast.

[Both 7th and tenor were recast in this year at the expense of the Duchess of Dudley]

The Inscriptions on the Bells

1346

1. HENRY GALLEY D D RECTOR THOS COGING
STEP LE BAS CH WARDENS 1736 RD
PHELPS FECIT
 2. HEN GALLEY D D RECT THOS COGING STEP
LE BAS CH WARDENS 1736 RICHARD PHELPS
MADE MEE
 3. PRAYES YE THE LORD CHEARE LI E.K. 1635
 4. HONAR GOD 1635 EK
 5. HEN GALLEY D D RECTOR THOMAS COGING
STEPHEN LE BAS CHURCHWARDENS 1736
RICHARD PHELPS MADE MEE
 - 6 HEN CALLEY RECTOR THOMAS COGING STEPHEN
LE BAS CHURCHWARDENS 1736 RICHARD PHELPS
MADE MEE
 - 7 JOHN BAYLEY AND ROBERT SEXTON CHURCH
WARDENS WILLIAM AND PHILIP WIGHTMAN
MADE ME 1685
- Tenor. THE GIFTE OF THE RIGHT HON THE LADY
DUTCHIS OF DUDLEY JOHN BAYLEY AND
ROBERT SEXTON CHURCHWARDENS 1685
WILLIAM AND PHILIP WIGHTMAN MADE ME

Peal Boards formerly at St Giles in the Fields

This Memorial is transcribed, to perpetuate to posterity one of the most intricate performances ever achieved in the campanian art by any ringing society whatever namely a peal consisting of 5152 changes of Cambridge Surprise which was rung in 3 hours and 30 minutes by the following members of this Company.

Charles Purses	Table	Thomas Buegin	5.
Richard Wilson	2.	John Anderson	6.
Robert Tye Donkin	3	John Reeves	7
Thomas Blakemore	4	Allen Grant	Tenor

The above was composed and conducted by Mr. John Reeves.

Sunday, April 28th 1781 The Ancient Society of College Youths did ring in this Steeple a complete peal of 5040 Bob Majors with the 6th twelve times wrong and twelve times right in 3 hours and 10 minutes.

William Mitchell	1.	William Jones	5.
Thomas Blakemore	2.	John Reeves	6.
William Wheeler	3	George Webb	7.
David Nothre	4.	Thomas Morris	8.

[The board was almost illegible when this copy was made and some of the particulars (c.g. the date) are certainly incorrect. The names are from the peal book.]

The Society of London Youths rung
in this Speele on Sunday Dec: 26 1782 the
whole Peal of 5040 London Union Trebles in
3 hours and 20 minutes being the first Peal
of that Method. The Performers were -

Robert Reynolds	1.	William Waterlow	5.
Ch: Goddard	2.	John Goddard	6.
Leonard Butler	3.	John Frazer	7.
John Dastin	4.	John Brown	8.

The Peal was Composed and Called by St. John
Frazer.

[The date was Saturday Dec 28 according to the fest. book]

Tuesday March 29 1785 The Ancient Society
of College Youths rung in this Speele a fine
and compleat Peal of Goxford Treble Bob consisting
of 5088 Changes being the most in 13 Courses
with the Sixth 12 times wrong and 12 times
wright. The performers were -

George Webb	1.	Daniel Jenkins	5.
George Byers	2.	Jeremiah Headman	6.
Thomas Blakemore	3.	William Lusans	7.
Thomas Morris	4.	William Lowndes	8.

The Peal was Completed in 3 hours 29 minutes
and was Composed and Called by Tho: Blakemore

St James's Society. On Thursday March 5th
 1844 eight members of the above Society
 rung in this Steeple a fine and Complete
 Peal of Grandire Triples Consisting of
 5040 changes in three hours. The

performers were -

J. Pratt	1.	R. Turner	5.
C. Clay	2.	C. Andrew	6.
J. Mc Gill	3.	R. Hawthorn	7.
G. Stockham	4.	J. Mason	Tenor

Conducted by G. Stockham.

Peal Boards still in the Belfry.

1350

Sunday October 2nd 1791, the Society of College youths did ring in this steeple the whole of the 5040 Grandnie Tripples as composed by Jno. Holt, in one continued course with two Doubles in the last four Leads. Called by Jas Bartlett being the only man that ever rung and called this very difficult composition.

Charles Barber	Treble	William Jones	5.
William Paris	2.	Jonathan Langley	6.
William Kirke	3.	James Bartlett	7.
William Brown	4.	Christie. Hatford	Tenor.

Cumberland Youths Junior Society

This Tablet is dedicated to the above Society in Commemoration of a performance not to be surpassed by any that profess the Magnetic Art. Namely the whole peal of tripples on Headman's principle containing 5040 changes in 2 hrs and 50 mts.

This intricate but truly admirable Composition for a series of years being industriously pursued by all Composers of eminence in this noble Science and by all pronounced impracticable was at length with 732 Bobs and 22 Doubles acquired by the Celebrated Mr. John Noonan who conducted the above Unparalleled Masterpiece of Campanisticians Fame.

Society of College Youths. The following members rang in this Steeple on Wednesday Sep. 8th 1852 a Complete Peal of Kent Treble Bob Major Consisting of 5088 Changes in 3 hours and 9 minutes being the first of that Composition in this Steeple. The performers were

J. Rogers	1.	G. Stockham	5.
R. Jameson	2.	Wm. Lobb	6.
R. Haworth	3.	J. Cox	7.
J. Mash	4.	C. Andrew	Tenor

Composed and Conducted by J. Cox.

Early Deals rung on the Bells of St. Giles in the Fields

1352

		5040	14 360's Minor	
1736	Mar 9	5040	Bob Major	Union Sch.
1737	Oct 2	5120	Ox. T. B. Maj	College Youths
1738	Feb 26	5040	Triples	Union Sch.
1744	Mar 4	5040	Bob Major	Eastern Sch.
1747	Nov. 1.	5040	Bob Major	Union Sch.
1752	Sep 25	5040	Bob Triples	do.
1755	Nov 2	5024	Ox. T. B. Maj.	Cumberlands
1757	Dec 18	5040	Grand. Trip.	Union Sch.
1759	Oct 7	5280	Morning Ex.	College Youths
	Nov 4	5040	Double Bob	do
1761	Jan 18		Ox. T. B. Maj	Cumberlands.
1775	Dec 12	5120	Bob Major	London Youths
1778	Jan 11	5120	Ox. T. B. Maj	Cumberlands
	Feb 22	5056	Bob Major	London Youths
	Mar 12	5264	Real Double Bob	do
1780	Jan 30	5088	Cambridge S.	do
1781	July 29	5152	Bob Major	do
1782	Dec 28	5040	London Union Triples.	ancient London Y.
1783	Feb 23	5152	Cambridge S.	ancient C.Y.
	Mar 4	5088	Bob Major	ancient L.Y.
1784	May 6	5040	Bob Major	College Youth
1785	Mar 29	5088	Ox T. B. Maj	ancient C.Y.
	Aug 28	5040	Bob Major	do.

St Luke's Old Street.

St Luke's was one of the twelve churches built in the reign of Queen Anne by money voted by Parliament. It was designed by George Dance the elder, and was finished in 1733. On May 23rd in that year the vestry ordered that one large bell not exceeding thirty hundredweight and not less than seventy hundredweight be provided. ⁽⁶⁵³⁾ " This bell is reckoned a miracle in bell founding. It came out of the casting pit in a different tone from what was intended and though the weight is only 28 cwt. odd, it has the depth and nearly the power of a bell of 40 cwt. " ⁽⁶⁵⁴⁾

St. Mary,
le-bone.

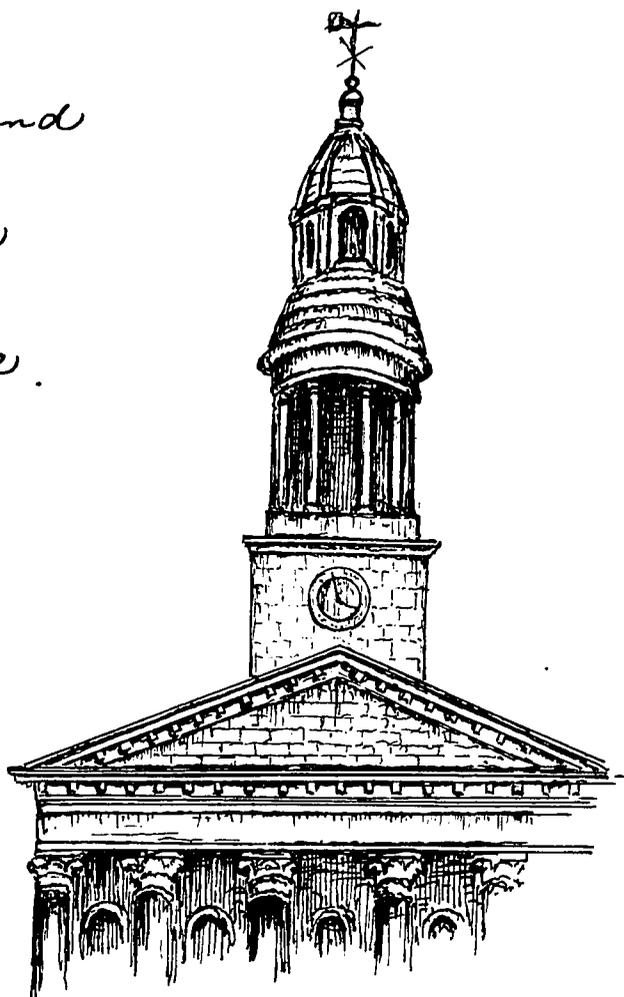


In the reign of Edward VI "the parson of
Marston" possessed "two Cyttell bells in
the steeple and a hand bell." (696)

The earliest Church was dedicated to
St. John and stood at the corner of what is
now Spitalford Place. In 1200 the Bishop
of London granted licence to the inhabitants
on their petition to remove the parish Church
called the old Church of Trybourn to a new
site. The new Church stood for upwards
of three hundred years until in the early

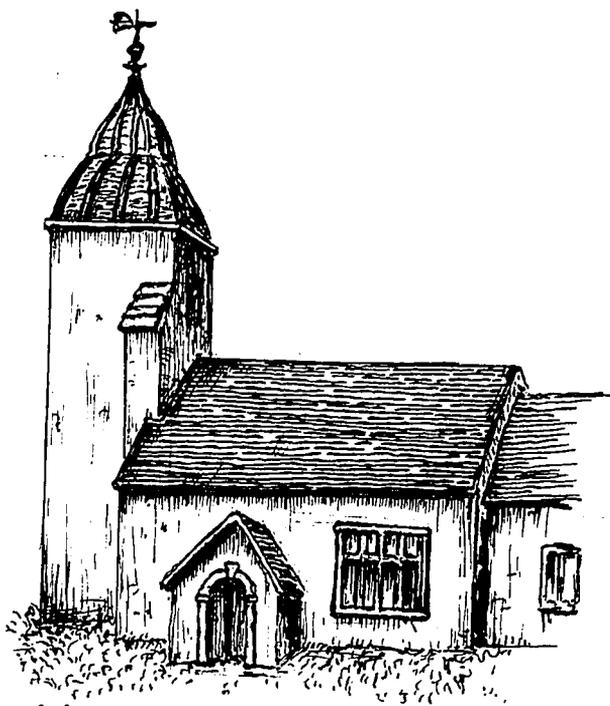
eighteenth century it became dilapidated and the present church in High Street Marylebone was built in 1741.

The population of the parish rapidly increased and in 1816 the church in Marylebone Road



was erected at the expense of the parishioners and consecrated on February 4th 1817. The cost including site was £72,000.

St. Pancras.



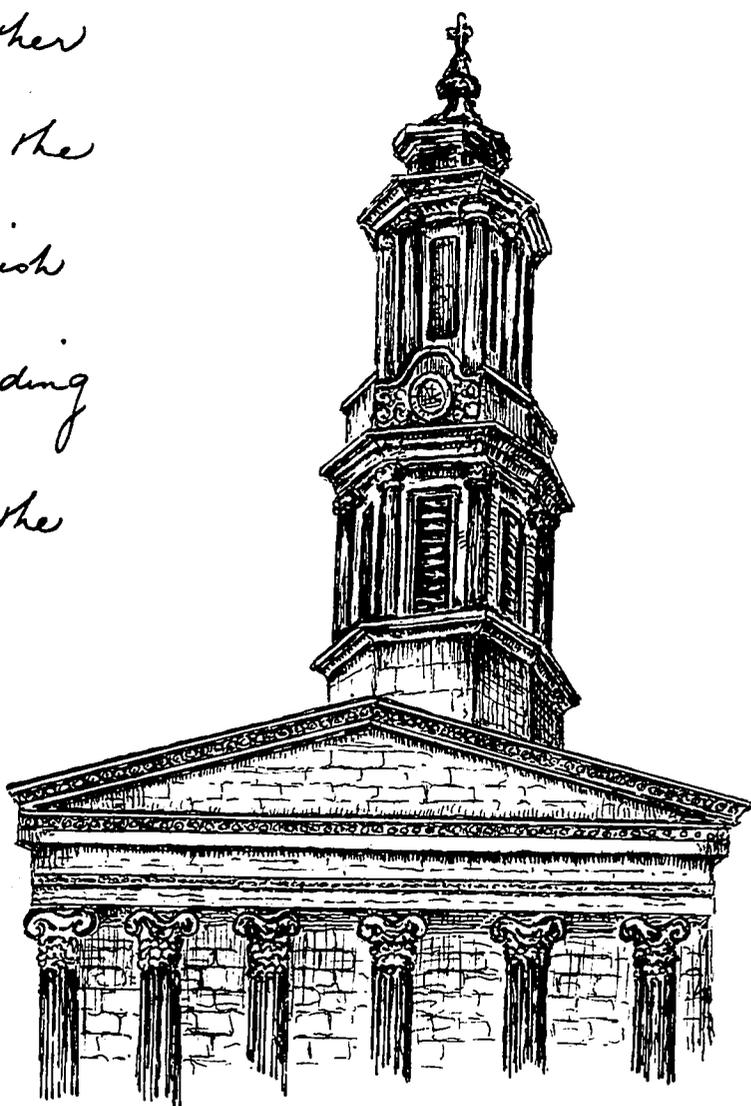
"Pancras Church

standeth all alone as utterly forsaken, old, and weather beaten, which for the antiquitie thereof it is thought not to yield to Pauls in London." ⁽⁶⁹⁸⁾ In the Edwardian inventory it is called St. Pancras-in-the-Fields and is returned as having "three bells in the church steeple." ⁽⁶⁹⁷⁾ The building was enlarged and reconstructed in 1848 when the tower was pulled down.

In the early years of the nineteenth Century

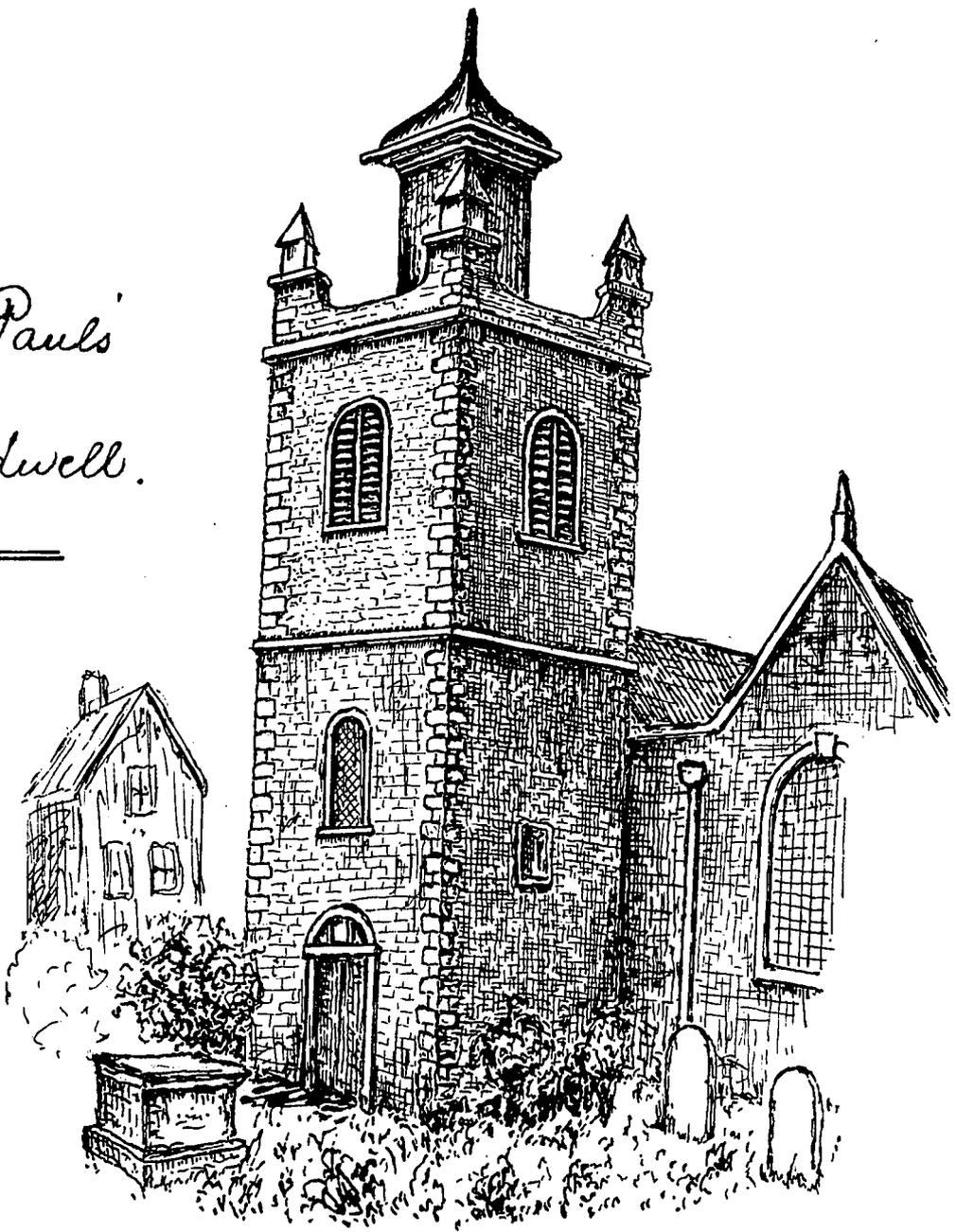
The Church had become altogether too small for the needs of the parish and a new building was erected in the Euston Road.

It was consecrated in 1822 and cost over £80,000 to



build. It is modelled on the ancient Temple of Erechtheus at Athens, the steeple being copied from the Temple of the Winds. There is a ring of eight bells but they are hung dead.

St Paul's
Shadwell.



Shadwell was made a separate parish
from Stepney, by Act of Parliament in 1669
St Paul's Church had been built in 1656
during the time of the Commonwealth,

and owing to the ecclesiastical
 Conditions of the time was not consecrated
 until 1671. It was a poor and mean
 church, "a most disgraceful building
 of brick pitifully unworthy of description,"¹⁶⁹
 but it had a tower and six bells. Here
 in 1733 Laughton and the Ramblers
 sang 720 of College Single Minors.

In 1820 the present church was built,
 one of those erected by funds voted by
 Parliament, and the bells were recast
 and made into a ring of eight with a
 16 cwt. tenor by Mears of Whitechapel.

The first peal in the tower was one of
 Grandire Triples by the Junior Cumberlands
 on Tuesday, October 2nd, 1821 conducted
 by William Williams. In 1829 the

same society rang 5200 changes.
of Oxford Treele Bob Major.

1361

St Leonard,
Shoreditch

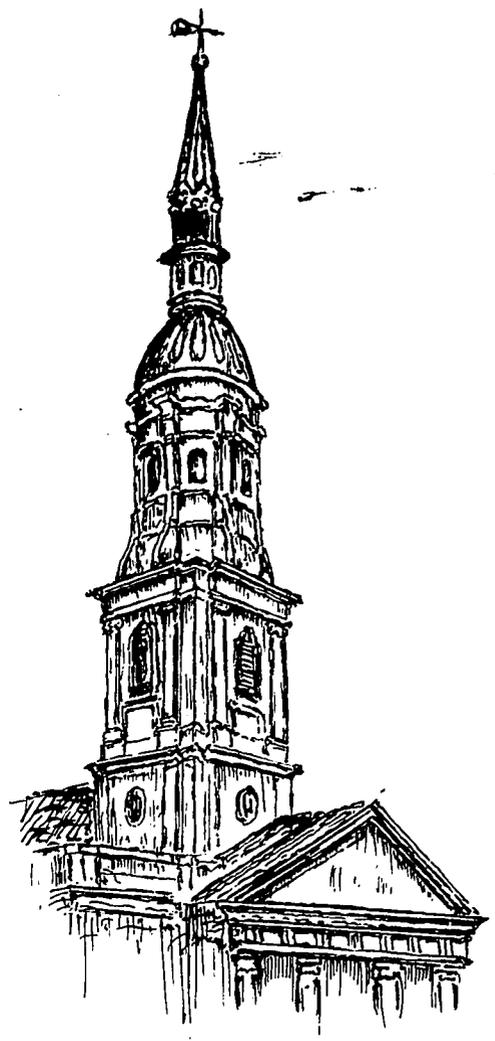


No record exists of the founding of the ancient church of St. Leonards though it is stated by Ellis to have been of Saxon origin. It was a small building 75 feet long with a steeple without buttresses and in the 17th century with a weatherboarded top surmounted by a cupola containing a

small bell which originally, no doubt was the sanctus bell.

The inventories made in the reign of King

Edward VI are missing and we do not know



how many bells the church possessed at that time, but at the end of the sixteenth Century there was a ring of five for these were the bells which Elizabeth so much admired.

Later on it seems they did not keep their good reputation for when Laughton and the Ramblers visited the place in 1734. He found them not extraordinary; the second

and third being bad, though the others pretty well told their tale. By that time the Church was in a very ruinous and dilapidated Condition. In 1716 during divine service one of the Corners of the pews gave way and caused great alarm among the Congregation so that they rushed in panic to the doors and injured each other in their struggle to escape. A year later part of the top of the steeple was carried away in a great storm so that the bells were exposed to view. After that the bishop notified the parishioners that they must either repair the Church or rebuild it. In 1735 an Act of Parliament was obtained appointing trustees and authorising them to cause the said parish

Church and the steeple thereof to 1365
be pulled down and rebuilt after such
model and of such dimensions and such
material and in such manner as by the
said trustees should be agreed upon

The foundation stone of the new Church
was laid on November 13th, 1736 and the
first service was held on August 23rd

1740 The work cost nearly £7,500 and
the trustees borrowed the money and
granted annuities secured by the rates.

George Dance was the architect and in
designing the tower and spire he obviously
copied Wren's masterpiece at St. Mary-le-
Bow but it is less elaborate and in
many ways inferior to the older steeple
Wren's towers in all cases rise straight

and that gives them a unity of 1366
design which is lacking when the tower
rises from above a portico

In the estimates for the new church
a ring of eight bells was included
The old five were a fairly heavy lot,
the tenor being 18 cwt; and these sold
brought in £219. 1. 3; fines paid by
parishioners to escape service in parochial
offices contributed £81. 15. 8; and £499. 8. 1
was raised by voluntary subscription,
making a total of £800. 5. 0. Thomas
Lester cast the new bells. It was the
first ring cast by him on his own account
and he was so pleased with the honour
conferred on him that he gave £10 to the
poor of the parish. In 1765 Lester and

Gack added two pebbles, and in 1807
 Thomas Nears added five more to make
 the complete twelve. The latter were the
 gift of the Society of Cumberland Jurists.
 It is said that the amount had to be
 collected since as the appointed treasurer
 absconded with the first amount. In
 1823 the five pebbles had to be recast;
 the penon was recast by Nears in 1826,
 and again by Plews in 1875; in 1913
 the four smallest bells were recast by
 Warner and the whole ring set in
 a steel frame at a cost of nearly £500.

The first peal on the bells was one
 of Double Bob Major by the Eastern
 Scholars in 1741 and during the rest
 of the eighteenth century the bells took

a very important part in the history of London change-ringing. It was here that Arncliffe ring his last peal; the belfry was the regular practice place of the Society of Cumberlands and the scene of the memorable long peal contest between them and the College Juniors.

At the base of the tower in the Central entrance lobby of the church are two fine peal boards. The first consists of a copper panel with gilt writing on a black background, and surrounded by a gilt carved frame. It records the 12000 Change of Great Treble Bob Royal rung by the Cumberlands in 1784. The other written in gilt on a black background enclosed within a carved frame records two peals

ring by the College youths in ⁽⁷⁰⁰⁾ 1777. 1369

The oldest board in the belfry is for a peal of New Bob Triples rung by the Society of Cumberland Youths in 1750 and conducted by George Partick. Two other boards which were formerly in the tower are now in the belfry of St. Martins-in-the-Fields.

Boards at St. Leonards.

1370

On Wednesday, March 28th 1750 the Society of Cumberland Youths rung in this Steeple a true Peal of New Double Triples it being the only Peal that was ever Completed in that method and was performed in Three hours and half by ye following persons, viz.

John Gable	1.	Jno Furlement	5.
William Mathies	2.	Saml. Haddon	6.
Wm. Thronton	3.	George Partick	7.
Wm. Lister	4.	Chas. Hart	Tenor.

Saturday March 27 1784 the Society of Cumberland Youths rang in this Steeple a Compleat peal consisting of 12000 Changes of Treble Bob Royal with 60 Courses and was performed in 9 hours and 5 mins. The length of time and the masterly manner in which it was rung will remain a surviving honour to the performers It is allowed by all competent judges in the noble art to be the greatest performance ever done on ten bells. The performers were

Geo. Gross	1.	James Partick	6.
James Barnard	2.	Wm. East	7.
Francis May	3.	Abraham Smith	8.
Thos. Reeves	4.	Malachi Channon	9.
Isaiah Bray	5.	Allen Grant	Tenor.

Composed and called by George Gross, senr.

College Jousts.

This Peal was erected by the Society to
 Commemorate an excellent peal rung in
 this steeple on the 18th of February 1777
 Consisting of 10,000 Changes of Oxford
 Treble P.D., ten in, and was Completed
 in 7 hrs. 28 mins. This Curious Composition
 the great length of time, and the masterly
 manner in which it was rung may justly
 Entitle it the most excellent performance
 ever achieved from the first invention of the
 ingenious art of ringing to the present time

- | | | | |
|------------------------|----|-------------------|-----|
| Winstanley Richardson, | | Joseph Shonts | 6. |
| James Darquill, | 2. | William Lyford | 7. |
| Wm. Hatt, | 3. | Joseph Holdsworth | 8. |
| Chas. Purser | 4. | Edmund Lylveston | 9. |
| John Povey | 5. | Samuel Muffridge | 10. |

Insatiated with glory the above select performers
 on the 19th of May 1777 rang a Compleat peal
 of 11,080 Changes in the above method in 8 hrs.
 2 mins. Which will be transmitted to posterity
 as a masterpiece of the art. The above peals were
 Composed and Called by C. Purser.

Cumberland Youths. This inscription 1372
 will add to posterity the record of a Peal that
 was rung in this Steeple 7th of April 1801 of
 5220 Changes of Kent Treble Bob Royal in
 3 hours and 37 minutes being the first that
 was ever rung by any Society in that method

George Gross Sen. 1.		John Hints 6.
George Gross Jr. 2.		Malachi Channon 7.
James Nash 3.		Thomas Reeves 8.
Will ^m Shepway 4.		Samuel Cowling 9.
John Holdsworth 5.		Walter Stephens Tenor.

Composed and Called by Mr George Gross.

Cumberland Youths. On Tuesday 26 February
 1805 the above Society rung in this Steeple
 a true and complete Peal consisting of 6129
 Changes of Stedman Caters being the most
 ever rung in that intricate method, in 4
 hours and 12 minutes. The performers were

G. Gross 1.		J. Jones 6.
Will ^m Shepway 2.		W. Richardson 7.
S. Cowling 3.		Jno. Hints 8.
W. Bland 4.		Antny Cavalier 9.
J. Spickbury 5.		J. Pilgrim. Tenor.

The above peal was composed and called by
 Mr G. Gross.

Peals rung at St Leonard's Shoreditch

1741	Mar 1	5040	Double B. Maj	Eastern Sch.
1746	Jan 5	5040	Bob Major	do
	12	5120	Gr. T. B. Maj	Coll. Yths.
	Oct 20	6832	Bob Major	Eastern Sch.
1747	Dec 27	5040	Eastern B. Maj	do
1748	Nov 19	5040	Bob Maj	Cumberlands
	22	5040	Double B. Maj	do
1749	Jan 23	5488	Bob Maj	do
1750	Mar 28	5040	New B. Trip	do
1752	Oct 17	5120	Gr. T. B. Maj	do
1753	May 12	5040	Cumberland B.	do
	Oct 4	5040	Bob Maj	Eastern Sch.
1754	Jan 1	6160	Dbl B. Maj	Cumberlands
	Oct 12	5040	Gran. Trip	do
		5040	Bob Major	Mixed.
1756	Jan 1	6080	Gr. T. B. Maj	Cumberlands
	19	5040	Bob Major	London Yths.
	Aug 21	5040	do	Cumberlands
1761	Jan 26	5760	Cumb. Fancy	do
1765	Sep 29	5112	Grandson Calpers	Coll Yths
1765	Dec 8	5202	Dbl Gran. Calpers	Coll Yths.
1766	June 29	5435	Gran. Calpers	London Yths.
	Oct 14	5112	do	Cumberlands
	19	6000	Gr. T. B. Royal	Coll. Yths.

1767	Jan 17	6200	Gx T.B. Royal	London Y ^{tho}
	Apr 6	7080	do	Cumberlands
1768	Nov 9	5120	Double B. Ryl.	London Y ^{tho}
1769	Sep. 10	5058	Rev. G. Calers	Coll. Y ^{tho} .
	Oct 8	5076	Gran Calers	Cumberlands
1770	Jan 21	5040	Gran. Calers	
			New Double	do.
1773	Apr 24	5039	Gran Calers	do
	Nov 13	7001	do	do
1777	Jan 19	6240	Gx. T.B. Royal	do
	Feb 18	10.000	do	Coll. Y ^{tho} .
	Mar 12	5080	do	Cumberlands.
	Apr 5	8120	do	do
	May 10	10.200	do	do
	19	11.080	do	Coll Y ^{tho} .
1778	May 19	5120	do	do
1779	Dec 11	5040	Gran. Calers	Cumberlands
1781	Mar 24	5040	Bob Royal	do
	Dec 24	5120	Gx. T.B. Royal	do
1782	Nov 23	5040	Gran Calers	do
1783	Oct 13	6000	Gx. T.B. Royal	do
1784	Mar 15	5075	Gran. Calers	London Y ^{tho} .
	27	12.000	Gx. T.B. Royal	Cumberlands
	Nov 9	5381	Gran Calers	Jr. Cumberlands
	Dec 27	5039	do	do
1785	Feb 14	5040	Bob Royal	do
1786	Oct 9	5040	Gx. T. R. Royal	do.

1786	Dec 26	6410	Union Calers	Cumberlands.
1788	Mar 31	5040	Gx. T. B. Royal	do
	Aug 22	5184	Med. Calers	do
1790	Jan 4	5040	Gx. T. B. Royal	College Jths.
1794	Mar 4	5021	Gran. Calers	Cumberlands
	Dec 13	5200	Cumberlands Royal T. B	do
1796	Nov 12	5129	Gran Calers	do
1798	Mar 10	5093	do	do.
	Oct 15	6480	Gx. T. B. Royal	College Jths.
1799	Feb. 4	5080	do	Cumberlands
1800	Feb. 1	5111	Gran Calers	do
1801	May	5000	Gx. T. B. Royal	do
	Apr 7	5220	Count B. Royal	do
	Oct 31	5080	Gx. T. B. Royal	do
1802.	Feb 12	5040	do	College Jths.
	Nov. 20	5004	Imperial Place Calers	Cumberlands
1803	Feb 22	5024	Gx. T. B. Major	do.
1804	Nov 17	5039	Gran. Calers	do.
1805	Feb 25	6129	Med. Calers	do.
1807	Nov 30	5390	Gran Cinqes	do.
1809	Dec 9	6000	Gx. T. B. Masc.	do.
1813	Jan 9	5039	Gran. Calers	do.
	Dec 11	5057	do	do.
1814	Nov 7	5040	do	do.
1815	Mar 18	5200	Gx. T. B. Royal	do.

1817	Jan 28	5147	Gran Caters	Jr. Cumberlando
	Feb 15	5039	do	Cumberlando
	Dec 13	5000	Gx. T. B. Royal	do.
1820	Nov 25	5120	do	do.
1823	May 19	5213	Gran. Cingues	do.
1824	Jan 3	5039	Gran Caters	do.
1826	May 6	5040	Gx T B. Nas	do.
1830	Feb 22	5040	do	do.

B1Shopsgate 8849.

9. June 30.

THE BELL FOUNDRY,
WHITECHAPEL ROAD,
LONDON, E.

My Dear Gouge

Many thanks indeed for
the interesting record of 2 pituffels old
eight. It must have been a rather
exceptional order in those days, & they would have
been cast at the old Foundry opposite.
Phelps moved over here in 1438.

In a book I have here, is an entry
under Sep: 25. 1801

"Spittelfields - 2 Nicobles
2' 8" + 2³/₄
+ 2³/₄

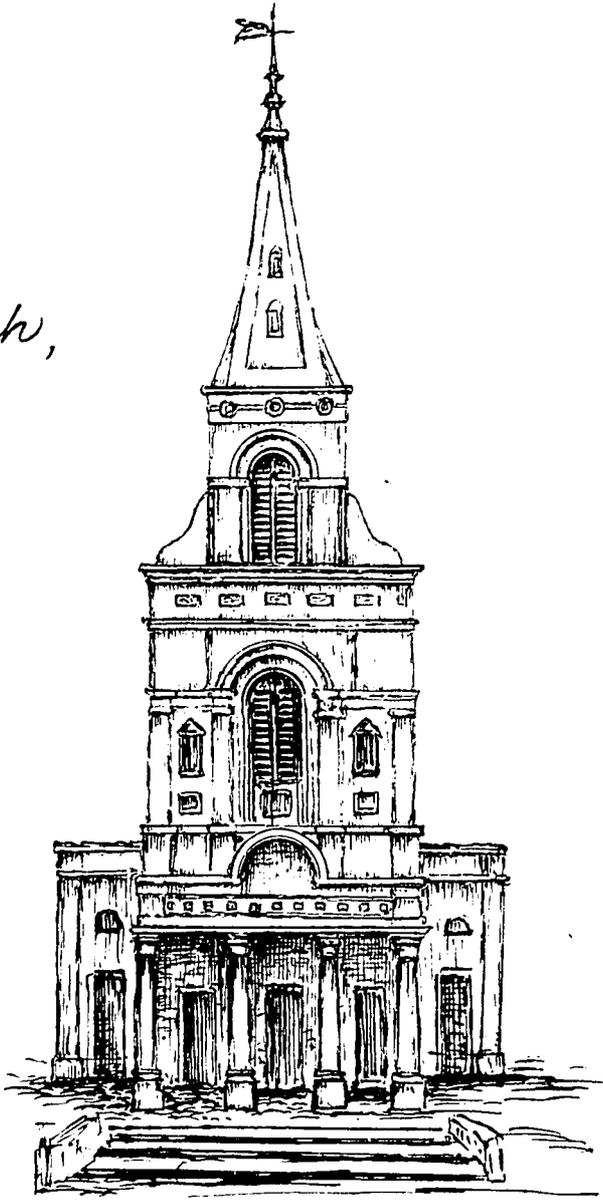
The true diameter is obtained by a blot.
With a 30 cent lens, such measurements
would be 1/2000 of a meter. As it knows
when the old 12-Dee pen was used
I have heard that you talk about
being on the old 12.

Best regards

Yours

W. W. Hughes

Christ Church,
Spitalfields.



Spitalfields
originally
part of the
parish of
Stepney,

got its name
from a priory and hospital commonly
called S. Mary's Spital. After the revocation
of the Edict of Nantes in 1685 large numbers
of Huguenots emigrated to England and
settled in this district where they followed

1378

the trade of silk weaving. The
silk and gold and silver stuff and
ribbons made here was said to equal
any made in France. By the time of the
reign of Queen Anne the population had
increased so much that when the Act of
Parliament of 1712 was passed, one of the
new churches was allotted to this district
and a new parish formed out of Stepney.
Its Parliament was finding the money
Everything was done on a grand scale.
The new building designed by Nicholas
Hawksmoor cost £14.418-3-6, and the
site cost £1260. These are large sums for
the time. The architecture of the church
has been criticised as being too heavy

but it certainly does not lack a 1379
11
certain massive grandeur. It was
consecrated by the Bishop of London on
July 5th 1729.

To Mr Wheatley, a wealthy parsonage,
promised to give a ring of eight heavy
bells and on December 20th 1729 the Universal
Advertiser and Weekly Journal announced
that "Mr Phelps the famous Bell Founder
in White-chappel has Orders to cast a Set
of Eight Bells for the New Church in
Spittle Fields. The Timber Work and Frame
are now making in the Rectory of the said
Church. The Tenor is to be 36 hundred
weight." (701)

The weight of the tenor has always been
given as 44 Cwt. in C# and though it is
impossible to be quite sure, since the

foundry records were destroyed
 by fire, it is probable, judging from the
 weights and sizes of the two trebles
 supplied in 1801, that that weight was
 correct. (702)

The first recorded peal on the bells
 was 5120 changes of Greatford Treble Bob
 Major rung on February 23rd 1735 by the
 Eastern Scholars. Philemon Mainwaring
 called the bobs and rang the tenor.
 This was an outstanding heavy
 bell performance for it was not until
 the present century that a ~~heavy~~ heavier bell
 was turned in to a peal of Major.

But Spitalfields tenor must have gone
 very well for her weight. The year following
 John Trenchell rang it to a "fine" peal

of Treble Bob with a band of
 College Youths. Twenty years later in 1760
 a band belonging to the "ancient" Society
 of College Youths, with the elder Samuel
 Mugggeridge, rang 5120 changes of Treble
 Bob; and a week later their rivals, the
 "junior" College Youths beat it with a peal
 6080 changes. Joseph Monk rang the
 tenor. In its turn this was beaten by
 the Cumberlands who on December 3rd
 1785 rang 6400 changes with Robert Mann
 at the tenor. It is worth ^{noting} that all these
 peals were rung in the winter time, and
 that when Laughton and the Ramblers
 visited the belfry in the summer of 1734
 he complained of the bad going of the bells.
 Christ Church bells were increased

to ten in 1787, and on June 25th 1382

in that year the Cumberland Youths rang
5201 changes of Grand sire Calers. Two men
were needed for the tenor, and the peal
was conducted by Thomas Blakemore,
who owing to the troubles and disputes
which were wrecking the "ancient" Society
of College Youths, had come for a few
months to the Cumberlands. The same
society rang the first peal of Royal on the
bells, - 5446 changes of Treble Bob in 1789.

Like the neighbouring tower of St. Leonard's
Shoreditch, Christ Church Belfry was the
scene of several interesting contests between
rival bands. In 1793 the College Youths
rang 6280 changes of Treble Bob Royal
and the Cumberlands immediately followed

with 6060. In 1796 the junior

1383

society of Cumberlands rang the first
seven-thousand on the bells, and in the
next year a 6003 of Hedman Caters.

This was the longest peal at the time in
the method, but the composition by John

Stornan was a false one. Stornan

in 1804 called a notable peal, the first

of Double Norwich Court Bell Royal

ring away from Norwich.

In 1801 the ring was increased to

twelve. The Cumberlands rang 5170 of

Grandfire Cinques on March 5th 1804,

and a month later 7104 of Goxford

Treble Bell Maximus, repeating their

performance of two years previous at St.

Saviour's Southwark. James Martineau

rang the tenor to both peals and 1384
they are outstanding heavy bell feats.

In 1805 a match, with a purse of one hundred guineas, took place between the Norwich Scholars and a band picked from the London ringers, which was ~~not~~ won by the provincial men, who scored a seven thousand of Royal. The tenor proved too much for Charles Purser who collapsed after ringing four thousand changes, and so lost the match for the Londoners. (703)

In 1806 the two societies of Cumberland and Yorks were contending for the honour of ringing the first peal of Stedman Cinques on the bells. The peals started on December 13th for a purse-thousand,

and got out after ringing upwards
 of 5500 changes; two days later the juniors
 rang a peal of 5086; and five days after
 that the first band were successful in their
 long peal attempt (704)

After this we have no record of any peal
 rung in the tower for over twenty years
 with the exception of one of Treble PB
 Maximus by the College Juniors in 1808;
 but in 1829 the Cumberland Juniors scored
 5015 changes of Grand sire Lingues, and
 that was the last peal on the twelve
 bells.

For many years Charles Tursen had
 charge of the bells and belfry. He was
 followed as steeple keeper by Edwards
 Parrell another well known ringer who
 lived at 16 Union Street in the parish.

and had rung the tenor to the Court Bob Royal in 1804. ⁽⁷⁶⁵⁾ He, in turn was followed by a man named Dawson, who died at the end of the year 1835.

The appointment of his successor was in the hands of the vestry and the churchwardens refrained from filling up the vacancy pending the meeting of that body at the ensuing Easter.

Meanwhile the parish beadle had the charge of the bellry. He knew nothing about the bells and cared less, and he employed or allowed a number of the young ringers of the district to do the service chiming. They were a somewhat undisciplined lot of young fellows, and though, for very good reasons, no names

1387

are mentioned, it is pretty certain
that they included men who were afterwards
known as the leading ringers of London.
They turned the belfry into a sort of club room
where they met and spent their time talking
and smoking and, no doubt, handbell ringing
which was becoming very popular among
the ringers of the district. It was a plate
of things which the church authorities
would not have tolerated for a moment
had they known of it; but apart from
the disastrous sequel it is impossible
to say that there was anything particularly
morally wrong about it. It was winter
time and to warm themselves they made
a fire in a brazier. (707) On Wednesday

February 17th 1836 they spent some time in the belfry and then hearing some person come into the tower, and fearing to be caught where they knew they had no business to be, they pushed the lighted tories behind the tenor box and decamped.

Later in the afternoon someone saw smoke coming from the belfry windows and raised an alarm. The engines were soon on the spot, but owing to the height from the ground the water could not reach the fire, and the firemen confined their efforts towards saving the church, which they did mainly by cutting away part of the roof. At

1389

stiff wind was blowing and the
fire burnt fiercely. As the floors, beams
and frame perished the bells crashed
to the ground and every one was broken
or melted. By seven o'clock the fire
was stopped when the tower was completely
gutted.

The parochial surveyor reported that
besides the destruction of the bells, the
roof of the church was partly burnt,
the organ so damaged as to require
reconstruction, the clock and chimes
destroyed, the massive steeple entirely
burnt out, and the stonework of the
interior materially injured. Churches
in those days were not insured

against fire and the damage
had to be repaired by public subscription
and the restoration could not be done
on the same lavish scale as the church
was built. The twelve bells were not
replaced but enough metal was
salvaged from the debris to make the
present ring of eight the tenor of which
is 34 Cwt.

The cause of the fire was never officially
known. The beadle had good reason
to keep his mouth shut, and the fear
of consequences was enough to slip the
tongues themselves from talking. Even
Osborn, who, as secretary of the Society
of Cumberland Friends, had as good

1391

Had as good an opportunity as anyone for learning the truth, only knew that the fire was caused by some boys who smoked in the belfry. But many years afterwards men like Matthew Wood and Henry Haley and their friends used to tell what happened, and perhaps we may be sure that they gained their knowledge from something more than hearsay. (708) (793)^a

The new bells were cast in 1837, but evidently they did not go too well, and it was not until 1845 that the Cumberlands rang the first peal on them, one of Grand sire Triples with five men to the tenor. Shortly afterwards eight College

Youths rang another peal of 1392

Grandsire and when they published the report in *The Era* they added - "It is only fair to remark that this is the first peal on the bells rung by eight men only, another society having failed to do so with the same number of men after several trials, and having only accomplished the same peal, after much trouble with nine men." But a year

later the Cumberlands rang 5280 changes of Kent's Treble Bob Major single handed.

In 1850 both societies rang a peal a peal of Widman Triples on the bells and in 1851 the College youths rang the first row Concluded peal ever accomplished.

1393
A local builder had offered a
prize of £5 to the first band who should
perform the feat.

Record formerly in the Belfry. (708)

1394

This drawing is in commemoration of an excellent Seal sung at this church by a Friendly Society on Sat^d February 28th 1804 consisting of 5040 changes of Count Bob Royal in 3 hours & 37 minutes. This great performance (being the first in this critical method) is highly esteemed for the correct striking and Harmony it produced and cannot be equalled but by the same exertion & perseverance which must ever reflect Honour and Credit to the Performers

Thomas Smith,	1.	Anthony Cavalier,	6.
James Gurner,	2.	William Troup,	7.
Joseph Ladley,	3.	Charles Barber,	8.
William Beard,	4.	John Noonan,	9.
John Reeves,	5.	Edward Bartell,	Tenor

The above Seal was composed & called by Mr. Noonan

Peals rung at Christ Church
Spitalfields.

1395

1735	Feb. 28	5120	Oxford T.B. Maj	Eastern Scholars.
1736	Feb. 26	5120	do	College Youths.
1752	Feb. 11	5040	Bob Major	Cumberlands.
1755	Jan 6	5040	Bob Triples	do.
1760	Mar 10	5120	Ox. T.B. Maj	College Youths
	18	6080	do	do.
1765	Nov 17	5040	Double Triples	do.
1769	Mar 13	5040	Grandsire Trip.	Cumberlands.
1775	Feb. 28	5152	Ox T.B. Maj	do
1785	Dec 3	6400	Ox. T.B. Maj	do
1787	June 25	5201	Grand. Caters	do.
1789	Jan 10	5440	Ox. T.B. Royal.	do.
1793		6280	do.	College Youths
	Apr. 15	6360	do.	Cumberlands
1796	Jan 20	7001	Grand. Caters	Jun? Cumberlands
1797	Nov 13	6003	Stedman Caters	do
1799		5160	Ox. T.B. Royal	College Youths
1801	Dec 7	5040	do	Cumberlands.
1804	Feb 28	5040	D.N. C.B. Royal	Friendly
	Mar 5	5170	Grand Cingues	Cumberlands
	Apr 14.	7104	Ox. T.B. Masc	do
1806	Dec 15.	5086	Stedman Cingues	Jun? Cumberlands
	20	6334	do	Cumberlands
1808		5040	Ox. T.B. Masc	College Youths
1829	Feb 10	5015	Grand. Cingues	Cumberlands
1845	Dec 29	5040	Grand. Trip.	do
1846		5040	do	College Youths

1850	Jan 22	5040	Stedman Trp.	Cumberlands
		5040	do	College Youths
1851	Jan 31	5040	Grand Trp.	do.

1805 Nov 5 7000 (app) Ox T. B. Royal Norwich Sch.
 (See The College Youths by J. A. Trollope p. 73).

Peal Boards at Spitalfields.

1397

Cumberland Society. On Monday December 29th 1845, the underated members of the above Society rung in this Steeple a true Peal of Grand sire Triples Consisting of 5040 Changes, in 3 hours and 24 minutes, being the first Peal on these Bells.

William Lobb	Tulle	Richard Perry	5.
James Stickbury	2.	William Kelleth	6.
Charles Goozee	3.	Charles Wilson	7.
Joseph Wright	4.	Thomas Michael	} Tenor
		James Bachelor	

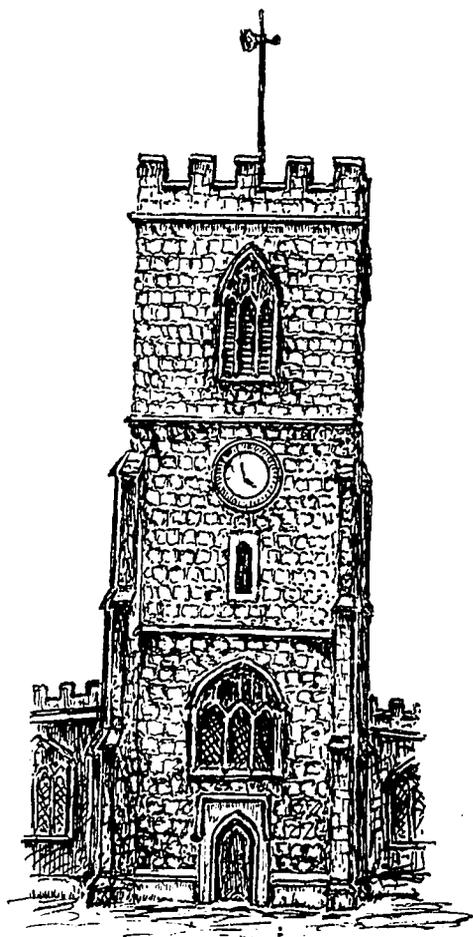
The Peal Consisted of 190 Cobs and 46 singles and was Concluded by William Lobb.

Society of College Youths. Nov 30th 1846. This Peal is erected in Commemoration of the first Peal on these bells by eight persons only Consisting of 5040 Changes of Grand sire Triples in 3 hours 37 minutes. Performed by

Ch. Clay	Tulle	Thos Burton	5.
Jas Graft	2.	Richd Tanner	6.
G. Stockham	3	Ri. Haworth	7.
Jas Crane	4	C. Medlow	Tenor

Conducted by Mr G. Stockham.

St Dunstan,
Stepney.



In the year 1700
the eastern suburbs
were about as different
from what they are
now as they very well could be. Instead
of an unbroken mass of mean and uninteresting
streets stretching from the City to the River
Lea and far beyond into Essex, the district
was mainly open Country, corn fields and
orchards dotted here and there with villages
and hamlets. On the outskirts of the City

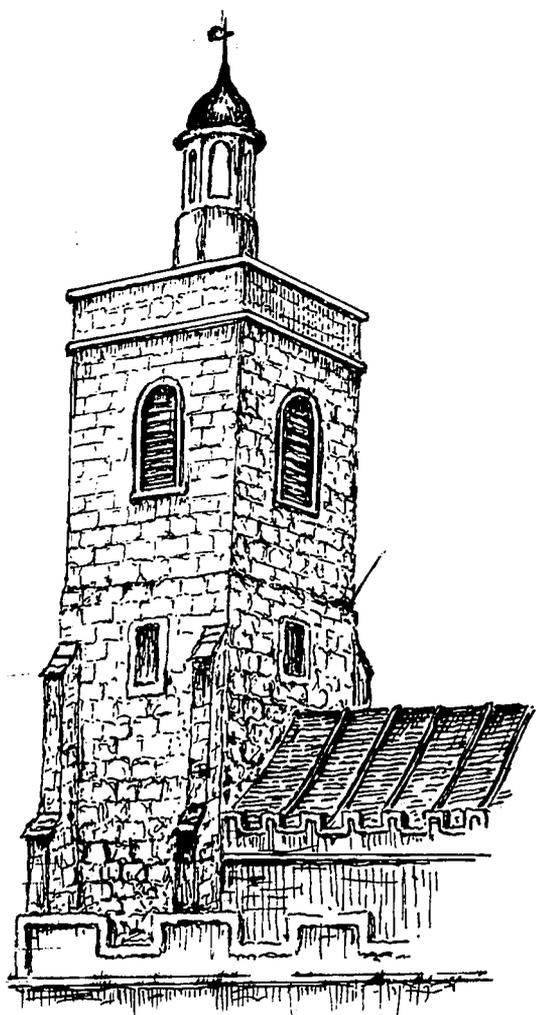
from Aldgate round about
 Houndsditch and Petticoat Lane, and
 parts of Spitalfields there were foul slums
 inhabited by Jews and foreigners and
 along the riverside there was a very
 low class district. Mr Justice Withens
 in one of his obiter dicta from the Bench
 expressed his scornful wonder at there
 being a sober Wapping man.

The parish of Stepney or Stebunhithe
 as it was formerly called covered a
 large part of the area. The village was
 round the green and the parish church, and
 there were hamlets at Bethnal Green,
 Shadwell and other places, and along

The main road eastward from Aldgate there were houses far beyond Whitechapel Church.

The parish church of St. Dunstan was of ancient foundation and the building as it now stands was erected at different times during the fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth Centuries. The tower dates from the late fifteenth Century.

When the Priory of The Holy Trinity was dissolved in 1540 four of its bells were sold



ST DUNSTAN'S IN 1791.

1401

to Steyney. ⁽⁷¹⁰⁾ The present tenor has a remarkable inscription containing 118 words and 518 letters recording its history. Originally given to the Priory by a Nicholas Chadworth in 1386, it was recast in 1604, 1764, 1799 and finally in 1806. Another recasting not mentioned took place in 1599.

The Edwardian inventory has not survived but evidently at the end of the sixteenth century there was a heavy ring of five bells. "on the xth day of february 1598 at a meeting of the vestry men then and there it was agreed amongst them as followeth - First that the great bell be forth wth cast and that evy fishoner wth in the same shall give towards the

same one yeres few rent over
 and besides their q̄rs rent now due. And
 evy peshioner that hath no few appointed
 for him or her shall pay viijd according
 to the ancient custome of this fish over
 and besides his or her quarterly dues
 now or hereafter due and payable." (711)

The response of the parish was slow, the
 money did not come in at all well, and
 it was not until the April of the following
 year that it was decided to give the order
 for recasting to Laurence Wright. Wright
 seems to have done his work no better than
 at Hellingdon and St. Michaels Cornhill
 for the bell was again recast in 1604.

"The xxix of April 1599. It was ordered
 and agreed that day and yere above

written by Mr Bludder, Mr Thos Jones
 * * * and the iiiijth Churchwardens all present
 in the vestry that Laurence Knight of
 Hounsditch in the parish of St. Dunstons
 wth out Aldgate, London, Refounder should
 have the casting of the great Bell called the
 fyffe bell and for the casting thereof to have
 40^{li} (viz) 10^{li} at the taking of her downe
 and carrying her away & at the hanging
 of her up after new casting 10^{li} more and
 the remainder of the said some at the end
 of vii monthes after the hanging and to be
 bound wth an able security in certayne articles
 inden for the performing thereof as shalbe
 devised.

Soon after this the fourth bell was also
 broken and as the parishioners were not

paying the money at which they were rated, the vestry passed another resolution.

"For as much as the Church is indebted in severall pomes of money vnto diuers persons by reason that many fishioners have not paid the assessment passed for the new casting of the great bell, and whereas since the casting of the said great bell the fourth bell is become broken to the further charge of the fishioners of this fish, it was ordered, first that in consideration of the charge aforesaid every fishon that is placed in a pew shall geve one whole yeres pew money frankly at one payment according to the rate of his pew Over and besides his quarteridge now or hereafter to be due. And others that have no pew to pay viij d to pay

Besides there quateridge as aforesaid. 1405

To be Collected by the Churchwardens in these
seuerall hamletts and such as shall
refuse to contribute contrary to this order
to deale wth them as the Churchwardens
in there discreacon shall thinke fit and
the Law will permitte.

The vestry also decided that the fourth
bell should be recast and the Churchwardens
were to deal circumspectly for the performing
thereof.

Francis Whitman was pesson at the time
and had charge of the bells. He neglected
his duties and put the parish to great
expense by his negligence. It may be that
the bells were broken by being tolled for
funerals by incompetent persons. Also it

seems he was bribed by the founder 1406
to allow him to remove one of the bells from
the steeple before the parish had authorized
it. He boasted to the parish clerk that he
intended to make what he could out of
of the parish, "else we shall dye beggers."

And when the Churchwarden admonished
him he answered rudely and bid him
"shake his cares among dogges." (712) For all of
which things it was ordered by the vestry
men of the parish that Francis Whiacres,
pesson, shalbe put out of his for his
misdemeanors.

"Juste the said Francis Whiacres did bid
Francis snow shake his cares among dogges
when the said Francis Snow was Churchwarden.
Item the said pesson did say vnto the Clarke
now let us take o: bennifite and make

What we can for else we shall dye 1407

Begg's

Item, for taking in of a bell and deliving
the same bell out of the steeple wth out the
Consent of the Churchwardens & fishoners
wth was chargeable for the fish.

Item for the great charge that the
said session hath put the fishone's vnio
for his negligence for not looking dutifully
vnio the bells.

Item that the Churchwardens shall not from
henceforth pay vnio the said session any
more wages or take any church duties.

In September 1601 Edmund ⁽¹¹³⁾ Perce was
admitted session in Whiares' stead, and
he "shall have such wages and duties
as usually hath bin paid vnio the Session
and also that Francis Whiares late Session

shall be utterly dismissed and shall 1408
have no duties hereafter paid him nor meddle
further in the church or fish.

In the year 1619 the tenor was once more
broken and on March 30th it was ordered
and decreed that the fyfi bell w^{ch} is broken
should be cast with what convenient
speed may be, and for the payment and
satisfaction of the Bell founder who shall
performe the said worke yt is agreed that
there shall be an assessem^t. made of every one
in the said fish and also every out dwellers
according to the third part of the rate that
he or they shall pay unto the poore in theyre
severall hamlettes.

As with other parishes the fees charged
for the use of the bells were a substantial

portions of the church income. In 1409
1602 the charge "to the prop. use of the Parishes
w^o out any allowance or payment to
ringers for ringing of all the bells called
a Peale was xv s.

In 1628 it was ordered "that such summe
& summes of money as shall arise by the Bells
the breaking of the churchyard & the church
clothes shall quarterly be brought and put
in the Chest that thereby there may be money
upon all occasions to defray such expenses"
as shall belong to the parish Church of Stepnie

In 1637 the year that the Society of College
Youths was founded there evidently was at
Stepney a good deal of pleasure ringing
and partly no doubt to keep it within limits
and partly to turn it into a source.

1410

of revenue, the vestry decided to make
a charge of five shillings and six pence for
every peal rung. In those days five shillings
and six pence was a large amount, and
the effect of the charge must have been to
confine the pleasure ringing to the better
class men.

" It is ordered that when any ringing
shall be extraordinary in the parish except
such as shall be commanded or allowed
by the Canons and Constitutions of the Church
they that ring shall pay five shillings and
six pence for every peal they shall obtaine
leave to ring to the use and benefit of the
Church to be received by the churchwardens
& to be accounted for as other Church duties
by them to be received "

1411

Francis Whitaker was not the only
rector at Steyney that got into trouble. In
1643 Mr William Cullham, rector, was
admonished and threatened with dismissal
Four years later "divers honest and sufficient
men of the parishioners complained that
Cullham had behaved in a very incivil
and disorderly manner and hath been a
contemner and scoffer of them that are
godly & hath been very negligent of his
duties". Also that he had a public house
the Rose in which he had placed his son
and furnished it with beer, although he
knew that the parish intended to suppress
ale houses.

We have here a sidelight on the religious
and political disputes of the time. The

puritans had now become powerful
 and they were set on making the people of
 England as pious as themselves. But the
 Common folk had no particular wish
 to be reformed. Like Sir Toby they wanted
 to know, "Dost thou think because thou art
 virtuous there will be no more Cakes and
 ale?" And the puritan answer was to
 make sure as far as they could that there
 should be no more Cakes and ale, and
 that those who hankered after them should
 be suitably rebuked. I can hardly believe
 that Culham really was a bad person,
 but I do not doubt that he scoffed at
 some of the godly and like Maria in
 somewhat similar circumstances told them
 "to go and shake their ears." Also he owned

a public house, and that was a fact patent to all and not to be denied. Culham had many friends and supporters in the parish but his opponents were in the ascendency and he had to submit. The vestry suspended him, so he came before them and earnestly desired them to pass by all such his offences. He was reinstated for a year on condition that he should take down the sign of the Rose and that it should cease to be a victualling house. Otherwise he should have to submit to the earlier order. His submission was in vain, and a very short time afterwards he was turned out and another man appointed in his place. When in 1661 things had changed and the sign of the

1414

paints was over his friends
tried to restore him to the office, but
the attempt failed. He had first been
appointed to succeed Edmund Purser
as pastor as far back as 1625, and had
been confirmed in the post by the Bishop
on December 10th in that year. He died
in 1666.

At some time during the seventeenth
Century Ripney bells had been increased
to six. In August 1725 the tenor, during
ringing broke from her bearings and fell
down to the first floor of the tower, but
fortunately did no more damage than
smashing the wheel. The writer in the
Norwich Gazette who reported the incident

1415
remarked that the Bell was allowed
to be the finest in tone in England,
and that "his said the Parish intend
now to make ~~ix~~ those 6 Bells up a Peal
of 8, which will then be the finest Ring
of 8 in England."

The augmentation was carried out
On September 12th 1734 the Rammers
visited the steeple and rang a third
of a peal, no doubt the first part of
Annables' composition. John Trenchell
rang the seventh, and John Hayward
with Thomas Clark to keep him the 4th part
Tenor. Laughton is loud in his praises
of the way in which the bells went.

On August 9th 1797 at a vestry meeting
the Churchwardens reported that the

1416

tenor bell had become cracked
and useless and that the sixth was a
very bad bell. The opinion was
expressed that the bells were too heavy
to be rung easily and it was suggested
that they should be recast into a
lighter ring. It was resolved to have
a new eight with a tenor of 36 cwt.
and the churchwardens were authorized
to treat with Thomas Shears in the
matter, but six months later another
vestry rescinded the resolution and
decided that the sixth and tenor
only should be recast and as
nearly as possible at their old weights.
Nine years later the present ring of

ten was cast at the Whitechapel ⁽⁷¹⁴⁾ 1417
Foundry. As the old tenor weighed 49 cwt
and the present one is 31 cwt. it is probable
that no new metal was needed for the
two extra bells.

The first peal in the steeple was 5040
changes of Bob Major rung on September
28th 1734 by the College Youths a fortnight
after Laughton's visit. Annable called
from the fifth, Richard Spicer rang the
seventh, and John Cundell and John
Trenell together rang the tenor.

Five years later the Eastern Scholars
rang another peal of Bob Major and
claimed it as the first on the bells. We
may suppose that they were ignorant
of Annable's performance, not that

they challenged its truth.

1417a

Two other peals both Grandring Triples were rung on the old eight. The first in 1769 was by the London Juniors. "The peal" says the peal book "was called from the scale of the Case Mr John Hall by Brother Christopher Wells, who reversed the Courses by calling the Case half method first and the first Case. Never done before."

When the new ten bells were opened in March 1807 three peals were rung. On the 8th the Junior Cumberlands rang 5039 Changes of Grandring Cases and the following day the senior society rang 5075 Changes of the same method and 5080 Changes of Oxford Treble Bob Royal on the 13th. In February 1808 the Juniors rang 5200 Changes of Treble Bob.

The Inscriptions on the Bells (823)

1418

1. GEORGE HARPER DD RECTOR MATTHEW ENSUM ROBT TURNER
WM WADE WM THOMPSON GEO EVERITT CHURCHWARDENS
T MEARS AND SONS OF LONDON FECIT 1806
2. 3. 4. 5. The same but T. MEARS AND CO WHITECHAPEL
6. TO THE PIOUS MEMORY OF MRS PRISCA COBURN A
LIBERAL BENEFACTOR TO THE SEAMENS WIDOWS
OF THIS PARISH
7. VICINIS EGREGI YOUR CAMPANA MARIO 1605 (?) (824)
8. TO THE HONOUR OF THE VOLUNTEERS OF THE PARISH
OF ST DUNSTAN'S STEPNEY. THE RATCLIFF COMMANDED
BY JOHN BOULCOTT ESQ MAYOR; THE M.E.O.T BY WM.
THOMPSON ESQ LT. COLONEL. POPLAR AND BLACKWALL BY
JOHN WELLS ESQ LIEUT COLONEL, 1806.
- 9 TO THE HONOUR OF S. CHARLES MAYOR, FIRST LORD
OF THE ADMIRALTY 1729 FOUNDER OF THE STEPNEY
COCKNEY FESTIVAL INSTITUTED AT RATCLIFF IN THE
YEAR 1674 AND DISCONTINUED 1784. JOHN MATHEW
ESQ TREASURER T. MEARS AND SON FECIT 1826

Tenor. THE LATE TENOR, WT 49 CWT WAS GIVEN TO THE
PRIORY OF THE HOLY TRINITY DUKE'S PLACE ALOCATE
BY NICHOLAS CHADWORTH AND RENEVED BY THOMAS
MARSON 1306 WAS SOLD WITH THREE OTHERS
TO THE PARISH OF ST DUNSTANS STEPNEY ABOUT

THE YEAR 1540 ; RECAST 1602, 1764, AND 1419
1799. THE LATE PEAL OF EIGHT BELLS WERE RECAST
INTO TEN BY THOMAS MEARS AND SON, 1806, IN
THE PRESENCE OF GEORGE HARPER D.D. RECTOR
THOMAS THIRLWALL, LECTURER ; MR MATHEW EASUM
ROBERT TURNER ; WM. WADE, WM. THOMPSON, GEORGE
EVERITT, CHURCHWARDENS ; JOHN CARTER, ESQ.
JOHN EDWARDS, ESQ ; JEREMIAH SNOW, ESQ ; JOHN
PAULIN, ESQ ; MR THOMAS BAINFIELD ; WM SIMONS ;
MATTHEW WATSON, SURVEYOR, JOHN SATTER, VESTRY
CLERK 56½ DIAMETER AT MOUTH.

Clock Bell. C. AND C. MEARS FOUNDERS, LONDON.

Peal Boards at St. Dunstan's Steeple

1420

The Junior Society of Cumberland Youths. On Wednesday Feby 24th 1806⁽⁸³⁵⁾ was rung in this Steeple by ten of the above Society a complete Peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal containing 5200 changes in 3 hours and 42 minutes being the greatest performance ever achieved on these bells. Performed by.

James Mead	1.	Willm. Makee	6.
Jos. Humphries	2.	Benn. Merrin	7.
Josh Ladley	3.	John Haynes	8.
Willm. Williams	4.	Willm. Fisher	9.
John Noonan	5.	Willm. Washer	Tenor

The above peal was composed and called by Mr. John Noonan

The Junior Society of Cumberland Youths. March 8 1807 ten of the above Society hereunder mentioned rung on these bells the first complete Peal of Grandeur Galers consisting of 5039 changes in 3 hours and minutes viz

Mr. Thomas Crunden	1.	Mr. Jas. Hickbury
Mr. Jos. Noonan	2.	Mr. Sam ^l . Garrai
Mr. Josh Ladley	3.	Mr. John Haynes
Mr. Willm. Williams	4.	Mr. Jas. Blacklocks
Mr. Wm. Makee	5.	Mr. Jos. Mathew

The Peal was composed and called by Mr. John Noonan.

Junior Cumberland's Society.

1421

On Sunday Feby 1st 1824 was rung a true and complete Peal of Grandwire Bells containing 5075 changes in 3 hours and 30 minutes

Performed by -

Mr Teler Hall	1.	Mr Saml Austin	6.
Mr Wm. Williams	2.	Mr John Sherrin	7.
Mr Benj. Sherrin	3.	Mr John Hints	8.
Mr Jas Blacklock	4.	Mr Thos Betts	9.
	5.	Mr Richd Hersell	Tenor

Conducted by Mr Wm. Williams

Junior Society of College Youths. On Monday February 15th 1834 was rung on these bells by the above Society a true and complete Peal of Bells on Stedman's Principle containing 5079 changes being the first Peal ever rung on these bells in this method, and was performed in a masterly manner in 3 hours and 40 minutes by the following performers

James Nash	1.	R. Shiffeld	6.
Jn. Sherrin	2.	Jas Stickleby	7.
Jh. Harrison	3.	Ed. Lansdell	8.
Rd Thumblby	4.	Wm. Rice	9.
Jn. Cooc	5.	Jas Furcin	Tenor

Composed and Called by E. Lansdell.

Seals rung at S. Dunstons
Stepney.

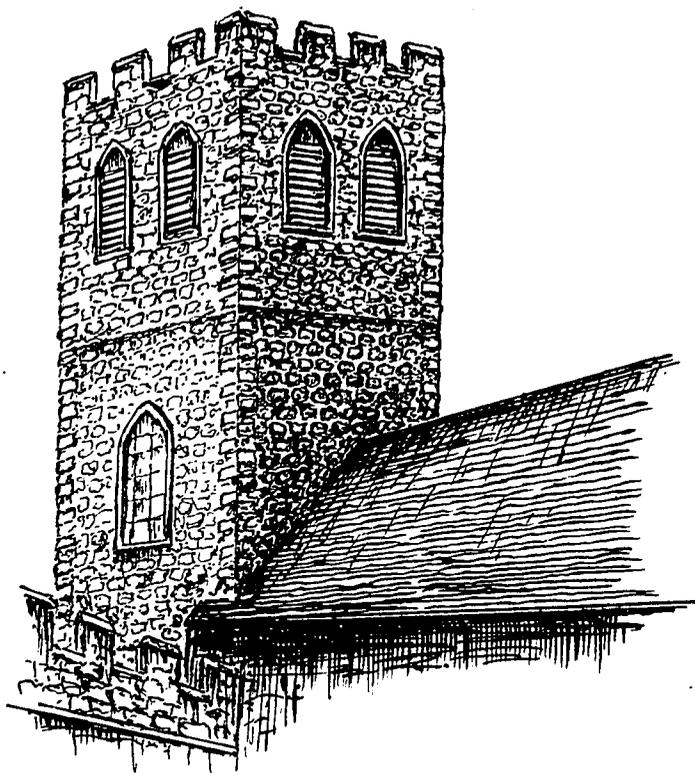
1734	Sep 28	5040	Bob Major	College Youths
1739	Feb 26	5040	do	Eastern Sch.
1769	Feb 14	5040	Gran. Trup.	London Yths
1785	Feb 24	5040	do	Jr. Cumberlands
1807	Mar 8	5039	Gran Caters	do
	9	5075	do	Cumberlands
	13	5080	On. T. B. Royal	do
1808	Feb 24	5200	do	Jr. Cumberlands
1824	Feb 1	5075	Gran Caters	do
1836	Feb 15	5079	Sted. Caters	Jr. Coll. Yths.

St Mary, Stratford-c-Bow.

1423

Bow-in-the-Road Church was originally a chapel in the parish of St. Helenhithe, built in 1311 under licence of the Bishop of London at the request of the inhabitants who represented that they lived far from their parish church. The present tower dates from the fifteenth century, but the upper part fell in 1829 and was rebuilt. In the reign of Edward VI there were "five bells in the steeple" and a paunce bell. ⁽⁷⁸⁴⁾ A ring of eight, tenor 12 cut, from the Whitechapel foundry was hung in 1760. ⁽⁷⁸⁵⁾

All Hallows
Tottenham.



At the time
of Edward VI there were in the tower "iiii
bells and the paunce bell" In 1696 Philip
Wrightman hung a ring of six which are
still in the steeple. They had a very high
reputation and especially the tenor. "Tis
as good a bell as e'er was made," says
Laughion. The octave was completed in
the year.

There is another very interesting bell

in the tower. It is French made,

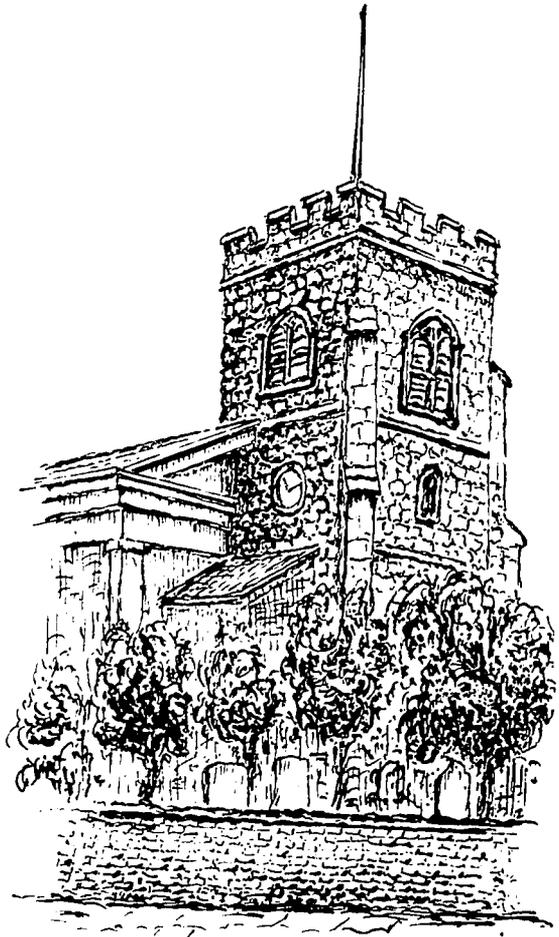
seventeenth Century and is inscribed as follows—

SIT NOMEN DOMINI BENEDICTUM I H FECIT 1663. (824)

It was given to the church in 1801 and is said to have been the garrison bell at Quebec and taken when that place was captured in 1759.

But I suspect it really came from the cathedral and was part of the loot which Colonel Williamson brought home as I have related in Chapter XII of this book. (823)

St. Mary,
Twickenham.



The medieval tower of St. Mary's contains a ring of eight bells which are very interesting both archaeologically and from the fact that they look in the early history of change ringing. The sixth is a pre-reformation bell, one of the oldest in Middlesex, and dates from the early days of the sixteenth century. The Edwardian inventory has

not survived, and we know little or nothing of the early story of the bells. Edward Ironsides who wrote towards the end of the eighteenth Century judged that the frame then in the tower had been built for five bells and had afterwards been altered to take the completed octave, from which he assumed that originally there was a ring of five. Evidently it was so just before 1669, and in that year William Eldridge added a treble. Change ringing was already very popular in the parish and that was the reason why in 1695 five more bells were added to complete the octave. At the same time one of

1428

the other bells, " lately given by
Madame Layton " was recast. In 1708
Richard Phelps renewed the tenor, in 1722
the seventh and in 1730 the fourth. The
first and last of these had been recast
in 1660 at the publick charge.

Turckenham is on the way from London
to Hampton Court the church stood then
open to the high roads and not as now
shut off by high buildings. So at the not
infrequent passing to and fro of royal
persons there was ringing of the bells.
When the King went by in 1606 with the
King of Denmark the ringers were paid
eight pence for their services. Nineteen years
later when Charles the First and his Queen
went to Hampton Court the fee was two

shillings and sixpence. In 1647
 under very different circumstances Charles
 came by again. It was harvest time,
 the ringers were all at work in the fields
 and the bells were not rung for which
 neglect the parish were fined thirteen
 shillings and sixpence.

There is a somewhat pathetic interest
 in this entry in the parish accounts.
 The Civil War was over. Charles had
 surrendered to the Scots and by them
 had been sold to the English Parliament
 who hardly knew what to do with him.
 The King was moved from place to place
 and in August 1647 he came to Hampton
 Court. Then for a short time it looked

1430
as if he was going to be treated
with his old regal dignity. Nobles and
Courtiers attended him, the proscribed
Anglican service was said in the palace
Chapel, and the Parliamentary Commissions
who had charge of his person kept discreetly
in the background. But they were there
and he had to ask their permission
when he went to visit his two youngest
children, the Duke of Gloucester and
Princess Elizabeth who were at Lion
House Isleworth in the charge of the
Earl of Northumberland. It was then
that Turkenham parish was fined for
not ringing as he went past. Perhaps
the plea of harvest was only an excuse

and the churchwardens at the time doubtless belonged to the puritan party and did not think it worth while to bother about a king, fallen and a prisoner.

Soon afterwards Charles walked out of an unguarded door at Hampton Court and escaped to the Isle of Wight. Then followed the seizure of power by Cromwell and the army and the events which led up to the memorable scene on that bleak January morning outside the Banqueting Hall at Whitehall.

Tweckenham bells were rung in 1647 on the anniversary of the Coronation as were those of St. Margaret's and many another steeple throughout the land,

but many years were to pass by before church bells were again rung for a royal visit, and this incident at Turkenham is I think the very last of the many occasions on which a parish was fined for neglecting to pay this tribute to royalty.

Ringing as a sport was, as already mentioned very popular in Turkenham. So much so that to some of the parishioners it became a nuisance. They appear to have obtained legal advice on the matter and on September 20th 1674 it was ordered that the bells were not to be rung "but according to a declaration under My Lord Chief Justices hand

How they may be legally ringed."

The sport however went on and when Dr. John Harcliff was he had to complain seriously of it. The ringers were practising at all times and in defiance of his and the Churchwardens' regulations. So the matter was brought before the Vestry and on Sunday afternoon May 13th 1711 due notice having been given at the morning service the following resolution was passed -

"Whereas the late continual ringing of bells at unreasonable hours was represented as a very great disturbance to Dr. Harcliff in his study and whereas several disorderly persons did lately

in a very insolent manner

1434

and contrary to the order of the said
D^r. Hartcliff and the present Churchwardens
with the help of a ladder break into
the steeple of the church and ring the
bells to the intent and purpose to
disturb and provoke the said D^r. Hartcliff

It is therefore ordered by this vestry
that for the future during the said
doctor's residence in the parish there
be no more ringing of bells for recreation
(unless upon some solemn occasion)
but two nights a week viz Thursdays
and Mondays and not to exceed the
hour of nine." (p. 20)

These terms are certainly not very
severe for nine o'clock was then a

much later hour than it is now.

1435

He can sympathise with the doctor. He evidently had no objection to ringing kept within limits and his name is cast on the Tenor bell.

He was almost the last rector of the old mediæval Church for a year after his death there is a short but significant notice that twenty trustees were appointed to consider the rebuilding of the Church "it having fallen down in the night of Thursday April 9th 1713." The present Church of Luck is of its style a very fine building. The ancient tower still stands.

By the second quarter of the eighteenth Century Twickenham possessed one of

1436

the best Country Bands of Change
ringers in the Land. They called themselves
the Turickenham Scholars and many of
them belonged to the Society of College
Youths. In 1734 they rang a peal of
Middlesex Triples a not very good
variation of Plain Bob Triples by
Benjamin Annable ⁽¹⁷²¹⁾ and sometime later
one of the earliest Bob and Single peals
of Grandeur Triples which they called
Royal Triples. In 1749 they rang 6000
Changes of Bob Major. The band seems
to have been composed of good class
men, small gentlemen, farmers and
tradesmen of whom Robert Holmes and
Henry Cowley ⁽¹⁷⁴⁵⁾ may be taken as typical.
The family of Redknapp which supplied

several members is still represented 1437
in the district.

There was a good company of ringers at Trickenham throughout the eighteenth Century and well into the nineteenth.

The bells are now rung from the ground floor but formerly they were rung either from the chamber immediately below the bells or from a floor which has since been taken away. In consequence the peal boards were removed from the walls and hidden in the space between the ceiling and roof of the church. Fortunately three or four of them have been recovered in recent years and hung on the walls of the belfry.

Inscriptions on the Bells.

- Treble W. E. MADE MEE 1695 R.P. P.R.
CHURCHWARDENS.
2. W E MADE MEE 1695 RP PR CHURCH
WARDENS
3. WILLIAM ELDRIDGE MADE ME 1669
4. RICHARD PHELPS MADE ME 1730 MESSRS
WM BLACKLOCK FRANCIS VINCENT CHURCH
WARDENS
- 5 R.P. FECIT 1703
6. In multis annis resonet campana
Johannis (1722)
7. R. PHELPS FECIT 1722 REV SAM PRATT D.D.
VICAR RICHARD SILVESTER JOHN FITZWALTER
CHWARDENS
- Tenor. MR JOH HARTCLIFF VICAR R PHELPS MADE
MEE JOHN BARTLETT PAUL MANSFIELD
CHURCHWARDENS 1708.

Peal Boards at Twickenham.

1430

Dec 28th 1749 The Society of TWICKENHAM
SCHOLARS Rang in this Steeple a Compleat
Peal of 6000 Changes BOB MAJOR viz.

WM ROLLS	Treble	JOHN TAYLOR	5 th
THO ^s TEBBS	2 nd	HENRY COWLEY	6 th
ENOS REDKNAP	3 rd	JAMES WEBSTER	7 th
ROBT HOLMES	4 th	JAMES HUNT	Tenor.

In Three Hours Fifty Minutes

Jan^y ye 8th 1769 was rung in this Steeple a
Compleat Peal of 6160 changes BOB MAJOR in 4
hours and 20 minutes, viz -

ENOS REDKNAP JUN.	Treble	BENJ BARBER	5 th
JAMES HART	2 nd	JOHN COLE	6 th
ENOS REDKNAP SEN	3 rd	JOHN GOOSE	7 th
JOSH REDKNAP	4 th	JOHN TAYLOR	Tenor.

Called by JOHN COLE

COLLEGE YOUTHS

On the 26th May 1783 This Society Rang on these
Bells the first compleat Peal of 5120 OXFORD
TREBLE BOB & performed the same in 3 Hours
19 Minutes, viz

Mess ^{rs} JOSEPH MONK	Treble	JAMES WORSTER	5 th
WINSTANLEY RICHARDSON	2.	JOSEPH HOLDSWORTH	6.
GEORGE SCARSBROOK	3.	EDMUND SYLVESTER	7
THOMAS SMITH	4.	SAM ^l MUGGERIDGE	J ^r Tenor

The Peal was Conducted by Mr. James Worster.

March 22 1812 was rung A Compleat
Peal of OXFORD TREBLE BOB 5088 Changes in 3 Hours
and 8 Minutes, By

William Walker	1.	Jn. Bates	4.	Jos. Clark	7.
Schs. Bamford.	2.	Ed Nelhams	5.	Jno. Platt.	Tenor
Jas. Cole	3.	Geo. Cole	6.		

Conducted by Geo. Cole.

Nov. 14th 1813 was rung a Peal of BOB MAJOR, 5136
Changes in 3 Hours and 12 minutes

Jn. Cole	1.	Am. Hammerton	4.	Wm Wells.	7.
Ss. Bamford	2.	Wm. Winson	5.	Jn Nerr.	Tenor
Wm. Walker	3.	Geo. Cole	6.		

Called by G. Cole.

Jan. 22nd 1814 5040 Changes of HOLT'S GRANDSIRE
TRIPLES was truly and well performed on these Bells
in 3 hours by persons of the Society of COLLEGE YOUTHS

Jno House	1.	Am. Hammerton	4.	Wm. Wells	7.
Jno Nerr	2.	Jno. Cole	5.	Geo Clesor	Tenor
Geo Cole	3.	Wm Winson	6.		

July 17 1814 was rung a complete Peal of 5040
Changes GRANDSIRE TRIPPLES In 3 Hours

Jo. Bates	1.	Jn. Nerr	4.	Jn. Platt	7.
Jo. Roberts	2.	E. Nelhams	5.	In House	Tenor
Se. Bamford.	3.	Geo Cole	6.		

Called by Mr. G Cole

103 Bobs.

The second and third of the above are not now hung in the
belfry.

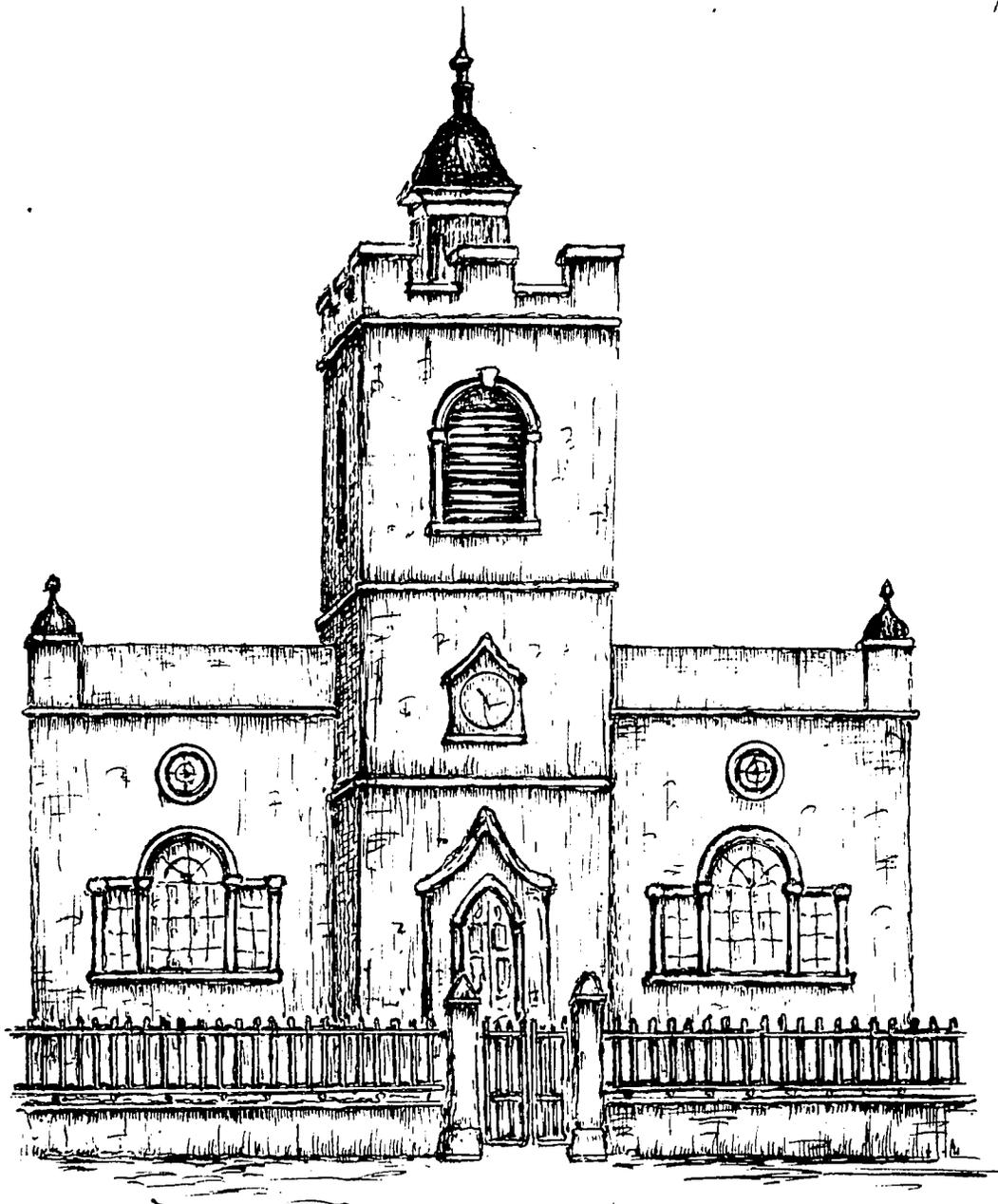
Seals rung at Trickenham.

1441

1734	Jan 22	5040	Middlesex Trup.	Trickenham Sch
1739	July 16	5120	Gx. T. B. Maj	College Youths.
—	—	5040	Royal Truppls.	—
1749	Dec 28	6000	Bob Major	Trickenham Sch.
1769	Jan 8	6160	do.	do
1783	May 26	5120	Gx. T. B. Maj	College Yths.
1786	Nov 24	5120	do.	do.

West Twyford.

A survey or visitation of the church at
 Twyford, anno 1251, mentions an ancient
 tower with two bells, and five altars without
 the choir which appeared not to have been
 consecrated. In Edward VIth time there
 was but "one ⁽¹⁵³⁾lyttell bell." The place still
 further decayed, and at the end of the
 eighteenth century there was only one house
 in the parish and few inhabitants.



St. Mary, Matfelon,
Whitechapel.

Whitechapel church, said Slow, "is as it
were a chapel of ease to the parish of

Stebinhith, and the parson of Stebinhith hath the gift thereof, which being first dedicated in the name of God and the Blessed Virgin is now called "St. Mary Shafellon." and he goes on to give an explanation of that rather curious name which is now, I believe disallowed by antiquarian authorities.

The parish was separated from Steyney in the seventeenth century. The church was rebuilt several times. A building erected in 1675 stood until 1875 when it was replaced by a much larger church. This was burnt down in 1880 and the present church was built and consecrated two years later.

The Edwardian inventory has not

survived and the first account
 we have of any bells in the tower was in
 January 1734 when there was a ring of
 six and the Ramblers visited the steeple
 and rang two 720's - Plain Bob and
 Oxford Treble Bob. The bells were said
 Laughton "flatter than G. in pitch" The
 front five were good bells but he was very
 uncomplimentary in his remarks about
 the tenor. She was an iron sided Bitch.

The tower seems to have been in early
 times a meeting place of the London
 youths, and on April 16th 1737 three members
 of that society with five Eastern Scholars
 and one College youth rang "seven
 Compleat Surprise Six-bell Deals". It
 is one of the earliest peals of Minors on

1446

record but all the methods
would not now rank as Surprise.

In 1754 the bells were recast and
augmented to eight at the Whitechapel
foundry. The first peal on the new ring
was 5040 Changes of Bob Triples by the
Eastern Scholars on March 12th 1755. Three
days later the London Youths scored
5152 Changes of Bob Major. It was, says
the peal book "the first time the Society
rang the eight new bells, and the first
peal completed there." This rather looks
like an assertion that the Eastern Scholars
peal was not a true one, but the statements
in old peal books are often very ambiguous;
it may only mean that it was the first
peal the London Youths rang there. Williams

Barrett composed and called it, 1445
and the Composition probably was false.

During the next thirty So. Mary's was one of the most popular belfries for peal ringing in London especially with the London Youths and the Cumberland Youths. The latter in 1755 rang two peals of a method they called Cumberland Pleasure. The figures are lost and we have no means of knowing what was rung. Two peals of London Court Bob Major, one by the London Youths and the other by the Cumberland Youths were accomplished on the bells, as well as 6000 Reverse Bob Major, (the longest in the method), 5151 Grand sire Major, (the first in the method), the first peal of Real Double Bob Major, and John Reeves's 8448 of Treble Bob. The latter was the first peal of Kent's Treble Bob.

ring in London.

1448

Boards at St. Mary Matfelon.

1449

On Sunday, Feby 7. 1801 the Society of London Youths rung in this steeple a fine and Compleat peal of 5040 Changes of Grandserie Tripples which was performed in 3 hours 13 minutes.

Richard Evans	1.	William Kyneston	5.
John Reeves	2.	James Mead	6.
Thos. Cox	3.	Robert Clifford	7.
Daniel Beaumg	4.	Jr: Barton	8.

Composed and Conducted by Mr John Reeves.

Junior Society of Cumberlands. On Thursday October 2nd 1822 was rung in this steeple by eight of the above Society the whole Peal of Grandserie Tripples containing 5040 Changes in 3 hours and seven minutes being the first peal in that method Completed on these bells

Jam ^e Fresham	1.	Edw. Merrin	5.
Jr: Merrin	2.	Wm. Williams	6.
Jas. Mead	3.	Pl. Thurley	7.
Jas. Blacklock	4.	Thos. Potts	Tenor.

Conducted by Wm Williams

On Tuesday March 10th 1824 was
 rung by the Society of College Junks a fine
 and complete Peal of Headman's Triples
 Containing 5040 Changes in 2 hours 58
 minutes

Jno. Cooper	1.	Josh. Lubbocks	5.
Wm. Seake	2.	Frans. Mathew	6.
Jas. Stickleby	3.	Geo. Cole	7.
Jn. Stratford	4.	Henry Smith	Tenor.

Call'd by G. Cole.

Junior Cumberland's. On Friday April 10th
 1824 was rung a fine and complete Peal
 of Grand sire Bob Major Containing 5167
 changes in 3 hours and 3 minutes being
 the first in that method ever rung in this

steeple ⁽¹⁸²⁴⁾ Performers -

Sam ^l . Feecham	1.	Sam ^l . Austin	5.
Sam ^l . Thurley	2.	Thos. Peters	6.
Wm. Williams	3.	Geo. Treage	7.
Jas. Blacklock	4.	Jno. Merrin	Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by Wm. Williams.

The Society of College Youths on
 Monday Dec: 28th 1812 sang in this
 Steeple a true Peal of 5088 Oxford Treble
 Bob Major in 3 hours 10 minutes

Performed by

- | | | | |
|----------------|----|----------------|-------|
| Edward Barrell | 1. | William Jones | 5 |
| William Makee | 2. | Charles Barber | 6 |
| William Kirke | 3. | John Cooper | 7 |
| Thomas Michael | 4. | John Stratford | Tenor |

Called by C. Barber.

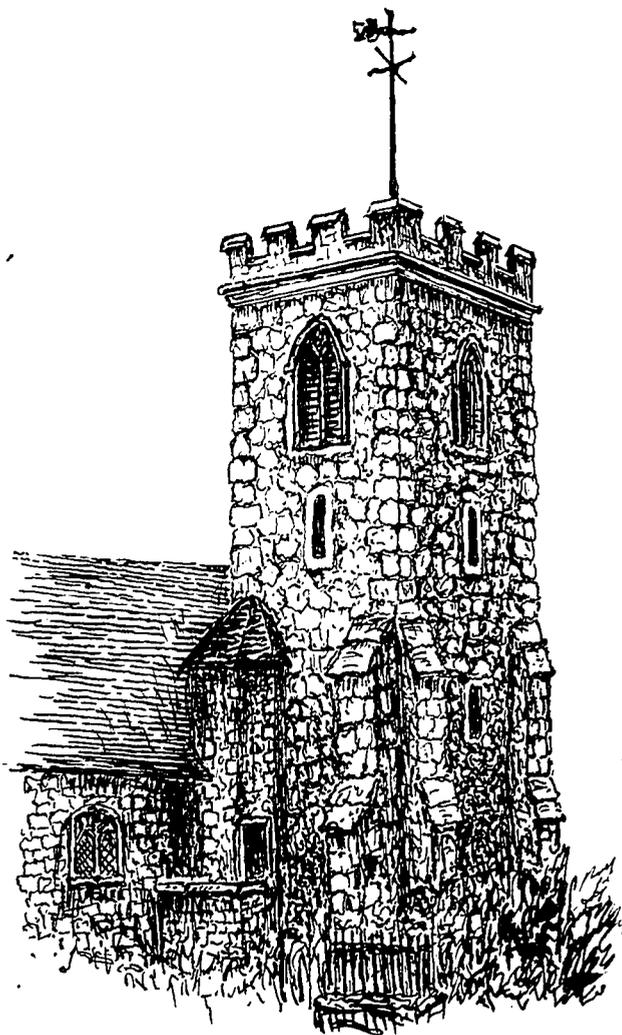
Peals rung at S. Mary, Skatfelon.

1455

1757	Mar 16.	5040	"Surprise" Minor	Mixed
1757	Mar 15	5152	Bob Major.	London Youths.
1755	Mar. 12	5040	Bob Triples	Eastern Sch.
	Apr. 1	5040	Cumberland Pleasure	Cumberland Y.
	6	6720	do.	do
	Aug 23	5040	Bob Major	London Youths
1756	Feb 23	7250	Gr. T. B. Major	Cumberland Y.
	July 8	5040	Grand. Trip.	London Youths
	Sep 26	5008	Bob Major	Cumberland Y.
1757	Mar 13.	5376	do	London Youths.
	July 18.	5040	do	Cumberland Y
	Sep. 11.	5040	do	College Youths.
	Nov 12.	6400	Gr. T. B. Maj.	do
	Dec 17.		Double Bob Maj	Cumberland Y.
	23.	5040	Bob Major	London Youths
	31.	5056	Gr. T. B. Major	College Youths
1759	Jan 14	5040	Bob Major	London Youths
	Apr. 1.	5088	Gr. T. B. Major	Cumberland Y.
	13	5056	do	do.
1761.	Dec. 13	5088	do.	do.
1762.	Mar 7	5120	do	College Youths.
1763.	Nov 7	5088	do	Cumberland Y.
1764	Jan 8	5040	Bob Major	do.
	Mar 12.	5040	do	do.
	Sep. 3	5120	Gr. T. B. Maj.	London Youths
	Dec 16	5200	London C ^o Bob Maj	do
1765	Gen 19	5040	Bob Major.	do
	Dec 27	5120	Gr. T. B. Major.	do.

1766	Apr. 26	6608	Bob Major	London Y.
	Dec. 27	5040	Bob Triples	do.
1767	Oct 12	5312	Lond. Ct. B. Maj	Cumberland Y
	Nov 26	5040	Bob Major	London Youths
1768	Dec 28	5040	do.	Cumberland Y.
1769	Jan 29	5040	Cumb. Real Dbl Eight Im.	do
1770	May 6	5040	Bob Major	London Youths
1771	Nov 17	5040	Grand. Trip.	College Youths
	Dec 8	6000	Rev. Bob Maj	Cumberland Y
1772	Jan 13	5040	Bob Major	London Youths
	July 19	5152	do	do.
1775	Feb. 28	5040	do	Cumberland Y
	Apr. 26	5151	Grand. Maj	London Youths
	Nov 12	5088	Gr. T. B. Maj	do
1776	Dec 1.	5040	Bob Major	do
1777	June 9.	5040	do	Cumberland Y
	Aug 27.	5152.	do	do
	Nov 3.	5040	do	do
1780	Jan 11.	5040	do	do
1785	Jan 10.	5120	Gr. T. B. Maj	College Youths do
1787	Sep. 30	5152	do	College Youths
	—	8448	Ken. T. B. Maj	J. Cumberland Y.
1788	Feb 5	5040	Grand. Trip.	do
1793	Oct 31	5040	do	do
1796	Oct 28	5007	Grand. Maj	
1801	Jan 11	5104	Lond. Ct. B. Maj	Cumberland's
	Feb 7	5040	Grand. Trip.	London Yths.

St. Mary,
Willesden.



In the middle
of the 16th century
the ancient parish
church of St. Mary

Willesden possessed "in the steeple, four greater
bells, a peal bell and five hand bells".

In 1793 a new ring of six was hung in
the tower and on February 15th the bells were
opened by a band of ringers from Kensington
and district with five 720s, one of Plain
Bob the other of Treble Bob.

Churches in the County of Kent.

That corner of the County of Kent which is included in the metropolitan area contains four churches which have figured more or less prominently in the history of London ringing.

Greenwich was an early centre of the art; at Deptford there was for long the active society called the Trinity Guilds; at Lewisham several peals were rung; and in the early and middle nineteenth century the Paristie family brought fame to Woolwich Belfry through their peals of Double Norwich, and Superlative and London Surprise.

St Nicholas, Deptford.

The Edwardian inventory records that there were then in the late fifteenth century tower of St Nicholas Church "v great bells of bell metall puled, hanging in the steeple ther", and also "i little bell called a Sayne bell". One little bell had recently been sold. This probably was the sacring bell which hung on the chancel screen or wall and in the simplified ritual of the mass was no longer needed.

In 1701 the present ring of eight was hung in the steeple. They are remarkable in having no inscriptions and no founders' names but merely the date of the year save that the seventh has the initials S.N., and I.H. The tenor was recast by Thomas

Mears in 1842.

1457

Laughton relates that on Sunday, June 16th 1734 he and the Ramblers journeyed to Greenwich to have a peal but they found that two burials were to take place there that night and so they went on to Deptford and rang 108 and 336 of Grandfire Triples; but they found the bells in bad repair.

This reminds us of the ancient custom of burying at night time, and the opinion once universally held throughout the Country that bells should never be rung when there is a dead person lying in the parish. This opinion still lingers in the remote villages of Devon. (811)

In the early days of the eighteenth Century there was a good band of

1458

change ringers at Greenwich, who called themselves the Kentish Youths. They rang a peal of Grand sire Triples at St. Alphage's Church in 1732, and may have rung one at the neighbouring Church of Deptford; but if so no record of it survives, and the first peal in the tower that we know of is one by the Eastern Scholars in 1741 which was claimed as "the first Complete Peal of Five Thousand and Forty Bob Major ever rung in that steeple."

Thirteen years later the Eastern Scholars rang a peal of Bob Triples on the bells.

About the year 1782 a society was formed at Deptford called the Trinity Youths which lasted for more than half a century and rang many peals. Its original

members were largely connected with the royal dockyard at Deptford and it got its name from the Trinity Brethren the Corporation which had the official regulation of British shipping and which attended St. Nicholas Church once a year on Trinity Sunday.

The first peal by the Trinity Youths was Grand sire Triples at Deptford on February, 18th 1782 and in 1789 they rang on the same bells 6400 changes of Gosford Treble Bob Major. ⁽⁸¹²⁾

The modern Church of St. John's Deptford has a ring of eight with a tenor of 14 Cwt Cast at the Whitechapel foundry in 1874. They were opened by a band of College Youths on December 31st in that year.

Peals rung at St. Nicholas
Deptford.

1460

1741	May 3	5040	Bob Major	Eastern Scholars
1754	Aug 27	5040	Bob Triples	do.
1780	May 17	5040	Bob Major	Cumberlands.
1781	June 11	5040	Grand Trip	do
1782	Feb 18	5040	do	Trinity Youths.
1785	Jan 16	5088	Ox. T. B. Maj	Cumberlands.
1789	Mar 24	6400	do	Trinity Youths.

St. Alphage
Greenwich.



The Edwardian
inventories for the
Church of Greenwich

have — Item a small Latten bell.

Item. iiij bells the greatest measured
from byrmine to byrn iiij foote vij
inches di

Item. the ij^d iiij foote iiij inches; the iiijth
iiij foote j inch, the iiiijth ij foote xj inches

Item. j paunis bell of brass and ij hand
bells of brass

By the beginning of the eighteenth Century
the old church had become ruinous and
on the night of the 28th of November, 1710,

The roof fell in. The inhabitants then petitioned Parliament and the church was included among the fifty which it was proposed to erect by public money. Both John James and Nicholas Hawksmoor were concerned in the designs for the new building which except for the steeple, was finished structurally in 1714, although it was not consecrated until September 18th 1718.

The old tower built in the early 17th Century had been left standing, and in 1730 it was rebuilt or perhaps recased with Portland stone and the upper part added from the designs of John James. At the same time Richard Phelps supplied a ring of eight bells with a tenor of 26 cwt.

1463

The first peal on the bells was one of Bob Major on April 1st 1732 by the College youths and conducted by Benjamin Annals. Probably this was when the bells were opened. A local band was formed and after eight months practice they were proficient enough to ring a peal of Grand sire Triples, a notable achievement in those days. We do not hear anything more about these men except Daniel Luck who rang the seventh. He was one of those who rang with Laughton and the Ramblers and probably was the same as the Daniel Leg who rang the treble to the first peal by the Eastern Scholars.

There evidently was a good deal of interest taken in ringing at Greenwich.

in early days for in 1734 two
 Trebles were added by subscription. The
 Eastern Scholars rang a peal of Grandsire
 Caters in 1736 and then we have no
 record of any performance until 1753
 when the Union Scholars rang 5166 Changes
 of the same method but it is at least
 likely that peals were rung by local men.

The longest lengths on the bells were
 6000 Oxford Treble Bob Royal by the College
 Youths in 1795; 6120 Changes of the same
 method by the Cumberlands in 1802;
 and 7001 changes of Grandsire Caters by
 the Trinity Youths in 1799.

Inscriptions on the Bells.

1465

1. WM. GREEN & R^d COLEGATE CH. WARDENS THOS
MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1792
 2. THESE TWO LEAST BELLS WERE BOUGHT BY
SUBSCRIPTION A.D. 1734 THOS JEFFERY CHAS
DAYLY CH: WARD^s
 3. T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1815
 4. THE GIFT OF OUR MOST CRACIOUS QUEEN CAROLINE
R. PHELPS FECIT 1731
 5. CHARLES SIMPSON SEXTON R. PHELPS FECIT 1731
 6. THOS^s MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1792
 7. R. PHELPS FECIT 1731
 8. R. PHELPS FECIT 1731
 9. RECAST 1814 THE REV^d G MATTHEW VICAR
JAMES MORLEY JOHN TRANTER CHURCH WARDENS
T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT
- Tenor. T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT
REV^d GEORGE MATTHEW VICAR
MR THOS^s ORR
MR CHARLES RITCHIE } CHURCH WARDENS.
-

Peal Board at St. Alphage
Greenwich.

1466

The Society of Kentish Youths rang on
Friday ye 1st of Decemb 1732 a peal of
5040 Grandire Tripples in the eighth month
of their practice by the persons under written

Jno Gresham	Treble	Jno King	5.
Tho. Laurance	2.	Shirley Hoar	6.
Henry Knagg	3.	Dane Lucke	7.
Richd Bolton	4.	Edwd Gillett	Tenor

in 3 hrs 9 m. C. Simpson peeson.

Peals rung at S. Alphage, Greenwich.

1467

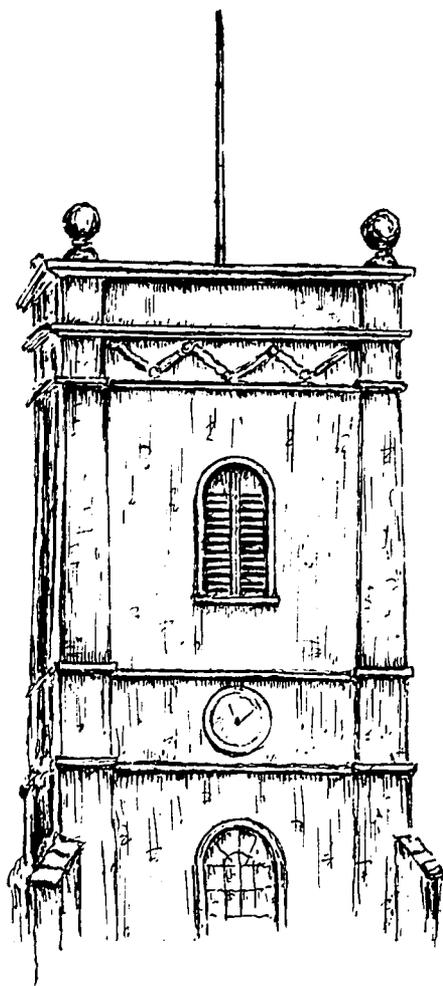
1732	Apr 1.	5040	Bob Major	College Youths
	Dec 1.	5040	Gran. Trip.	Kentish Youths
1736	Aug 16	5040	Gran. Caters	Eastern Scholars.
1753	Mar 18	5166	do	Union Scholars
1777	Dec 26	5040	Bob Major	Cumberlands
			Grand. Caters	Bromley Youths
1795	May 14	6000	Gx. T. B. Royal	College Youths
1799	Jan 16	7001	Gran. Caters	Trinity Youths
1802	Oct 18	6120	Gx. T. B. Royal	Cumberlands
1809	Nov. 19	5039	Gran. Caters	do
1812	Nov. 1	5219	do	do
1813	Jan 24	5040	Bob Royal	do
1819	Sep. 24	5280	Gx. T. B. Royal	do
	Dec 19	5040	Gran. Trip.	do.
1822	Nov 10	5040	Gran. Caters	College Youths Jr. Cumberlands
1827	Feb. 5	5039	do	do
1829	Jan 12	5363	do	Cumberlands
1833	Oct 20	5039	do	do
1844		5079	Stedman Caters	College Youths
1849		5184	Grand. Caters	do.

St Mary,
Lewisham.

The inventory
taken in the reign
of Edward VI state
that there were
then in the church

Item ⁽⁸¹⁰⁾iiiiij greaie bells of brass puted in the
steeple. Item on pants bell of brass called
the monowmas bell. Item on hand bell &
ij sacring bells of brass.

I have no account of the bells until
towards the end of the eighteenth century
when it seems in 1766 Lester and Pack made
them into eight. Pack and Chapman recast



1469
some of them in 1777 and Thomas
Mears and John Warner and Sons others
in later years.

The first recorded peal on the bells was
by the Bromley Yowths in 1775 who two
years later rang 6720 changes of Bob Major.

The longest peal in the tower was 10.080
also of Bob Major by the Trinity Yowths in
1784.

Inscriptions on the Bells.

1470

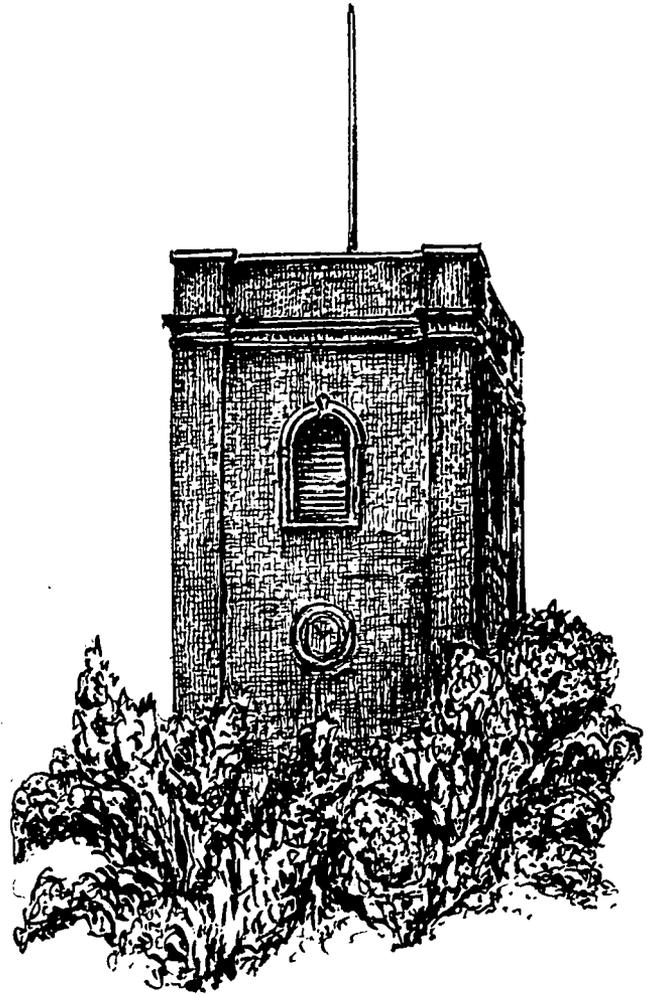
1. T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1819
 2. LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1766
 3. T. MEARS. OF LONDON FECIT 1819
 - A CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1859
HONORABLE & REV^d H LEGGE DCL VICAR
S SOUTHRON } CHURCHYARDENS
CHARLES ATKINS }
 5. YE PEOPLE ALL WHO HEAR ME RING BE FAITHFULL
TO YOUR GOD AND KING.
PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1777
 6. CAST IN 1743 Jⁿ^o BAKER & GEO: THORNTON CH:
YARDENS RECAST IN 1776 PAUL VALENTINE &
Jⁿ^o EVENS CH: YARDENS
 7. HENRY CORBETT & JOSEPH HARTWELL CH: YARDENS
1766 LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT
 8. THIS BELL WAS PAID FOR BY VOLUNTARY SUBSCRIPTION
1777 PAUL VALENTINE & JOHN EVENS CHURCH YARDENS
PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT
-

Teals rung at S. Marys Lewisham.

1471

1775	Jan 8			Bromley Youths.
1777	Nov. 30	6720	Bob Major	do
1784	Feb 24	10.080	do	Trinity Youths
1785	Oct 9	5120	Gx. T. B. Major.	Bromley Youths
1786	Dec 3	5280	do	Cumberlands
1793	Oct 6	5264	Grandsire Major	Jun? Cumberlands
	29	6080	Gx. T. B. Major	Trinity Youths
1801	Oct 18	5024	do	Cumberlands
1805	Sep 15	5040	Grandsire Triples	Jun? Cumberlands.
1812	Dec 13	5040	do.	Cumberlands
1815	Sep. 15	5040	do.	do.
1817	Sep. 7	5040	do.	do.
1819	Nov 28	5040	do	do.

St Marys
Woolwich.



The inventories
made in the
reign of King

Edward the Sixth

record that there were *iiij* bells of brass
mettall puled, hanging in the Steple there
and also *i* little Sainis bell of brass
hanging in the said steple. According
to the report of the Royal Commission
on Ancient Monuments the tower still
contains a 14th Century bell It is

inscribed - WILLELMUS PRENE ME FECIT

1473

IN HONOREM SANCTAE TRINITATIS: ⁽⁸³⁶⁾ Prene was a

rector of Woodchurch who died in 1404.

The present church was built between the years 1733 and 1740. It was included among the fifty churches which were to be provided for by Act of Parliament in Queen Anne's reign. £3000 was granted for the purpose.

The plain square brick tower contains a ring of eight bells with a tenor of 13 cwt. cast by Thomas Sears at Whitechapel in 1821.

The first peal on the bells was one of Grand sire Triples rung on November 18th 1821 by a society which had revived the old name of the Eastern Scholars. Henry Symondson called it and the fifth was rung by Henry Parister. The latter

1474

was a ringer at the Church for many years and took part in several feals there. He was the father of one of the most famous families in the history of ringing and with his six sons rang in 1832 a feal of Grandine Triples. The third son William was the clerk member of the family and it was mainly due to him that for a time the band at Norwich was one of the best in the country. They rang Grandine Triples in 1847, Kent Treble Bob Major, Spedman Triples and Double Norwich Count Bob Major in 1848 and Superlative and London Surprise Major in 1849. This record surpassed that of every other Company in the nineteenth century except the Norwich Scholars, and was not again equalled until the rise of the Pennington

under Leonard Groder.

1475

William Parister held an appointment in the Royal Dockyard and was afterwards transferred to Devonport where he was instrumental in placing a ring of eight in the dockyard chapel. He was the author of a fesci book on change ringing published in 1887 which was closely modelled on Hubbards' Campanalogia and of its kind is quite a good work. He lived to a very great age and attended the meeting of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers in 1913.

After William Parister left Woodchurch the Local band did little to distinguish themselves in change ringing. (837)

Peal Boards at Lehanys Woodwick.

1476

On Tuesday November 18th 1821 the Society of Eastern Scholars rung on these bells a fine peal of Grand sire Triples of 5040 changes in 3 hours and 1 minute as follows -

Henry Brooks	1.	Henry Banister	5.
T. Smythers	2.	H. J. Symondson	6.
H. E. Henman	3.	Wm. Smith	7.
Robt Shersby	4.	Robert Castle	Tenor.

Conducted by H. J. Symondson. First peal on the bells.

On Monday Nov: 13th 1826 the following Members of the Society of Eastern Scholars rung on these bells a fine and complete peal of Grand sire Triples comprising 5040 changes in 3 hours and 4 minutes. viz -

H. J. Brooks Jr.	1.	W. Herbert	5.
H. J. Banister	2.	Saml Hoare	6.
Robt Castle	3.	H. Henman	7.
Robt Shersby	4.	Henry Coe	Tenor

Conducted by Mr W. Herbert.

1477

On March 22 1839 the following

persons rung on these bells 5040 changes of

Bob Major in 3 hours and 8 minutes viz

H. Brooks	1.	G. Stone	5.
Thos Joyce	2.	H. Saunders	6.
H. Henman	3.	R. Allen	7.
Robt Shersby	4.	H. Banister	Tenor

Conducted by Robt Allen.

On Nov^r. 12th 1838 the Society of St. Mary's
Woolwich rung on these bells a fine and
complete peal of Grandfire Triples comprising
5040 changes in 2 hours and 55 mins as follows -

G. Simmonds	1.	H. Johnson	5.
R. Thimbleby	2.	Geo Barlow	6.
H. Brooks	3.	F. H. Banister	7.
Chas. Brown	4.	H. Banister sen ^r	Tenor

Conducted by Chas. Brown.

On Monday Oct^r. 1846 the following members
of the Society of St. Mary's Woolwich rung on
these bells an excellent peal of Grandfire
Triples comprising 5040 changes in 2 hrs
and 49 mins, viz -

Mr G. Simmonds	1.	Mr G. Banister	5.
John Banister	2.	F. H. Banister	6.
H. Banister	3.	H. Banister sen ^r	7.
H. Keeble	4.	Ephm. Johnson	8.

Conducted by Mr. W. Banister.

1478

On Monday March 10th 1847 the following members of the Society of St. Mary's Woolwich rung on these bells Mr John Hollis original peal (in one part) of Grandiose Triples of 5040 changes in 2 hrs & 53 mins.

Mr G. Simmonds	1.		G. Banister	5.
John Banister	2.		G. Cleveland	6.
H. Banister	3.		H. Banister senr.	7
Ephm. Johnson	4.		Edw. West	Tenor

Conducted by Mr H. Banister

On Thursday Feb'y 10th ¹⁸⁴⁸ the following members of the Society of St. Mary's Woolwich rung on these bells an excellent peal of Kent Treble Bob Major containing 5120 changes in 2 hours 59 minutes viz

Mr F. H. Banister	1.		G. Banister	5.
J. Banister	2.		H. Keeble	6.
H. Banister	3.		H. Banister senr.	7
T. Haggerly	4.		E. West	Tenor

Conducted by Mr H. Banister.

1479

On Monday Sept: 18th 1848 the following members of the Society of St. Mary's Woolwich rung on these bells a fine and complete peal of Triples on Wedman's Principle comprising 5040 Changes in 2 hours and 55 minutes being the first in the method ever rung in Kent, viz

Mr W. Banister	1.		Edw. West	5.
John Banister	2.		G. Cleveland	6.
F. H. Banister	3.		G. Banister	7.
Saml Teasel	4.		R. Jones	Tenor

Conducted by Mr W. Banister.

On Thursday Nov: 16th 1848 the following members of the Society of St. Mary's Woolwich rang on these bells an excellent peal of Real Double Norwich Court Bob Major comprising 5040 Changes in 3 hours 7 minutes

Mr John Banister	1.		Mr W. Keeble	
W. Banister	2.		Geo Cleveland	
F. H. Banister	3.		Geo Banister	
Saml Teasel	4.		Edw. West	

It was rung in excellent style and is the first peal of Real Double Norwich in this method ever rung with two bobs in one lead. Composed and Conducted by Mr W. Banister.

On Monday Feby 10. 1849 the following 1480
 members of the Society of College Youths rung
 on these bells a fine and complete peal of
 Superlative Surprise Major containing 5376
 changes in 3 hours 15 minutes being the first
 in this intricate method ever rung in Kent.

H. Banister	1.		John Banister	5.
W. Banister	2.		Geo Cleveland	6.
F. H. Banister	3.		Geo Banister	7
Sam ^r . Teasel	4.		Edw. West	Tenor

The same band after diligent practice and steady
 perseverance completed on Oct: 11th in the same
 year 5600 changes of London Surprise Major
 which arduous task was performed in 3 hours 27
 mins. Each peal was composed and conducted by Mr
 W. Banister.

On Monday March 27th 1856 the following members
 of the College Youths Society rung on these bells
 a fine and complete peal of Grandine Triples
 comprising 5040 changes in 2 hours 57 minutes

Mr. James Banister	1.		Mr. George Banister	5
Thomas Banister	2.		Francis H. Banister	6.
John Banister	3.		Henry Banister Sen ^r .	7
Wm. Banister	4.		Edw West	Tenor

Conducted by Mr. H. Banister Sen^r. This is believed to be
 the first instance in which the whole of the changes
 comprising a complete peal of Triples were performed by a father and
 six sons.

On Monday, Oct 13th 1856 the following 1481
Members of the Society of St. Mary's Woolwich
rang on these bells a complete peal of
Grand sire Triples comprising 5040 changes
in 2 hours 52 minutes, viz

Mr H. Prighe	1.	R Hopkins	5.
Edw. West	2.	Josh. Robinson	6.
T. Banister	3.	John Banister	7.
Geo. Banister	4.	Richard Jones	Tenor

Conducted by Mr John Banister.

On Wednesday, Feby 1st 1860 the following
Members of the College Youths Society rang
on these bells a true and complete peal
of Triples on Hedman's Principle comprising
5040 changes in 2 hours 52 minutes viz

Mr W. Banister	1.	Mr Henry Banister, sen	5.
James Banister	2.	John Banister	6.
Francis H. Banister	3.	George Banister	7.
Thomas Banister	4.	Henry Prighe	Tenor

Conducted by Mr W. Banister.

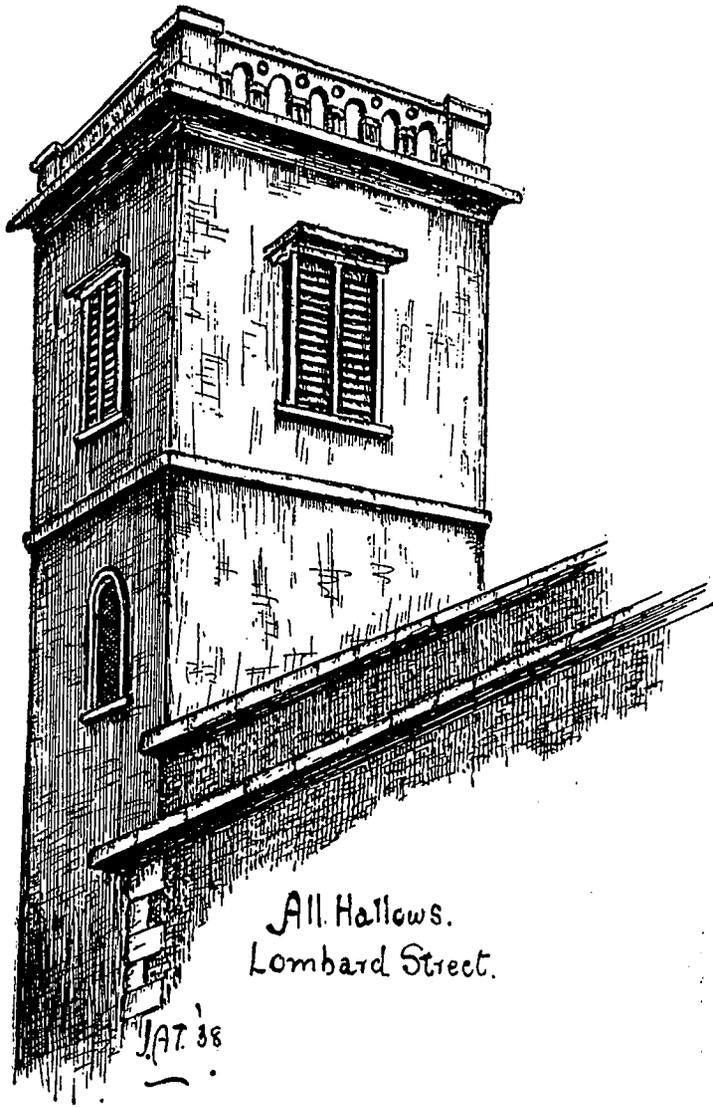
Teals rung at P. Marys, Woolwich.

1482

1821	Nov. 18	5040	Gran. Triples.	Eastern Scho
1826	Nov 13	5040	do	do
1829	Mar 22	5040	Bob Major	—
1838	Nov 12	5040	Gran Trip.	Woolwich Society
1846	Oct	5040	do	do
1847	Mar. 10	5040	do	do
1848	Feb 10	5120	K. T. B. Maj	do
	Sep 18	5040	Sted. Trip.	do.
	Nov 16	5040	D. N. C. B. Maj	do
1849	Feb 10	5376	Super. S. Maj	College Youths
	Oct 11	5600	London S. Maj	do
1856	Mar 27	5040	Gran. Trip	do
	Oct 13	5040	do	Woolwich Scty.
1860	Feb 1	5040	Sted. Trip.	College Yths.

Churches in the County of Surrey.

In the eighteenth century the London suburbs south of the Thames, outside the Borough of Southwark were included in the parish of Lambeth. The Church there had a ring of eight and was the scene of some early peals. Further out were Camberwell, Northlake, and Richmond, all separated from the metropolis by wide spaces of open country. Towards the end of the century Battersea took a place as a peal ringing centre and in the early years of the nineteenth century several churches were built in South London and equipped with bells. They included Holy Trinity, Newington; St. John's, Lambeth,



All Hallows.
Lombard Street.

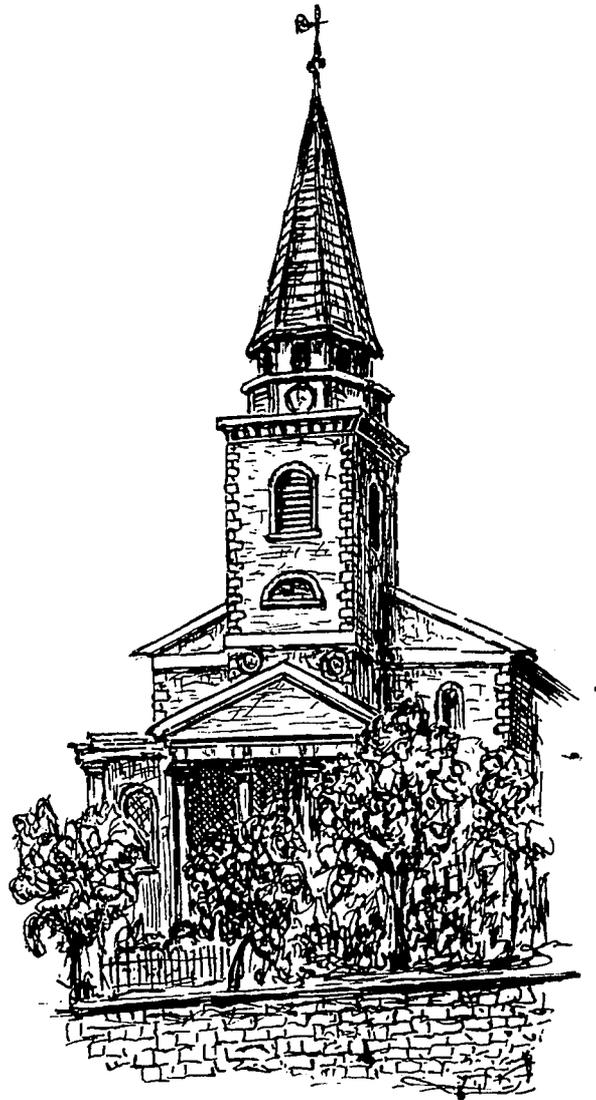
1/17. '38

1484
St. Peter's, Walworth; St. George's
Camberwell; and St. James's Bermondsey.

A large number of peals were rung
in these towers.

St Marys Battersea

There was a church at Battersea as early as Saxon times, in the following centuries it was altered and rebuilt, and at the time of the Reformation it was a small and unpretentious building, consisting of a nave with south aisle and a tower. In 1614 the old tower was replaced by a new one of brick. By the middle of the eighteenth century the building had got into a



runous Condition and as the parish had much increased in population and wealth it was decided to follow the example of surrounding villages and erect an entirely new church. An Act of Parliament was procured under which trustees were appointed who were empowered to raise funds by selling the church estates and by borrowing money, which was to be repaid by annuities secured by a special rate, and by few rents. A local man named Joseph Dixon was appointed surveyor and architect and his plans having been approved the new church was built and opened in 1775. It has scarcely one feature of architectural merit but it was solidly constructed

and the tower with its Copper Covered
spire is a familiar and not unpleasing
feature in the river side view.

At the time of the Edwardian inventory
of 1552 there were "foer greaie belles, and
one litle bell in the steeple". In 1564 two
were recast at a total cost of £10-9-9,
but fourteen years later both had been
cracked and had to be recast, this time
by Robert Holt of Whitechapel. As the
new bells were lighter than the old
and not much work had to be done
about the fittings the total cost (including
Dinner for our Dynner and other Drinkings
iiijs. iiijd.) was no more than £2-12-7.
In 1602 the two bells were recast for
the third time and at a total cost of
£6-16-0. In 1645 it was agreed by

the parishioners that the two cracked bells shall be cast into one & shall be hung up, for which the parish shall pay according to what the charge shall come out of the Church's stocks." A new frame was at the same time provided in the new tower.

In 1653 the four bells were recast by Brian Eldridge at a cost of £56.16.0 and some time towards the end of the seventeenth century the ring was increased to six with a tenor of 15 cwt.

In May 1775 Thomas Janaway of Chelsea offered to recast 6 old Bells after the Rate of £1-3-0 per cwt. and to make an addition of 2 cwt of new metal at £5-12-0 per cwt. and also 1 new bell, about 7 cwt. to be hung in

1489

the lantern for the clock to strike
one, also at £5-12-0 per cur. His estimate
for the new stocks, wheels, clappers,
trusses, etc. and the cost of hanging the
bells was £31. The cost of the frame
which was made by the builder was
£27-10-0. To complete the octave
Thomas Rhodes one of the re-building
trustees gave the treble and the second
was by voluntary subscription of the
inhabitants. The total amount paid
to Janaway was £106-5-0. The bells
were rung at the opening of the church
on November 16th 1777 by the Society of
London youths and the next day they
rang 6048 changes of Oxford Treble
Bob Major, conducted by William Jones

the author of the Clavis.

The Churchwardens' accounts contain many items referring to the bells, especially in early times charges for new baldricks. In 1560 they payd to Lystney for mendyng ij bawdrykes, iiij d; and for whight leather to mend ye bawdrykes, j d. In 1561 "for mendyng of to bawdrykes, vij d; and for whyle cedar, iiij d." In 1563 "for ij newe bawdrykes, ijs iiij d." In 1566 "for wyte leather for ye belles, iiij d." In 1567, "for a bawdrycke viij d." In 1569, "for mendyng a bawdrycke iiij d." In 1572 the wardens spent two shillings for a whole tude to make baldricks of. The next most frequent charge is

1491

for repairs to the clappers. In
1561 four shillings and two pence was
spent for mending of the bell clappers.
In 1562 "p^d to a smythe for a Clapper
for ye. Gyde beyle & ij. strapes of
yereue for ye. ffyrst beyle, and a
pyne for a bawdryke, xxij s." In 1565
for mending of a Clapper x s d. In
1567, "for making of ye. greie bele
clapper, vs." In 1572 "for mendinge
the Clapper of a bell, xv s d." In 1579,
two shillings was paid for mending the
great bell clapper and soon afterwards
six shillings "for eschaininge of ye
same Clapper for a new because the

1492

old on would not serve." At
marginal note points out that "in fower
yeare this bell blapper cost nyne shillings
vij d." The cost of repairs to the other
bell fittings was by comparison small. In
1561 fourpence was paid "for mendyng of
a whele of a bell." In 1565 "to a
Carpenter for iiij newe weles for ye iiij
bells in ye steeple xxvij s - viij d." In 1567
for a day worke to a carpenter a boute
the wheles of ye bells xvij d." Three pieces
of rope for the bells cost four shillings
in 1560 and four years later 26 lb of
hemp rope "beyng iiij lengthe" cost four
shillings and six pence. Probably the
earlier ropes were inferior in quality
and the wardens thought it good

1493

policy to pay a little more and get
a better article, but the difference in price
may have been due to the depreciation
of the currency, for about this time the
parish had to write off a loss of $12\frac{1}{4}$
owing to the "fall of money". In 1567
a rope for the saunce bell cost pence.
In 1568 four ropes cost $7\frac{1}{7}$. In 1572
Nyllem Hodde was paid two shillings
"for changing ye bell ropes". In 1574
 $4\frac{1}{4}$ was paid for three bell ropes, and
next year the same charge occurs again.
In 1581 four new ropes cost $7\frac{1}{4}$. These ropes
were of course plain lengths without
salties, and when they became useless
for ringing, the wardens did not allow

- 1495
 1576. bread and bere for ye Ringers
 the first day of the Queenes Maies Reigne, xxd.
1595. For Ringing when the Queene
 came to Whitehall from Richmond xij d.
1600. To iiij Ringers when the Queen
 did remove vj d.
- Laid out on the xxijth of November
 for iiij ringers iiij d.
- Spent more the same daie for bread
 & drinke & candels for the ringers xij d.
1633. To the ringers upon Gunpowder
 Treason 2. 0.
- 1647 19 Nov. Ringing on the King's
 Birthday 2. 6.
1649. Id. for ringing upon
 gunpowder treason day 2. 6
1660. To Ringers the 29th of Maye, beinge
 the daie the Kinge came to London 7. 6.
1661. Ringing on Crowneation Day. 8. 0.
1723. For ringing when my Lord
 Bullingbroke came to Towne 12. 0

In 1733 the bells were ordered to be rung
 on fourteen days which included royal

1496

birthdays, Restoration Day, Gunpowder
 Plot day, and the anniversary of the
 landing of William of Orange. Christmas
 day is the only ecclesiastical festival
 in the list. The fee on each occasion
 was six shillings. In view of the
 political situation at the time the
 ringing in 1647 for King Charles's birthday
 is rather significant. The Lord
 Bolingbroke for whom the bells rang in
 1723 was Henry St. John the famous
 statesman of Queen Anne's reign who
 was born at Battersea and was buried
 in the old church 726

The weights of the old six bells were -

	Cwt.	qr.	lb.		Cwt.	qr.	lb.
1.	5.	3	4.	4.	9	2	0.
2.	6	0	0	5.	11	0	28.
3.	6	2	7	Tenor.	15	1	17.

This inventory taken by the jury afo --- the
xiiij day of December in the yere above w --- of
all and every suche Churches goods as --- or
ought to appertayne unto --- now in the Churches
--- hereafter appeareth.

Impremis four greate belles and one litle
bell in the s[teple]

This ye. inventory indentyd and made of
all the Churches --- wythin the parochie Churches
of Battychersey, the County yn the County ---
made the xviiij daye of October yn the --- yere
of the reing of our sovereyn Lorde King
Edwarde the vijth.

Item four greate belles yn the steple
Item a litle belle yn the steple.

Delivered unto the wardens thes the xixth day of
May anno regnis regis Edwardi vij^{ti} vij^o thes
parcelles of Churches goodes hereafter ensuing

Remaining in their charge to the Kinges
use four belles in the steple and a pounce
bell.

Inscriptions on the Bells. ⁽⁷⁴⁶⁾

1. THE GIFT OF THOMAS RHODES ESQ
1777 THOS JANAWAY FECIT
 2. BY VOLUNTARY SUBSCRIPTION OF THE
INHABITANTS THOS JANAWAY FECIT 1777.
 3. MUSICA EST MENTIS MEDICINA THOS
JANAWAY FECIT 1777.
 - 4, 5, 6, 7. THOS JANAWAY FECIT 1777
- Tenor. MARK BELL ESQ & JOHN CAMDEN ESQ
CHURCHWARDENS 1777 THOS JANAWAY FECIT
- Clock Bell. T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1824.

Diameter of Tenor 45 inches.

Yeal Boards at P. Kearny's
Patience (747)

1499

On Monday August 26th 1782 the Society of College Youths rung in this Steeple 5040 Plain Bob Triples in 3 hours. The performers

were -	Jas Brown	Treble	William Ellis	5.
	Rich ^d Millard	2.	Thomas Verren	6.
	Isrl. Johnson	3.	Jas Horsler	7.
	Edw. Simmonds	4.	John Bryan	Tenor

Called by Jas Horsler.

The Society of College Youths rung in this Steeple Sunday June 20th 1790 6016 Changes of Excford Treble Bob being the most that ever was rung true on these bells and was completed in 3 hours and 35 minutes by

Israel Johnson	Treble	Richd Wilson	5.
John Lichford	2.	Jas. Bartlet	6.
Mchrs. Lockyer	3	Wm Falkner	7
Jas. Horsler	4	Wm. Deane	Tenor.

The Yeal was called by Mr Isrl. Johnson.

College Youths. On Monday Dec 27 1847 was rung on these bells a Correct yeal of Kent Treble Bob Major containing 5184 Changes which was completed in 3 hours and 10 minutes.

Samuel Eaton	1.	William Hinds	4.	John Cox	7.
William Blacklop	2	George Skenday	5.	Jos Sturton	8.
Charles Balle	3	Chas Browne	6.		

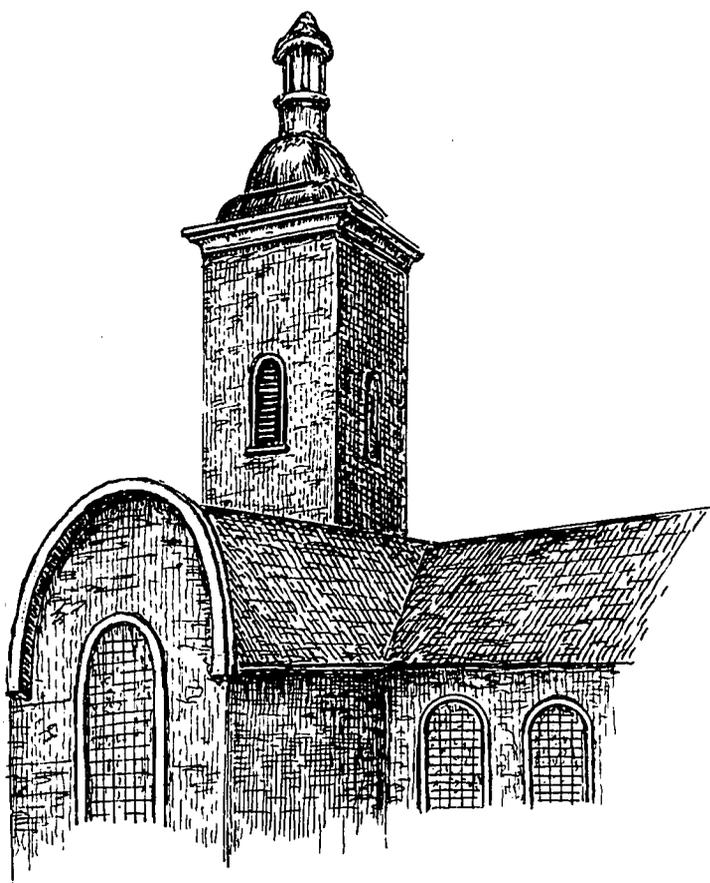
Conducted by G. Skenday.

Seals rung at L. Shays. Battersea.

1500

1777	Nov 17	6048	Ox. T. B. Maj	London Youths
1780	Oct 8	5040	Gran. Trip.	College Youths
1782	Aug 26	5040	Bob Triples	do
	Oct 13	5040	do	do
	Dec 8	5040	do	do
1783	Oct 28	6000	Bob Major	do
	Nov 9	5104	do	do
	16	6000	do	do
	30	5040	Bob Triples	do
1787+	Oct 10	5040	Bob Major	do
1787	Nov 10	5120	do	do

St. Mary
Magdalen,
Bermondsey.



In olden
times there

stood in Bermondsey a famous Benedictine
Alley and round it clustered the houses
of its tenants and dependents, for whose
use the prior built the church of St. Mary
Magdalen. The abbey was dissolved in
1539 but "St. Mary's remaineth and
perveth as afore and is called a parish
church". In the steeple there were iiij

bells and a pance bell. In 1680

the church was rebuilt in the Renaissance style but on the Gothic plan, the lower part of the tower being left standing and since that time many alterations have been made. At the beginning of the eighteenth century the bells were increased to eight probably in 1721, and by Richard Phelps. The earliest peal on them was by the College youths in 1728 and was the first of over ten-thousand changes rung in the metropolitan area, the second so far as we know in all England. The records of the College youths give the number of changes as 10,800 but I suspect that it should be 10,080. The second peal, four years later, was by the City Scholars.

It too was a 10.080 and was also
 Bob Major. On Easter Tuesday, 1734,
 William Laughton and the Rambling
 Ringers went to Camberwell for a peal
 but finding the tenor unringable they
 came on to Bermondsey and rang
 it there. It ~~was~~ says Laughton, "good
 ringing was as e-er was rung, or ever
 can or will be done;" but Laughton
 generally had a high opinion of his
 and his friends' performances and was
 not afraid to express it.

During the eighteenth Century eight
 other peals were rung in the tower, none
 of any special interest, and in 1824
 under the plea that the fabric was unsafe
 the bells were taken down, and all

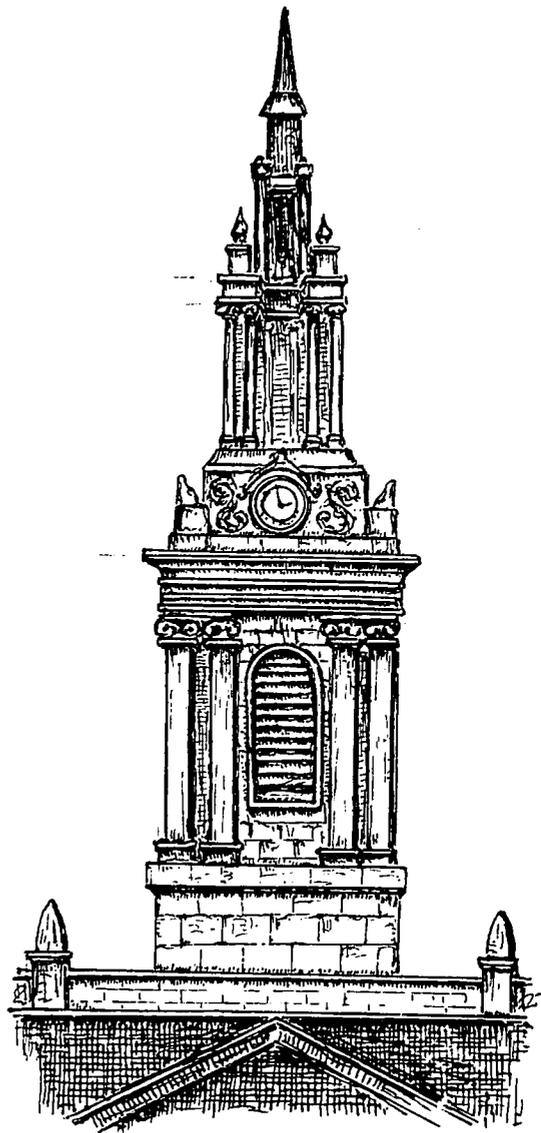
all except one sold. In 1830 Mears
 replaced that one with a ring of three
 tenor 9 cwt.

Peals rung on the Bells

1728	May 18	10.800	Bob Major	College Youths
1732	Sep.	10.080	do	City Scholars
1734	Apr 16	5040	do	Ramblers
1747	Jan 12	5040	do	Eastern Sch.
1751	Sep. 12	5040	do	do
1756	Oct. 7	5040	do	London Yths.
1760	Dec 28	5120	Gx. T. B. Maj	Coll. Yths.
1763	June 13	6560	do	Cumberlands.
1764	Feb 27	5040	Bob Triples	do
1772	Nov 8	5040	Bob Major	Coll Youths
1776	Nov 18	6240	Gx. T. B. Maj	Cumberlands.

St. James,
Bermondsey.

The church of St James, Bermondsey was built in 1829, and contains a ring of ten bells with a tenor of 25 cwt. Cast in 1828 at the Whitechapel foundry. The first peal was 5120 Changes of Oxford Treble Bob Royal by the Cumberlands on Nov 28th 1829.



Boards at St. James's, Bermondsey.

1506

On Saturday Nov. 28. 1829 the Society of Cumberland Jurists rang a fine and complete Peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal Containing 5120 Changes in 3 hours and 36 minutes it being the first Peal rung on these bells.

The Performers were -

George Gross	1.	Robt Airfield	6.
Thos. Gross	2.	Henry Burwash	7.
Jas Stickleury	3.	Chas Foster	8.
Wm. Atherton	4.	T. Henry (of Norwich)	9.
John Oldfield	5.	John Whiting	Tenor

The Peal Called by George Gross.

Society of College Jurists. On Tuesday Sep. 21 1830 was rung by the above Society in 3 hours and 30 minutes a fine and complete Peal of Calus on Hedman's Principal containing 5079 Changes being the first in that method on these bells. Performed by

George Barlow	1.	Jas Nash
Jno. Meritt	2.	Edw. Sawyer
Jas Stickleury	3.	Edw. Lansdell
Danl. Beakley	4.	Wm. Rice
Saml. Austin	5.	Frans. Shafter

Composed and Conducted by Edward Lansdell

Society of College Youths. On Monday
 March 13th 1849 was rung in this Steeple by
 8 of the above Society in 4 hours and 15 minutes
 a fine and complete Peal of Kent Treble Bob Major
 containing 7040 Changes being the greatest
 performance achieved on these bells

Saml. Teaton	1.	Geo. Menday	5.
Henry Hindes	2.	Chas. Browne	6.
Josh. Clarke	3.	Jno. Cox	7.
George Hockham	4.	Jno. Austin	Tenor

Called and Conducted by George Menday.

On Monday Feby 3rd 1851 by the following
 persons in 3 hours and 3 minutes was rung
 a fine and complete peal of Kent Treble
 Bob Major containing 528 Changes

Saml. Teaton	1.	Saml. Austin	5.
Geo. Menday	2.	John Cox	6.
Chas. Browne	3.	John Austin	7.
Thos. Blackiop	4.	J. Furb (of Watefield)	Tenor

The Peal was Conducted by Geo Menday.

Society of College Youths. On Monday August 21st 1845 was rung a fine and complete peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal containing 5040 changes in 3 hours and 50 minutes it being the first peal in that method ever rung in London

Performers

J. Secrin	1.	G. Stockham	6.
G. Menday	2.	J. Cose	7.
J. Mash	3.	J. Friend	8.
J. Hughes	4.	J. Harper	9.
E. Sawyer	5.	A. G. Frost	Tenor

Composed and Conducted by J. Cose.

Society of College Youths, Established 1637
On Thursday September 25 1845 the under mentioned persons rang a fine peal of Stedman Caters containing 6701 changes in 4 hours and 45 minutes being the greatest number obtainable with the treble in 2nd place with

Bobs only			
John Cose	1	Geo. Stockham	6
Abm. Antill	2	Jas Mash.	7
Geo Menday	3	Ed. Lansdell	8
Jas Hughes	4	Joseph Harper	9
James Austin	5	Thomas Taylor	10

Composed and conducted by John Cose.

1509
Peals rung at St. James's Bermondsey.

1829 Nov 28 5120 Ox. T. B. Royal Cumberlands

St Giles
Camberwell.



At the end of the eighteenth century Camberwell was a pleasant country village where lived many London citizens who had a taste for the country and who could afford to go up and down to Town each day to business. The fare of the Coach running to Fleet Street was $\frac{1}{2}$ outside and $\frac{1}{6}$ inside. St Giles was a small church originally erected in Saxon times but rebuilt and repaired several times. The first inventory made in the reign of Edward VI

has the following -

Item iiij bellys

Item ij sacring bellys

Item ij pancey belles.

The sacring bells were sold and the inventory of a year later (1552-3) mentions only ~~iiij~~ "iiij belles in the steeple". But the churchwardens note "also remaining in their charge for the Kinges use three greie belles and a saunce bell."

In 1716 the old bells were recast and a new ring of six supplied by Richard Steep at a cost of £115-17-6 and a few years later they were increased by two trebles making what was supposed to be the lightest octave in the kingdom. The tenor was 7cwt. and the total weight 36cwt.

The first peal on the bells was rung in 1734 by the Rambling Ringers Club after several unsuccessful attempts.

1512

They met the first time on Sunday
March 7th. But found the tenor out of
her bearings and so went on to Lambeth
and rang 1008. On Easter Tuesday
they met again and having lifted the
bell out of the pit they proceeded to raise
the bells. But John Trenell who was
ringing here found that something was
wrong and that she would not mount,
so up aloft they went again, and this
time they found one of the gudgeon loops
loose. With that they gave up the
attempt as a bad job and went to
Bermondsey and rang the peal there.
The next attempt was on August 15th
when they rang three thousand changes
and the bad going of the tenor put a
stop to further ringing. Finally on

October 13th they succeeded in 1513
scoring 5040 RDB Major in 2 hours and
55 minutes. Laughton attributed their
success to the fact that on the way down
they picked up an old horse shoe and
nailed it up on the belfry door, so
averting bad luck.

In 1735 the Eastern Scholars rang
RDB Triples on the bells and in 1744 the
College Juniors rang Treble RDB. Annable
conducted the latter. As a rule he liked
to be at the heavy end, but on these light
bells he rang the treble. The Cumberland
rang 5040 RDB Major in 1760 and the
College Juniors 6400 Gosford Treble RDB in
1780 the Conger at the time in the tower.
but in 1794 their rivals beat it with
6720 changes in the same method.

In 1798 the tower had got into a

dangerous condition and as other parts of the church were sadly in want of repair, the usual proposal was made to pull it down and rebuild. Mr Oswald Strong a builder objected "that the people might stand in its present condition for many years"; nevertheless it was ordered that the bells should not be rung and presently the upper part was pulled down and rebuilt with brickwork. So the building stood until the middle of the nineteenth century a mixture of many styles and the work of many ages. On the night of Sunday February 7th 1841 a fire broke out which completely destroyed the building, tower and bells and everything. The present church which was from designs of George Gilbert Scott and W. B. Skiffers

1515

was begun in 1842 and finished
two years later in November 1844. The
cost was defrayed by a rate and the
original design was for a much more
magnificent building, but one of the
parishioners objected and his objection
having been sustained as good in law
the estimate was cut down by several
thousand pounds. As it was £24,000
was spent. ⁽⁷⁵⁰⁾ of it went to the church with
its central tower and spire 210 feet high
is a very fine one. The bells a ring of
ten with a 25 cwt tenor were cast at
Whitechapel in 1844 and in recent
years have been restored by Taylors of
Loughborough.

Peals rung at S. Giles, Camberwell.

1734	Oct. 13	5040	Bob Major	Rambling Rgs.
1735	Nov 14	5040	Bob Triples	Eastern Sch.
1744	July 15	5520	Geo. F. B. Major	College Yths.
1760	July 21	5040	Bob Major	Cumberlands
1780	Feb 7	6400	Geo. F. B. Major	College Yths.
1794	Oct 20	6720	do	Cumberlands.

St. George's, Camberwell.

1519

St. George's was one of the churches built by money granted by Parliament after the peace which followed the battle of Waterloo. The tower contains a ring of eight bells.

Inscriptions (750)

1. WILLIAM DOBSON DOWNHAM NORFOLK FECIT 1823.
2. GIVE NO OFFENCE TO THE CHURCH.
3. LONG LIVE KING GEORGE THE FOURTH.
4. THE LORD TO PRAISE MY VOICE I'LL RAISE
5. THESE EIGHT BELLS WERE CAST BY WILLIAM DOBSON AT DOWNHAM NORFOLK 1823
- 6.
7. THIS PEAL OF BELLS WAS ERECTED IN SAINT GEORGES CHURCH CAMBERWELL 1823
8. THE REV^d EDW^d SMYTH VICAR WM LAW RICH^d BILLETER AND THOS TURK CHURCHWARDENS WM DOBSON FECIT 1823.

Inscriptions on the ten at St. Giles'

1-10. C & C. MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1844.

The following insert entitled:-

" A Famous East End Ring"

has been filmed in three frames.

The Bells of Stepney. Case .fjStened —dddd
A FAMOUS EAST END RING.

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

In the year 1700 the eastern suburbs of the City of London were about as different from what they are now as they very well could be. Instead of an unbroken mass of mean and uninteresting streets stretching to the River Lea and far beyond into Essex, the district was mainly open country, cornfields and orchards, dotted here and there with villages and hamlets. On the outskirts of the City from Aldgate round about Houndsditch and Petticoat Lane, and parts of Spitalfields, there were foul slums inhabited by Jews and foreigners, and along the riverside there was a very low class neighbourhood. Mr. Justice Withens, who as a lawyer and a member of the Society of College Youths may be said to have been an authority, in one of his *obiter dicta* from the Bench, expressed his scornful wonder at there being a sober Wapping man.

The parish of Stepney (or Stebunhithe as it was formerly called) covered a large part of the area. The village was round the green and the parish church, there were hamlets at Bethnal Green, Shadwell, and other places, and along the main road eastwards from Aldgate there were houses far beyond Whitechapel Church.

The parish church of St. Dunstan was of ancient foundation, and the building as it now stands was erected at different times during the fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. The tower dates from the late fifteenth century. There has been much restoration and reconstruction throughout.

When the great Priory of the Holy Trinity at Aldgate was dissolved in 1540 four of its bells were sold to Stepney. The present tenor has an inscription containing 118 words and 518 letters, recording its history. Originally given to the Priory by a Nicholas Chadworth in 1386, it was recast in 1604, 1764, 1799, and finally in 1806. Another recasting not mentioned took place in 1599.

The Edwardian inventory of 1552 has not survived, but at the end of the sixteenth century there was a heavy ring of five bells. 'On the xth day of february, 1598, at a meeting of the vestry men, then and there it was agreed amongst them as followeth—First that the great bell be forth wth cast and that evy prshoner wthin the same shall gyve towards the same one yeres pew rent over and besides their qtrs rent now due. And evy pishioner that hath no pew appointed for him or her shall pay viijd according to thauncient custome of this pish over and besides his or her quarterly dues now or hereafter due and payable.'

The response of the parish was slow, the money did not come in at all well, and it was not until the April of the following year it was decided to give the order for recasting to Lawrence Wright. 'The xxix of Aprill, 1599. It was ordered and agreed that day and yere above written, by Mr. Bludder, Mr. Thos. Jones, . . . and the iiij or Churchwardens all present in the vestry that Lawrence Wright of Houndsditch in the pish of St. Buttolphs wth out Aldgate, london, Belfounder, should have the casting of the great Bell called the fyfth bell, and for the casting thereof to have 40 li (viz.) 10 li at the taking of her downe and carrying her away & at the

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Lawrence Wright was a leading bellfounder at the time and the principal business rival of Robert Mot, of Whitechapel. Wright's charges were low, and he got a lot of work in various parishes; but his bells did not always give satisfaction, and he was more than once involved in legal proceedings. In 1587 he recast the tenor at St. Michael's, Cornhill, the famous Rus bell, but did not make a good job of it. The churchwardens were undecided whether they should accept it and pay for it, and in the end the parish agreed to pay Wright £3 17s. for new metal supplied and £9 6s. 9d. for the recasting. That was as much as 'his due is to be accounted justly,' but the parish made the sum up to the round £14 out of benevolence, and promised 'to consider of him better if the bell hold and be better liked of than it is now.' It was not 'better liked of,' and Robert Mot was ordered to recast it.

In 1592 and 1593 Wright recast the fourth and tenor which Mot had recently supplied to St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, but the reason probably was that the bells had been cracked not because they were poor in quality.

About the same time Wright supplied a new tenor to Hillingdon in Middlesex, but the bell was a bad one and the parish refused to pay for it, whereupon he entered an action at law. In reply the churchwardens petitioned the Court of Requests for an injunction calling on him to show cause why the bond should not be cancelled. They pleaded that Wright 'did faithfully promise and undertake to newe caste and substantially make a great bell, . . . tuneable and agreeable with the rest of the bells,' but 'he never did performe in anie good order but altogether contrarie to his said bargaine and agreement.' Nevertheless, 'the said Lawrence of a gredie and unconscionable minde hath or meaneth to sue yor said subjects upon the deeds of obligationerie, intending there greatlie to vex, trouble, and charge your said subjects, having no juste cause or consideracion so to doe.'

In his reply Lawrence Wright said he 'did newe caste and newe make the said bell and hanged the same in the said bell frame accordinge to the true entent and meaninge of the contracte and agreement.' What was the result of the action I cannot say. I have found among the State Papers a letter referring to another suit by Lawrence Wright, but what it was about does not appear. We have no means of judging the quality of his bells, for only one of all those he cast still survives, and that is only a small one, the third at Thurphen in

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Soon after the recasting of Stepney tenor, the fourth bell was broken, and as the parishioners were not paying the money at which they were rated, the vestry passed another resolution. 'For as much as the Church is indebted in severall somes of money vnto divs. psons By reason that many pishioners have not paid the sessment taxed for the new casting of the great bell, and wheras since the casting of the said great bell the fourth bell is become broken to the further chardge of the pishioners of this pish,' it was ordered 'ffirst that in consideration of the chardge aforesaid every pishon that is placed in a pew shall geve one whole yeres pew money franckly at one payment according to the rate of his pew Over and besides his quarteridge now or hereafter to be due. And others that have no pew viijd besides their quarteridge as aforesaide. To be collected by the churchwardens in there severall hamlets, and such as shall refuse to contribute contrary to this order, to deal wth them as the churchwardens in there discreacon shall think fitt and the law will allow.'

The vestry also decided that the fourth bell should be recast and the churchwardens were to deal *circumspectly* for the performing thereof.

Francis Whitacres was sexton at the time and had charge of the bells. He neglected his duties and put the parish to great expense by his negligence. It may be that the bells were broken by being tolled for funerals by incompetent persons. Also it seems he was bribed by the founder to allow him to remove one of the bells from the steeple before the parish had authorised it. He boasted to the parish clerk that he intended to make what he could out of the parish, 'else we shall dye beggers,' and when the churchwarden admonished him, he answered rudely and bid him 'shake his eares among dogs,' a curious old English form of insult which may be found in Shakespeare's plays. For all these things it was ordered by the vestrymen of the parish that 'ffrancis Whitacres, sexton, shalbe put out of his office for his misdemeanors.'

'ffirst the said ffrancis Whitacres did bid the snow shake his eares emong dogges, when the churchwarden Snow was churchwarden. Item the churchwarden did say vnto the Clark now let us take or benniffit and make what we can, for else we shall dye beggers. Item for taking in of a bell and delivering the same out of the steeple wth out the consent of the churchwardens and pishioners wch was chardgable to the pish. Item for the great chardge that the said sexton hath put the pishoners vnto for his negligence for not looking dutifully vnto the bells. Item that the churchwarden shall not henceforth pay vnto the said sexton any mere wages nor take any church duties.'

In September, 1601, Edmund Purser was admitted sexton in Whitacres' stead, and 'he shall have such wages and duties as usually hath bin paid vnto the Sexton, and also that ffrancis Whitacres late Sexton shalbe utterly dismissed and shall have no duties hereafter paid him nor meddle further in the church or pish.'

In the following century there was a family named Purser which supplied several prominent ringers, among them Charles Purser, who composed and called the long peals of Treble Bob Royal rung by the College Youths in their contest with the Cumberlands. These men lived in the eastern suburbs of London, and most probably were descended from the man who was appointed sexton of Stepney in 1601.

Junior Society of College Youths. -

This tablet was affixed in honour of the above Society who rang the first five Seals on the bells in this Steeple.

The first seal was Sunday September 21 1823 Comprising 5040 Changes of Grand sire Tripples in 2 hours and 58 minutes.

- Joseph Ladley
- Danl. Beakley
- Robert Inwood
- Henry Symondson
- Thomas Thomas
- Francis Marshall
- John H. Bradley
- William Church

Conducted by Joseph Ladley

The second seal was on Friday Oct^{br} 3rd 1823 Comprising 5040 Changes of Grand sire Tripples 182 Cbs and 58 singles in 2 hours and 58 minutes.

- Joseph Ladley
- John Taylor
- Edward Sawyer
- James Mash
- Joseph Harper
- Edward Lansdell
- William Rice
- Thomas Taylor

Called by Edward Lansdell

On Friday the 11th of February 1833 1519
The Sussex Society rung in this Steeple in 2
Hours and 58 minutes a fine and complete
Peal of Triples on Pleadman's principle
containing 5040 changes being the first in
that method and the greatest performance
achieved on these bells. Performed by

Richard Thimbleby	1.	Frans. Mathew	5.
Jas. Hickbury	2	Jas Math	6.
Danl Beakley	3	Edw Lansdell	7.
Edward Whible	4	Jas. Shunday	Tenor

The above Peal composed by Mr. W. Shipway
Comprised 240 Cobs, 120 singles and 2 doubles
all of which were regularly called and
made and was conducted by Mr. Ed. Lansdell.

Junior Society of College Youths.

1520

On Monday Feby 25th 1839 was rung in
this Steeple a Peal of Oxford Treble Bob
Major Containing 5184 Changes in the space
of 3 hours and 15 minutes by the following
persons -

John Cox	1.	James Pickbury	5.
Richard Trimbley	2.	Edward Lansdell	6.
John Hugh Bradley	3.	Joseph Harper	7.
James Nash	4.	William Rice	Tenor

Composed and Conducted by John Cox.

St. James's Society. On Monday Feby 18th
1856 eight members of the above Society rang
in this Tower a fine and complete Peal of
Grandure Triples Consisting of 5040 changes
in 2 hours 52 minutes. The performers were

W. Anshill	1.	Wm. Green	5.
G. Stockham	2.	Peter Code	6.
W. Merrifield	3.	Hy. Booth	7.
Jno Nells	4.	Wm. Roberts	Tenor

Conducted by G. Stockham.

Peals rung at St. George's Camberwell.

1823	Sep 21	5040	Cran. Trip	St. College Youths
	Oct 3	5040	do	do

Peal Board formerly at S. John's Croydon. 1522

The Society of Ancient College Youth rang a
true peal of Bob Major containing 5040 changes
on the 22nd day of January 1782 in 3 hours and
two minutes

Wm. Taylor,	Tells	Thos. Blakemore,	5.
Thos. Tooley,	2.	Thos. Williamson,	6.
Wm. Cresswick,	3.	Thos. Levens,	7.
Jno. Davy,	4.	Thos. Norris,	Tenor

Composed & called by Thos. Blakemore.

St John,
Waterloo Road.



St John's Lambeth was one of the churches built by funds voted by Parliament after the conclusion of the Napoleonic wars. (151) Architecturally it has no merits. The tower is a small one but contains a ring of eight bells with a tenor of 18 cwt and hung in two tiers. The College

1524

Youths rang the first peal in the
steeple, one of Oxford Treble Bob Major,
on October 24th 1825. It was conducted
by John Cooper. Later on in the century
the tower was the headquarters and gave
its name to the Waterloo Society, which
was founded in 1868, and lasted well
into the twentieth century.

Yeal Tablets at St. John's, Waterloo Rd.

1525

Monday Oct 24 1825 THE SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS rang in this Steeple a true and complete peal of OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, containing 5120 Changes, in 3 Hours and 13 minutes, being the first Peal on these bells. by the following persons,

JNO COOPER	Treble	THOS. MICHAEL	5.
P STICHBURY	2.	JNO. STRATFORD	6.
DL. BEAKLEY	3.	FRS. MATHEW	7.
WM. MAKEE	4.	WM. CULLUM	Tenor

Conducted by JOHN COOPER.

A FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

On February 13, 1828, was rung a true and complete Peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES containing 5040 Changes in 2 hours and 59 minutes, being the first Peal in the method ever rung in this Steeple. Performers

DAN BEAKLEY	Treble	GEO. POTTER	5.
THOS POLLETT	2.	CHAS. HAYWARD	6.
WM. ATHERTON	3.	THOS. TOLLADAY	7.
HEN. BURWASH	4.	THOS. SHARP.	Tenor

Conducted by WM. ATHERTON.

ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY. On Monday Sep. 29 1856 Was rung in this Steeple by eight members of the above Society a true and complete Peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, containing 5040 Changes which was performed in 3 hours by the following persons,

WM. COPPAGE	Treble	THOS PEARCE	5.
GEO. SHURY	2.	GEO. BURTON, JUNR	6.
CHAS BALLE	3	JNO. AUSTIN	7.
GEO. STOCKHAM.	4	JESSE HORTON	Tenor

Conducted by THOS PEARCE.

ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY. On Saturday Novbr. 21st 1868 was rang on these bells in this Tower an excellent peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES comprising 5040 Changes in 2 hrs. 47 mins. Performers

John Cox	1.	William Baron	5.
George Stockham	2.	Isaac Rogers	6.
Robert Rose	3.	George Banks	7
William Coppage	4.	Henry Hall	Tenor.

Conducted by William Baron.

WATERLOO SOCIETY. Est. 1868. On Saturday June 12th 1869 the following members rang upon these bells in this Tower the late Mr. J. HOLT'S ten part peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES comprising 5040 Changes in 2 hrs 50 mins Performers

Robert Hill	1.	George Harvey	5.
John Cox	2.	William Baron	6.
George Newson	3.	Robert Rose	7
George Stockham	4	William Coppage	Tenor

Conducted by W. Baron

N.B. This being the first peal in this Society.

WATERLOO SOCIETY. On Thursday Decbr. 8th 1870
 was rung in this Tower with the bells deeply muffled.
 the late Mr J. HOLT'S ten part peal of GRANDSIRE
 TRIPLES containing 5040 changes in 3 hrs 1mt
 as a last mark of respect to Mr H. READ a much
 esteemed member of this Society. Performers were

William Barron	1.	William Coppage	5.
" Green	2.	George Harvey	6.
" Hovord	3.	Robert Rose	7.
John Mansfield	4.	Asa Hayward.	Tenor.

Conducted by Mr W. Barron.

WATERLOO SOCIETY. On Saturday Feb. 11th 1871
 the following members rang in good style a true
 peal of Triples on STEDMAN'S PRINCIPLE containing
 5040 changes in 2 hrs 50 mins. Performers

John Cox	1.	John Digby	5.
William Baron	2.	George Harvey	6.
Hovord	3.	Robert Rose	7.
William Green	4.	William Coppage	Tenor

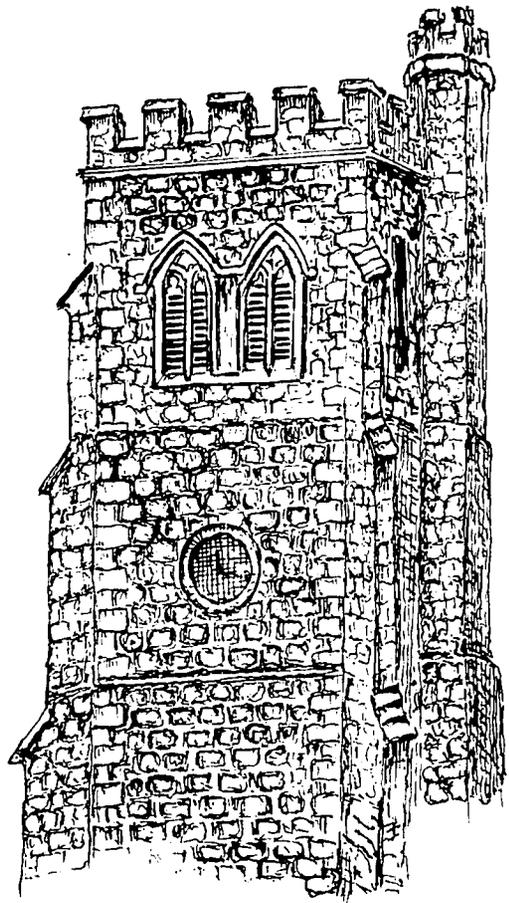
Conducted by John Cox

The above is the first peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES rung
 by this Society on these bells.

Peals rung at S. Johns, Lambeth.

1825 Oct 24 5120 Ox. T. B. Maj College Youths

St Mary,
Lambeth.



At the beginning
of the sixteenth
century there were
at Lambeth three

bells one of which was dedicated to St. Thomas.

In 1514 the parish paid three shillings for
rightening the bells on their stocks and for
putting a play to the tenor. The charge for
nailing the play was one shilling. What this
means we cannot say. It was not like
a modern play of course for such things

1530

were unknown and would have
been useless since the bells were not
rung up to a set pull. Perhaps it was
a stint to strengthen the frame.

In 1515 a bell clapper cost three shillings
This probably was for the paunce bell or
for the pebble, as the charge for repairing the
clapper of St. Thomas' bell was three shillings
and fourpence. Philip the smith of Kings
Street put his mark on that as a token
of his promise to guarantee his work for
seven years "and if it break within" that
time "he to make it at his proper cost
and charge."

Seven years is a long time for a man
to guarantee his work, the old custom
being to undertake to put right any

1531

defect that appeared within a
year and a day. Perhaps Philip Smith's
work did not stand so long as he
thought it would, for in 1520 twopence
was paid "for bearing the bell clapper
to Whitechapel parish." Why did the
Churchwardens depart from the usual
Custom of employing the local tradesman?
Whitechapel was a long way from
Lambeth, and all London lay between.
It may be that some one was already
beginning to be known as a clever man
with anything connected with bells
and the foundations of the famous
Whitechapel foundry were already laid.

In King Edward's reign the Commissioners

1532
reported that they had left in
the church, "remaining to the King's use
five bells and a paunce bell." When
at the accession of Mary it was evident
that the fear of church bells being
looted had passed the parish had the
second recast, and the reaction against
the late violent changes in church doctrine
and ritual is shown by the payment
for ringing on Corpus Christi day.

The bellfounder who came in 1579 to
give his advice about mending the
clappers and was regaled with wine
and beer was certainly Robert Hol
and a new clapper was made at Whitechapel
for the great bell at a cost of twenty five

shillings and ninepence

1533

In 1584 four bells were recast, by whom it is not stated. The actual casting cost £18.0.0 and there were several other incidental expenses — an oaken pole to winch up the bells, a new staple to hoist up the bells, a link to give light while the work was being done, "mending and trimming all the bell clappers," and for our dinner, churchwardens bellfounder and other honest men of the parish at the payment of the money and receiving of his bond. There was also a new wheel made for the third at a cost of six shillings and eight pence.

In 1598 the tenor was broken. It weighed

14 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lbs. It was recast at 1534
a cost of £14-11-8 and then weighed
15 cwt. 2 qrs 21 lb. Robert Not was the
founder, and whether the bell was not
a good one, or whether it was cracked
by bad usage, in less than five years
time he had to cast it again, and
ten years later it was once more
remade, this time by William Carter,
Not's successor. Carter also recast
the third.

In 1638 the paunce bell was recast
by John Clifton. He does not seem to
be otherwise known as a bell founder.

One entry which is repeated more than
once is of interest. It is for "a matt for
the paveguard of the bell ropes." It is

1535

The earliest, and, I believe, the only early instance of masts being provided for the ropes to fall on.

There was the usual amount of paid ringing and in later years the vestry, like the vestries of other parishes, resolved to restrict it.

In 1518 the "yeoman amynner" fined the parish two shillings and fourpence for not ringing at the King's coming.

In 1571 all the bells of London were rung when the news came of the Battle of Lepanto. There were no English ships or men at that fight, but Christendom was still a very real thing, and England had a great interest in "the overthrow of the Turk."

In 1723 Richard Phelps recast 1536
the bells and made them into a ring of
eight. "The cost near 230 pounds was
deprayed by the gifts of the many gentlemen
& other inhabitants of the parish. Three
years later the College Juniors rang the
first recorded peal in the tower. It
was 6832 changes of Bob Major, Conducted
by Benjamin Storable who rang the
tenor. Francis Geary was at the third
Peter Merrygaris at the sixth and William
Laughton at the seventh. It was the
longest length that has as yet been
rung, but was beaten in the following
April by the 10,080 of Oxford Treble Bob
rung by the Norwich Scholars at St.

Michael at Goslany, Norwich.

1537

The Union Scholars rang Bob Major at S. Mary's in 1739, and the "junior" branch of the College Youths rang Oxford Treble Bob in 1757, and Double Bob Major in 1759. A band of West London ringers rang in 1777 a peal of Grandeur Triples for the ancient "Society of College Youths". This is recorded on a board in the belfry but did not find its way into the peal book.

Extracts from the Parish Books.

1538

1514. Him for the fastening of iiij belles
ye was lowse in the plates & a stei
to the grei bell iijs.
- Him for the naylyng of a stei to the
greit bell. xijds
1515. Paid for making of a bell clapper iijs.
1518. Payd to the yema amynur for
defawt of the rynging of the bells
at the kyngs comyng ij s. iiij d
- M^r. J^r. phelyp Somyrth in Kynges
Streit for the mendyng the clep of
sent Thomas bell, w^{ch} hys marke
theren and beng his promes &
yf ye breke w^{ch} in vij yere after
he sh^{al} make ye at hys proper cost
and charg ij s. iiij d
- 1520 for Peryng off the belle clapper
to Whitechapelliche ijd
- 1554-1557 first paid for casting of
the second bell and for metall put
to the same bell iiij li xvij s. xd.

- 1539
 Payd to the ringers on Corpus
 Christi day. iiij a
- 1571-1572. Item payd for ringing at
 the overthrowe of the fourche xiij d
- Payd to Gyles for keeping of the bells one
 quarter to Christmas vijs
- Payd to John Gyles for looking to the
 bells one yere ijs.
- 1577 Payd for a new rope for the pante
 bell ijs. viij a
- 1579 Payd for making the great clapper
 to a smith in White Chapel it
 wayning xxxij li et dem at vij the founde xvjs. ix d
- 1579-1580 It spent on the bell founde
 in wine and beere when he came
 to give his advise in mending the
 bell clappers xiij d
- 1583 Payd for worke about the frame
 of the clock house and clocke vijs.
- 1584 May 17 It was agreed at a
 vestry holden in the presence of
 Thomas Beage rector and John Skot
 Esq the churchwarden and many
 other parishioners that there be a

Collection among the parishioners
for the new changing and casting
of the bells and that the money wanting
thereof be paid out of church stocks.

1540

[£7-3-7 was Collected including £1-0-0 from
My Lords grace of Canterbury]

[Another benevolence for the same purpose
raised £9-3-0 in 1584]

Paid for new casting of iiij Bells xviijs
1585. Agreed that Holloway shall
have iiij's a yere for oyle for the
clock and belles and for Candel
for the clocke

1584-1585. It for an oaken foule to
wrashe up ye belles

xijd

It. for mendinge and trimmunge all
ye bell clappers

xvjs. xvjd

It for a new staple to hoise up ye
Belles

xxijd

It for ye new castings of iiij Belles

xviiij li

It. for a linke in ye steple at
hanginge ye Belles

iiijd

It for our dines Churchwardens
bell founders and other honest men

of ye. parische at ye. paiement of ye.
money recevinge of his bonds for the
strenght of ye. sayd belles in warentee
of a yeare and a daye

1541

vjs. viiij d

It for a newe whele for ye. third bell vjs. viiij d

1593-1599 It for mats to the bells ijs.

1597 Received of Anthony Foulle for
the old clapper of the great bell
weightinge 56 li

rs.

Payd to Anthony Foulle for making
the great bell clapper new at ye
a pound the clapper wayed 60 li j li rs. 0

1598. Item the olde great bell that was
broken in the tyme of Roger Trynffo
Rychard Sharpe and John Lucas
churchwardens in 1598 did containe
in weighte xiiiiij c one quarter and
xij li

Item the newe great bell that now is
in the steeple doth waye xc and
half and xxj li

Item also for new castinge, cariengge
hangeinge and all other charges

and he to have xjs the hundred

1542

viijs li

Item it was agreed that he should
have the overplus of mettell that he
putt into the bell viij d the pound
so there was putt in more than there
was in the old bell one hundred
and xxvij li

iiij li xjs viij d

Item for one newe clapper for the
newe great bell waying lviij lb.
rated at vjd the pound

i li. ix s.

Item for new working of the clapper
of the old great bell

x s.

Summa

xiiij li xjs. viij d.

1586. Payd to Holloway for a whole
yeres wages and for oyle and
candle

iiij li iiij s.

1595. To Lewis Small for keepinge
the clocke and for oyle and
candle

iiij s.

1596. It is agreed that the parish
clerk shall keep the clocke hereafter
by himself or his deputy.

1599. To Small for keeping the
clocke his wages 1543
xvijs.
1605. To Smalle for keeping the clocke
xvijs.
- 1598-1599 Item paid to Mr Sholes
man for bringing the great bell
clapper from Whitechapel to Lambeth vjd
- Item in charges in going and pawayling
to and fro about the bell xs.
- 1599-1600 Item paid to Mr Sholes for
the new bell xiiij li xjs. vijd
- 1602-3 Item payd the vijth day of September
when the great bell was pulled downe
to labourers that did helpe to make
them drinke xijs
- 1604-5 Item payed to Freeman for a
large matt for the safeguard of
the bell ropes ijs. iiijd
- Item payd to Mr Sholes the vij of September
in part payment of his byll for
the bell xs.
- Item payed to Mr Sholes the xvijth day
of october in the p'sence of John
Hamond and James Johnson

& others for the great bell	vli	1544
Item payd to Mr Shoat the 5 th day of January in the presence of Thomas Purcas and Edward Davis for the great bell	v li	
Item payd for matts for safeguard of the bell ropes	xviijs	
1612-1614. Item paid for takinge down of the 4 th Bell	00 12 00	
Item spent in victuals when we went to see the weight of the 3 rd bell putt out.		
1609 Payd for mettall that was putt into the great bell.	iijs vijs.	
Item in part for Casting of the great bell	xj li	
1615 Paid to the bellfounder for Casting the third bell	04 00 00	
1615-1616. Items given to the bellfounders men	00 01 06	
Items given to the Carpenters men when the Bells were hanged up	00 01 00	
Item paid to William Carter bellfounder for casting of the great Bell or Tenmor	11 li 00 00	

1616.	Also the parish is indebted for the casting the third bell in parish	15 45
		04 00 00
	Paid to Philip Wallion for taking down the said bell in 1613	01 13 04
1617	Paid to Philipp Wallion an olde debite being for hanginge up of the third bell in 1613	1 li 13. 4
	Item paid to William Barton for an olde debite owinge to Carter the Bell founder for castinge of the third bell.	1 li 11. 00
1623	Paid for ringing when the prince came from Spayne	00 12 00
1627	Item to the ringers at the Command of Sir George Paule	00 04 00
1630	Paid to the ringers the day the prince was born	00 06 00
June 27	To the ringers when prince Charles was baptized	00 03 00
1627	Shals for ye belfree.	
1632	Paid for a new clock for the church.	05 00 00

1638. Payd for carrying the saints bell to the new castle 1546
00 01. 00
1639. Payd to Mr John Clifton for casting the saints bell weighing 68 pounds of old metal at 8^d the pound and adding to it 14 pounds of new metal at 10^d the pound 03. 00 00
1633. Payd for ringing on the dukes birthday 00 07 00
- Nov 19 Payd for ringing on the kings birth day 00 08. 00
- 1635 Payd to the ringers at the Palsgraves coming to my Lord 00 03 00
- 1645 Payd to the ringers at repairing Lechester 00 06. 00
- 1705 April 10. Gave the ringers when the siege of Gibraltar was raised the day I, [Thomas Coleman,] was sworn in 00 15 00
1726. Agreed in vestry that nothing shall be paid for ringing but for the several days following viz March 1.; May 28, 29; August 1.; Oct. 20. 30

Inscriptions on the Bells. (154)

1547

Treble. THESE 8 BELLS & FRAME & ALL APPURTENANCES
WERE NEW MADE & A CONSIDERABLE WEIGHT
OF METAL ADDED TO THE OLD BELLS AD 1723
THE COST NEAR 230 POUNDS WAS DEFRAYED
BY THE GIFTS OF THE MANY GENTLEMEN &
OTHER INHABITANTS OF THIS PARISH SIT
DEUS PROPITUIS ILLIS.

2. R PHELPS MADE ME 1723

3. NEW MADE WITH THE OTHER 7 BELLS 1723
R. PHELPS FECIT CAST 1672 BOYDEN CUPER
WM PHILLIPS CH W.

4. R. PHELPS FECIT 1723

5. AS the fourth.

6. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1848

7. NEW MADE WITH THE OTHER BELLS 1723
R P FECIT CAST IN 1714 EDM CIBSON DD
RECT I A WARNER INO PAGE PET COURTHOPE
THEN CH W

Tenor C & C MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1848.

Peal Boards at St. Mary's Lambeth

1548

Monday 20 October 1777 The Society of College Youths rang in this Steeple a fine and Complete Peal of 5040 Grandine Trebles in 3 hours and 10 minutes. The performers were -

John Topfield	1	William Smith	5
James Horstler	2	Joseph Holdsworth	6.
Henry Vaughan	3	Joseph Rosewell	7
George Plowman	4	Richard White	Tenor

The peal was called by Jas. Horstler This Board was peaced in honour of the above Society by -

John Field
Josh Buckmaster
William Blackwell
Churchwardens.

Tuesday 31 March 1778 The Society of London Youths rung in this Steeple a fine and Complete Peal of 5120 Oxford Treble Bob in 3 hours 21 minutes The Performers were -

Richard Wilson	Treble	William West	5.
Christopher Wells	2.	John Reeves	6.
Robert Dye Donkin	3.	Thomas Elven	7.
William Jones	4.	William Lusans	8.

The peal was Conduced by John Reeves.

On Thursday February 20 1806 the Society ¹⁵⁴⁹
 of Westminster youths rung in this Steeple a fine
 and complete Peal of Grandire Triples
 consisting of 5040 Changes which was rung in
 3 hours and 13 minutes, by

John Leech	Treble	Jos. Ladley	5
T. Humphrey	2.	Jno Hints	6.
W. Wheeler	3.	Jno Jagers	7.
C. Bright	4	T. B. Harris	Tenor

Call^d by Mr Jno Hints.

College Youths. The above Society rang in this
 steeple on Monday March 24 1806 a Complete
 Peal of Grandire Triples consisting of 5040
 Changes in 3 hours and 13 minutes. The
 performers were

John Leech	Treble	John Jagers	5.
Thomas Humphreys	2.	John Hints	6.
Charles Bright	3.	Thomas Martin	7.
Thomas Thomas	4.	Thomas Smith	Tenor

The peal was composed and called by Mr John Hints
 with 103 Dobs and 2 Singles.

A Friendly Society On Tuesday April 8 1828
 was rung a fine and complete Peal of Grandire
 Triples containing 5040 Changes in 3 hours and
 3 minutes Performed by -

Daniel Beakley	Treble	Jno Jagers	5.
Thomas Pollitt	2	George Smith	6.
	3	Jno Matthews	7.
	4.	R. Wood	Tenor.

Conducted by D. Beakley.

St James's Society. On Monday October 9th 1848 eight members of the above Society rang in this Steeple a true and Complete Peal of Grandine Triples containing 5040 Changes in 2 hours and 54 minutes this being the first Peal on these bells since the recasting of the 6th and tenor. Performed by -

Jno Jagger Jun.	Treble	J. Pratt	5.
Jno Bradford	2.	Thos. Pearce	6.
R Haworth	3.	Jno. Cox	7
G. Stockham	4.	Sam ^r . Sessions	Tenor.

Conducted by G. Stockham.

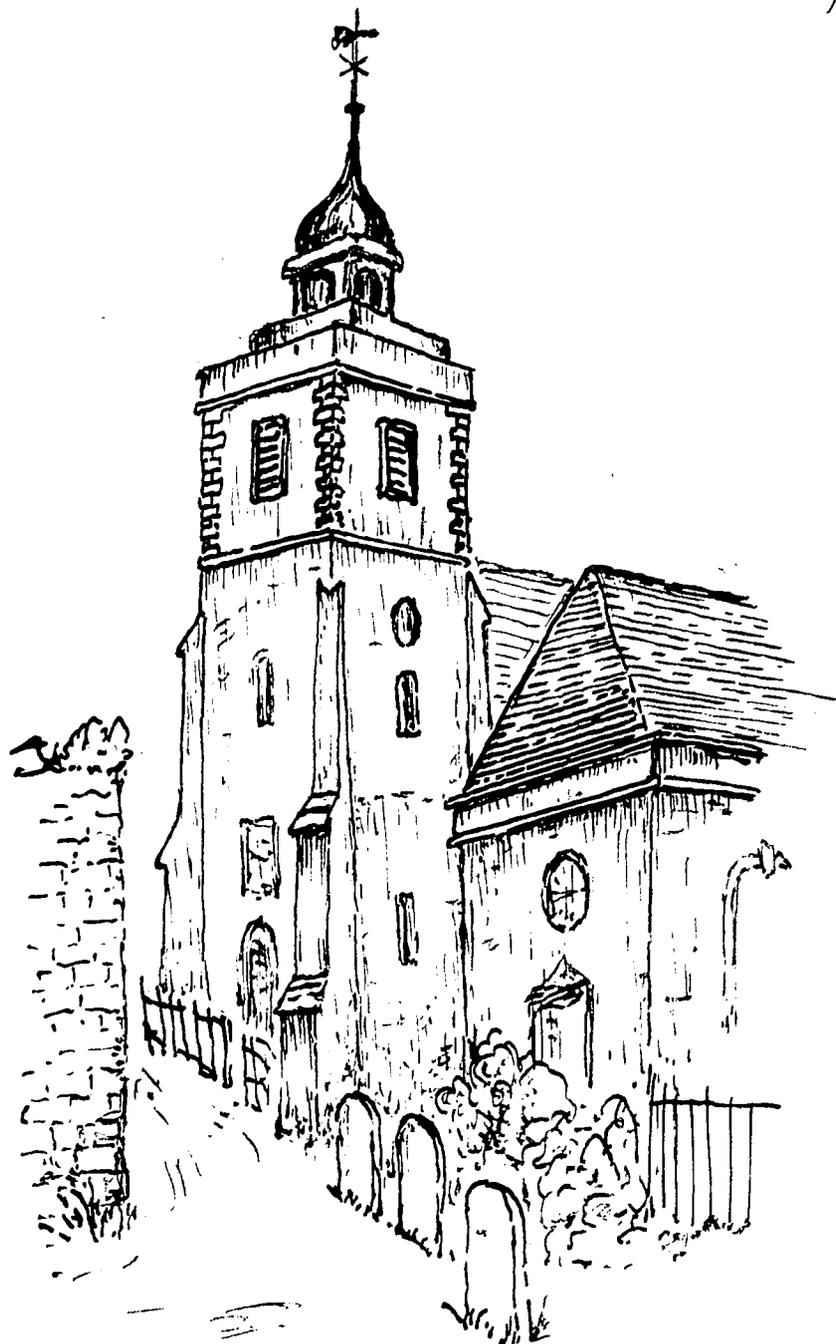
The Southwark Youths Society rung a Muffled Peal on Thursday 12 April 1860 in memory of Mr R. Mills a late member of the Cumberlands Society who died April 1 1860 at the advanced age of 84

T. Pearce	Treble	G. Weedley	5
G. Benny	2.	E. Farley	6.
W. Pottengel	3	W. Judge	7.
T. Russell	4	W. Field	Tenor

Conducted by G. Benny.

Peals rung at St. Mary's Lambeth.

1726	June 27	6832	Bob Major	College Youths.
1739	July 29.	5040	do	Union Sch.
1757	Oct. 30.	5120	Exc. T. B. Maj	College Youths
1759	Jan. 28.	5040	Db. B. Maj	do
1777	Aug 12	5056	Exc. T. B. Maj	London Yths.
	Oct. 20	5040	Gran. Trip	College Yths.
1778	Mar. 31	5120	Exc. T. B. Maj	London Yths.
1782	Feb. 24	5152	Bob Major	College Yths.



St. Mary,
Mortlake

Mortlake was originally included within the parish of Kimbleton, but in 1543, King Henry VIII caused St. Mary's Church

to be built. The present tower 1553
dates largely from that time and in
the reign of Edward VI it contained
three bells and a paunce bell. These
bells were rung regularly and it seems
that the parish usually paid for four
ringers but whether that means that
the paunce bell was rung with the others
in peal, or that the tenor needed five
men, does not appear.

In 1585 one of the bells was recast
at a cost of £3 in addition to various
charges for taking it down, conveying
it to the founders, bringing it back,
and hanging it up again. Who the
founder was we are not told. In 1599
another bell was recast, and in 1648

The pebble had to be renewed.

1554

Besides the usual charges for boulders and ropes we have entries for "catches" in connection with the bell wheels, and once for "mendinge the Kitches for the Bell Ropes." It is not clear what these catches were, but I imagine that they were the "cotrells" by which the ropes were fastened to the wheels. ⁽¹⁵⁵⁾

In 1694 the three bells were recast and the ring augmented to rise by Philip Wightman. The work was ordered by the vestry and the money was raised by a loan secured on the church lands. Eight or nine years later the liability had not been discharged and a vestry minute dated July 18th 1703 records that

1555
"for adding 3 bells to ye chime
and repairs £180 was expended". The
payment was charged to the "Garlick" property
belonging to the church and situated
near the present Ship Inn.

On May 19th 1712 the Churchwardens were
instructed to "procure an addition of
half a hundredweight to the Bell for
ye clock the gift of Mr Deakers, and
another hand to the south side of the clock."
(156)

In 1741 Theodore Eccleslin was living
at Shortlake. He was an enthusiastic
ringer and probably learnt the art in
the village tower. He now offered to give
two pebbles to complete the octave, and
on June 1st the vestry resolved that the
Churchwardens and others named or
any five of them to be at liberty to agree

1556

with Robert Callin or any other
person to cast five new Trebles and new
hang them with ye. old 6 Bells and
which is to be compleated without any
pale upon the parish.

Although we are not told so, and no
mention is made of the matter in the
parish accounts, it seems that Callin's
bells were unsatisfactory. The second
was recast by Thomas Lester in 1746
and the treble by Thomas Janaway in
1784. Five of Philip Wightman's bells
are still in the steeple but the fourth
(the sixth to the eight) was recast by
Callin in 1751 "by the subscription of
the ringers." These latter like the
Turkenham Scholars were good class

people. Eccleston was a wealthy 1557
man and the others were probably farmers
and small gentlemen of the parish. one
of them was Henry Lyford who belonged
to a family whose tombstones are still
to be seen prominently in the Churchyard.

Two much more famous members of the
family were William Lyford and John
Lyford prominent College youths in the
last quarter of the eighteenth century.

Eccleston was a member of the Society
of Eastern Scholars, and so it was only
natural that the first peal on the eight
bells should be rung by that company.
It was 5040 Changes of Bob Major on
August 13th 1741 conducted by John
Bradshaw. Next year a band of the

1558

same society which included five
of the same men accomplished a Long Length
in the steeple. First, on March 21, they
scored 6832 Changes of Bob Major, and
a fortnight later 10,080. John Sharpe
Conducted and the band included
such well known ringers as Philemon
Mainwaring, Thomas Bennett, John
Blake and Robert Buttersworth.
From the unusual number of Changes -
6832 - we might conclude that the
first peal was an attempt for the five
thousand but brought round before the
end; but probably it was not so for
Annable had already called at Lambeth
in 1726 a peal of this length no doubt
the same composition

In 1726 Eccleslin had joined 1559
the College Junths. That was the year in
which the second (and perhaps the
first) was recast by Lester. It was also
the year in which Eccleslin married
Catherine Jacomb. The ceremony took
place at Mottlake and very likely it
was in honour of the event that event
that the College Junths rang the first
peal of Gosport Treble Bob in the steeple
turnable conducted and the pinor was
rung by John Blake who had taken
part in all the three previous peals on
the bells.

There was also a good local band
the leader being William Walker who
took part in several peals in the towers
of the district. On November 22nd, 1761

1560
he conducted at Shortlake a
feal of Bob Triples his own composition. The
Board claims that this is the third time
the Feal was ever rung, and the first
by the Method design'd by W^m. Walker.
It is not clear what this exactly means.
Probably the band thought that only two
feals of Bob Triples had previously been
accomplished. If so they were mistaken.

In 1775 and 1776 when William Jones
was attempting a revival of feal ringing
by the "ancient" Society of College Youths
two or three feals were rung at Shortlake
by that Company the bands consisting
mostly of men from Kensington, Hammersmith
and neighbouring towns. These performances
included 6000 of Bob Major. in 1775, and

10640 in the same method in 1776. 1561

James Horsley called both and William Walker was in both bands.

Moulake was one of the last towers in the London district to discontinue the traditional bell ringing. In 1720 the morning and evening bells were rung at 8.0 and 5.0. Fifty years ago the death bell was tolled twelve hours after death with the "tellers" (i.e. 3 times 3 for a man, and three times 2 for a woman) before the knell. On Sundays two bells were chimed at 8 A.M. for three minutes and one tolled for two ~~min~~ minutes. For service the bells were chimed for a quarter of an hour the tenor was tolled for ten minutes, and the "ringing in" was

on the pieble for five minutes. 1562

Before the holding of a vestry the sixth bell was rung for an hour, and the same bell was rung on Shrove Tuesday in the morning between 11-30 and 12.0

This was the last survival in Surrey of the Pancake Bell. What was said to be survivals of the 8 o'clock Matins bell, and the 9 o'clock Mass bell were also rung. (15)

Extracts from Tausch's Books. (156)

1563

1578. Itm. payd to the Ringers xvjd

1577-1578. Itm payd. to one of the ringers
at the Coronation daye viijd.

1578-1579.

Itm payd to the ringers when the
queene removed frome Richmonde
after Christmas 1578 vjd.

Itm payde to some ringers for ringing
all daye at the Coronation daye 1579 ijs.

Itm payde to John Ellys for mendinge
of the Bell wheele viijd

1579-1580

Itm payd to four ringgers for
ringing for the queens regne 1580 ijs.

Itm payd to Ringers for ringinge at
the queenes remove from Richmonde vjd.

1582. Itm to the Ringers ijs. viijd.

Itm for two Baldricks ijs viijd

Itm for a Bell wheel vs.

Itm for staples and nayles for ye
Bell ijs. iija

Itm for the ringers at the Coronation

daye last paste

ijs. viijd

1564

1583.

Him to the ringers on the Coronation
days

ijs

Him payd for some dayes worck to
the Carpenters towards the Belfereye

iiijs viijd

Him payd for nayles

xd

Him payd for a Bourde

vd.

Him payd to the smythe for charges
towards the Bell wheels

ijs.

1585

Him payd by me Jo. Ley for charges of
the Bell as followith.

Id for ij of the Belfounders dinners at
Flechers

xijd

Id for bread & drinke to them that
carried it to ye water side

iiij d

Id for carriage of the bell to London
by water

ijs.

Id for cranadge ^{4^d} & for a can to carry
it to the founders, ^{6^d}.

xd.

Id to ij porters at the weighing ^{4^d}
for a can agayne ?

xjd

Id for cranadg^{4d} & to a porter j^d rd.
 Id to the waterman for recarreing
 the bell home
 Id for bread & drinke when they
 honnge the bell up iiija
 Somme vijs. xd.

Him paid the Smyth for mending of
 the clappers viija

Him. pd by Mr Chulde to the Bell
 founders for casting of the Bell iiij li.

Him Id to the pengers at the Lucenes
 ma^{tes} day iijs iiija

Him layd out by Mr Chulde for
 one Balderick xijs.

Him for five Bell Roppes iijs iiija

1588.

Him for a Bell wheele that was
 mendyd by the Carpenters xvjs. iiija

Him for nayles to the Same ijd

Him for pininginge at the Rayneye
 of ye quene iijs iiija

Him for a bawdrick for a Bell xijs.

Item for two newe Bell ropes iiijs. viijd. 1566

Item for a Pawdrucks for ye bell vjd

Item for makinge of ye Pawdruck iiijd

1589.

Item for a Bell rope xvijjd

Item for Rininginge at the Coronation
day for drincke for ye ringers xxd.

1592.

Item for two Pawdrucks for ye Bell ijs. iiijd

Item for Whyt Lyon for mendinge ye
Bell xijd

1593.

Item for two bell Ropes iiijs.

1598.

Item layde owle for two Bell ropes
and for the Sanctus bell rope and
for wood for the Bell vij s.

Item for mendinge of one of the bell
wheles xijd.

Item layd owle for carringe downe
the Bell xvjd.

1599

Layd owle the xxiiij daye of June

1599 for ye Castinge of a Bell	1567
Counteyringe	ks.
Item for xxvj for over wey more than o. new Bell dyd weye	xvijs. iiijd
Item for the Bell wheele and ye Carpenters wo ^r cke	xijd
Item for Castinge owle ye Bell	xs. vjd
Item for Cranege and wharfage of ye fris Bell	vjd
Item for bringginge her home	xvjd
Item for Leunge her and carrynge her to London	xxijd
Item for whorfage and Cranedge	vjd
Item for a Carre to ye Bell founders house	viijd
Item for a Carre to bringe the other Bell	viijd
Item for whorfage and Cranedge	vjd
Item for bringginge her home	xvjd
Item for bringginge her to ye Church	vjd
Item for a bawdrick for ye Bell	xviijd
Item for Rings at the Coronation	xxviij

1610-1611

Item paid the Clarke for iiij rings
Coronation daye 1610

iiij s.

Item pd the Clarke for on baldrocks 15⁶
& for the stocks of the bell & for
other things xij^d

Item for Ringing unto Tindall for
iiij Ringers this Coronation daye iiij^s

1609-1610.

It pd for bellropes vijs. iiij^d

It pd for one bell wheele xs.

It pd for ringinge one the Kings
Hollidays iijs

It pd for Iron worke aboute bell
wheeles & Lant's bell xxij^d

1613.

It pd for two bell ropes ijs.

It pd for mending the bell wheele xij^d

It pd for ringinge on the Kings daie xij^d

It pd for two baldriggs ijs. viij^d

1614

It pd Addison for mending a Bell
wheele 00 05 0

It pd Bartholomew Carter for plates
& nails for ye wheele 00 0 6

It pd Balli Carter for a new bell rope 00 2 0

It pd Tyndall 2 Cords for the church gates
and mending a baldricks 00 0 8

Given the ringers on Coronation
day

1568

00 2 0

1615.

Payed to Thomas Tyndall for
mendinge the baldricks
for a bell rope

ijs

ijs. iijs

Payed to William Addison for
mendinge the bell wheels

vijda

1616-1617.

Paide for two bell ropes

vjs.

Paide the ringers the 24 of March

vjd

1619.

The 4 november mending the bell wheels

1ss

for ringing the 5 of November

1ss

To Harding of Hear for 2 bell ropes

5ss 6.

For a bawderick for a bell

1ss. 6.

For mending a bawderick

8

Shore for an other new bawderick

1ss. 6.

1620.

For a bell rope waying 5 $\frac{1}{2}$

2 6

To the Ringers on Ladye Even

6

1621.

Id Ringers on the Coronation day at
a supper

ijs.

Id them on Gouryes day and
papist's Conspiracy

1569
1

ijs

1622.

Item for a Baldrock for the second
Bell

xij d

Item pd the ringers on the Kings dayes

ijs

Item for a Baldrock mending

xjd

Item for the Bell rope

ijs. viij d

1631.

Item pd given the ringers on the
Crownation Day of Queen Elizabeth

00 01 00

1630.

Item pd for two Baldrocks for the
Bells

ijs. vjd

Item pd Bath Carter for mendinge
a bell wheele

xjd

Item pd for a bell wheel & 2 catches
viijs & vjd.

00 08. 06.

Item pd for a sett of bell ropes viijs.

Item pd for a Saint's bell rope js. vjd
& for hanginge the midell Bell js

00 02 06

1631.

Novel. ✓ Item pd given the ringers
uppon Gunpowder treason day xvjd

00 01 04

Item for a bellrope for the midell
bell ijs. 1570

Item pd for two catches and for mending
the baldrope of the second bell xxij^d 00 01 10

Item pd given the ringers upon
Queene Elizabeths day rjd

Item pd for five more new baldrocks
for the bells vs. 00 05 00

1632-33

Item Pd for new clapper for ye
great bell deducting for ye owld 10^d 00 08 09

Pd Henry Matthews for mending
a bell wheel and pulley for Church
yard dore 00 01 06.

Paid for mending the clapper of the
great bell that was broken 00 01 00

Pd for iron about one of the bell
wheels 1s & a new key for ye
Church do 1s. 6d 00 02 06

Pd for ringing on the Kings Coronation
day 00 01 06
for a set of bellropes 10. 0

1635.

1571

I'm pd for a sett of Bell ropes 1^{ns}. x^d 00 09 10

1635-1636

I'd the 26th of May for a set of Bell ropes 00 08 06

Payd by the Clarke for Baldrocks for the Bells 00 05 00

Payd for Ringers 5 November 00 02 06

Payd for Ringers on the Kings birthday 00 01 00

Payd him for oyle for the Bells 00 00 06

Payd him for mending Baldrocks & Bellropes 00 01 06

Payd him for ringers on Coronation day 00 00 06

Payd him for mending the Kitches for the Bell Ropes 00 01 06.

1636-1637

Payd the ringers for drincke on the 5th of Novem 00 02 06

1639-1640

Payd to the Ringers the 5th of November 00 06 00

Payd to the Ringers the Kings birthday being the 19th of November 00 01 00

Payd for bell ropes 00 09 06

1640-1641

1572

Paid for bellropes	00 09 06
Paid for Paldrocks for the Bells	00 05 00
Paya for mending the Tyer of the Bells	00 01 06
Paid for making a newe wheele for the Trebell & mendinge the Saunce Bell & making the deske for Mr. Skales his bread & for the colour & writinge the vers over yt.	01 01 10
Paid to the Ringers the 5 of Novem	00 06 00
Paid more for bell ropes	00 08 06

1641-1642

Paid the Ringers on the Kings birthday the powder treason & general feaste day.	00 00 00
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[This entry is crossed out in the original 175]

1642-1643.

Item for a sett of bell ropes waighinge 21 ^l at 6 ^d the l	00 10 06
Item payd the ringers the 5 of November	00 03 00

1645.

Paya for a sett of newe Bell ropes	00 10 00
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1645-1646.

1573

Paid to Merediths ye Smyth for mendinge the bell	00 10 00
Paid ye ringgers on ye gunpowder Treason day	00 04 00
Paid for mendinge ye bell wheele	00 01 00
Paid for a kitch for a bell	00 00 06
Paid for a lock for ye bellphey doore	00 03 06
Paid for bell ropes	00 09 06
Layd out by the Clarke	
for oyle for the belles for the yeare	00 01 00
Paid the ringgers on Crownation day	00 03 00

1646-1648.

Id Layd out about the bells for ropes & Baldraks	02 00 05
Id to the Ringers the 5 of November	
twise	00 08 00
Id for new Casting the little Bell	3 17 6
Id for new makinge & mendinge the Bell wheeles.	2. 00 0

1 Edward VI xxij of December in the
year.

Item, a paunce bell

Item, in the steeple iij bells.

xviiiij daie of Octobere in the vj yere of the
reigne of our most dreade soveraigne
Lorde Edwarde the vj by the grace of God
king of Englands France and Irelande
defender of the faith and in earth of the
Churches of England and also of Ireland
supream head

Item in the steeple iij belles
and a paunce bell.

xix day of May anno regni Edwardi vj
also remaining in their charge to the
Kinges use three belles and a paunce
bell.

Inscriptions on the Bells. (760)

1575

1. I TO THE CHURCH THE LIVING CALL
BUT TO THE GRAVE THE TENOUR ALL
I WAS RECAST BY SUBSCRIPTION
PAIN & COTTERILL CHURCHWARDENS
1784 THOS JANAWAY OF CHELSEA
FECIT
 2. THOS LESTER OF LONDON MADE ME
THEODORE ECCLESTON ESQ 1746
 3. MADE BY PHILIP WICHTMAN 1694
 4. 1694 P.M.
 5. MADE BY PHILIP WICHTMAN 1694
 6. RECAST BY SUBSCRIPTION OF THE
RINCERS RT CATLIN FECIT 1751
 7. MADE BY PHILIP WICHTMAN 1694
- Tenor MADE BY PHILIP WICHTMAN 1695
- Clock Bell 1712.

Peals rung at Northlake.

1576

1741.	Aug. 12	5040	Bd Major	Eastern Sch.
1742.	Mar. 2	6832	do	do
	16	10.080	do	do
1746.	Sep. 7	5120	Gx. T. B. Maj	College Yths.
1761.	Nov. 21	5040	Bd Triples	Local
1775.	Nov 26	6000	Pd Major	"ancient" C.Y.
1776.	Aug 26	10.640	do.	do
	Mar 3	5264	do.	do
1785	May 22	5280	Gx. T. B. Maj	J. Cumberland's
1787	May 22	5040	Gran. Trip.	College Yths.

Peal Boards at Northlake

1577

Sunday Novber XXII, MDCCCLXI was rung
in this Steeple by the Northlake Society a
Complete Peal of 5040 Bob Major Trebles In
Three Hours Four Minutes. By

William Pattenen	1.	Hy Lyford	5.
Willm. Smith	2.	Willm. Walker	6.
Josh Tomblinson	3.	Uriah Jolley	7
Jas Drown	4	Henry Cook	Tenor

N.B. This is the Third time the Peal was ever rung
And the first by the Method Designed and Called
by Wm Walker.

The Society of College Youths did ring
in this Steeple on Monday Aug 26 1776 a
Complete peal of 10640 Bob Majors in 6 hours
31 minutes

Edw. Hudnoté	1	Thos Smith
Thos Darvell	2.	John Cole
Josh Holdsworth	3.	Willm. Walker
James Horster	4.	Willm Bates

The Peal was called by Mr James Horster

1578

Sunday October 26 1823 was rung
in this Steeple by the Society of College
Youths a Complete Deal of Oxford Treble
Bob containing 5024 Changes in 2 hrs 58 mts.

Ed. Whittall	1.	Jn New	5.
St. Bamford	2.	Wm. Winson	6.
Jn. Jones	3.	Geo. Cole	7.
Rd. House	4.	Wm. Cullum	Tenor

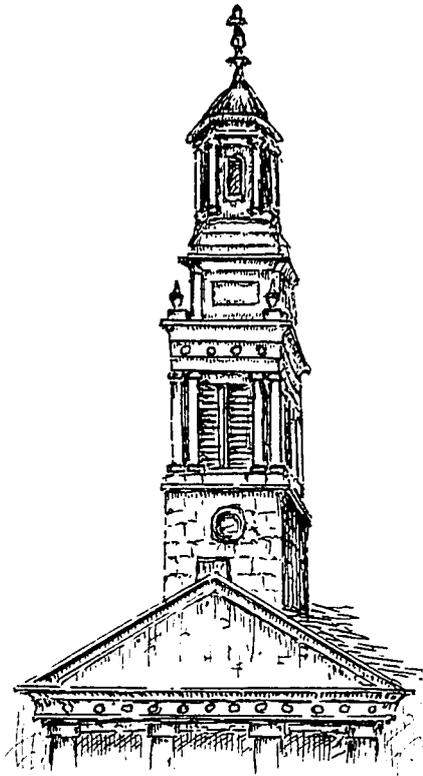
Called by Mr Geo. Cole.

Junior College Society. St. Mary Matlake
On Sunday August 16. 1829 the above
Society rung a true and excellent Deal
of Grandeur Triples containing 5040 changes
in 2 hours and 30 minutes. Performers

John Harper	1.	Geo Barlow	5.
J. Nash	2.	Edw. Lansdell	6.
Wm Kirke	3.	Jno Merrin	7.
Thos Tolladay	4.	Geo Menday	Tenor

Conducted by Thos. Tolladay.

Holy Trinity,
Newington.



Holy Trinity, Newington was one of a number of churches built by Act of Parliament after the peace which followed the battle of Waterloo. The foundation stone was laid by the Archbishop of Canterbury in June 1823. The bells, a ring of eight with a iron tenor were cast at Whitechapel.

Peal Boards at Holy Trinity Church.

1580

Junior Society of College Youths. On Thursday
October 20th 1824 was rung in this Steeple
a true and complete Peal of Grandure
Tripples Containing 5040 Changes with 190
Cobs and 50 singles in 2 hours and 58
minutes. Performers

Ed Griffiths	Treble	Jno Kerrin
Josh Ladley	2.	Ed. Lansdell
Jno Taylor	3.	Wm. Rice
Ed. Lawyer	4.	Thos Pughe

Conducted by Josh. Ladley.

Junior Society of College Youths. On Monday
March 21 1825 was rung in this Steeple
a true and complete Peal of Oxford
Treble Bob Major Containing 5120 Changes
in 3 hours and 12 minutes Performers

Josh Ladley	Treble	Ed Lawyer	5.
Jas Mash	2.	Ed Lansdell	6.
Hy Symondson	3.	Jno Kerrin	7
Lamb Austin	4.	Wm Rice	Tenor

Conducted by Josh Ladley.

Junior College Society. On Sunday
 31st of Decr. 1826 and Monday 1st of January
 1827 the undermentioned members of this
 Society rung on these bells the old year out
 and the new year in with a fine and
 excellent Peal of Excford Treble Bob Major
 containing 5088 Changes which was performed
 in 3 hours and 8 minutes

- | | | | |
|-------------|----|--------------|-------|
| Wm. Harper | 1. | Saml. Austin | 5. |
| Josh Ladley | 2. | Wm. Rice | 6. |
| Ed. Sawyer | 3. | Jn. Sherrin | 7 |
| Jas. Nash | 4 | Ed. Lansdell | Tenor |

Conducted by Jn Sherrin.

Society of College Youths On Thursday December
 18th 1828 was rung in this Steeple by the undermentioned
 members of this Society a fine and excellent peal
 in that intricate method of Triples on Hedman's
 Principal containing 5040 Changes in 3 hours
 and 4 minutes. The above peal is the composition
 of Mr J. Tibbs of Leeds Yorkshire and contains
 600 bobs and 22 singles all of which were successively
 called and is the greatest performance ever achieved
 in this tower.

- | | | | | |
|--------------|---|---------------|---|--------------|
| Josh Ladley | 1 | Samuel Austin | 5 | Wm Rice |
| Jno. Sherrin | 2 | Edwd Lansdell | 6 | Thos Stewart |
| Ed. Sawyer | 3 | | | |

Conducted by J. Ladley.

College Youths. On Thursday April 9th 1582
1843 was rung in this Steeple a fine Peal of
Kent Treble Bob containing 5280 Changes in
3 hours 17 minutes being the first Peal of this
method rung in London the last 50 years.

Performers

A. J. Ansell	1.	J. Nash	5.
T. Brittain	2.	H. Littlechild	6.
G. Munday	3.	E. Lansdell	7.
J. Houghes	4.	J. Harper	Tenor

Conducted by E. Lansdell.

Society of College Youths. Friday October 20th
1848 was rung in this steeple Mr Thurston's
celebrated Peal of Piedman Triples containing
5040 Changes in 3 hours and 5 minutes.

Robt Jameson	Treble	John Bradley	5.
John Merrin	2.	James Birghie	6.
James Nash	3.	Wm. Coolie	7.
John Cox	4.	Chas Hedden	Tenor

Conducted by W. Coolie.

Society of College Youths Established

A.D. 1637. The first Teal of Double Norwich

Count Bob Major in the County of Surrey
was rung in this Steeple on Friday Dec: 29th

1848 in 3 hours 20 minutes containing

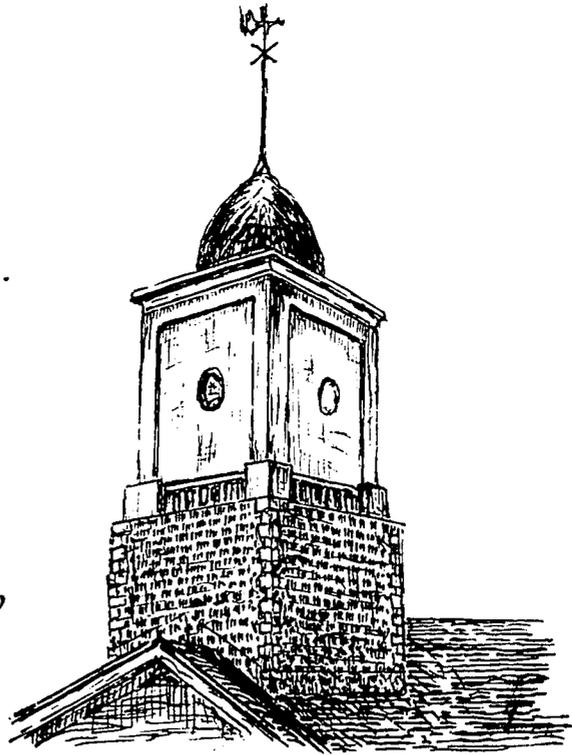
526 $\frac{1}{2}$ Changes. Performers

James Nash	Treble	John Bradley	5.
Wm Cooley	2.	Edward Lansdell	6.
R. Jameson	3.	James Dwight	7.
John Cox	4.	Edward Sawyer	Tenor

Composed and conducted by J. Cox.

*Peals rung at Holy Trinity Church
Newington*

St. Mary's
Newington.



At the time of Edward VI there were "in the steeple" of the ancient parish church "iiij belles" and also a paunce bell. The Churchwardens report that they had "paid this yere to the belfounder for crussing ye. bell iijs iiijd" as well as the

following expenses -

Item payd for a new bawdruke and mending the olde

xxiiij s.

Item for ij bell ropes

xviiij s.

Item payd for a Carpenter for 1 dayes worke

vi s. iiij d.

A second inventory states there were

"remaynyng in their charge to the 762 Kinges [use] iiij belles and a saunce bell."

Sometime, probably during the seventeenth century the ring was increased to six for Laughton records that on Sunday February 17th the Ramblers rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor in the tower.

Afterwards they went to the Peacock to drink beer and derived a good deal of amusement from "Simple the paction and Aescop his man", Simple told such David unaccountable lies about the ringing he had done in his young days, until his man could stand it no longer and flatly contradicted him which led to hot words and threatenings and almost a fight. Evidently the

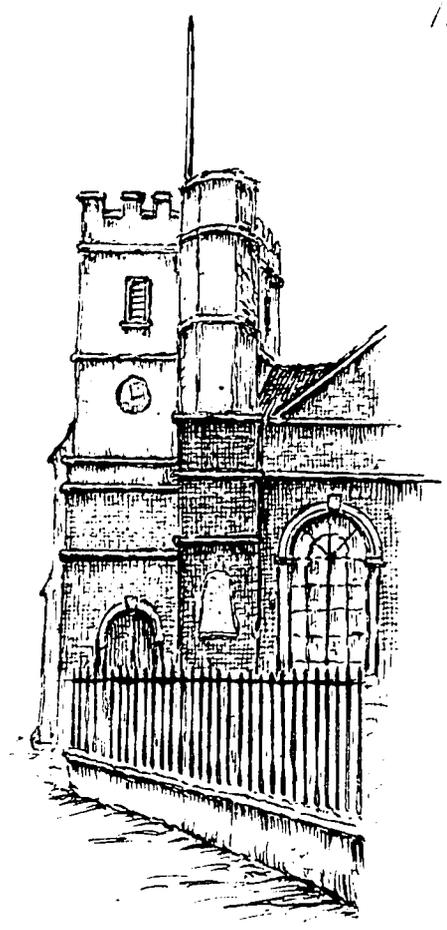
Bells were sold when the church
was rebuilt for in 1793 the Whitechapel
foundry supplied a ring of three with
a 12 cut tenor. The building was
pulled down in 1875 to widen the
street.

St Mary's, Putney.

The royal Commissioners in Edward VI reign reported that they left in the steeple five bells and a paunce bell. By the eighteenth Century the ring was increased to six and in 1836 as the inscription on the tenor relates they were recast by Thomas Sears of Whitechapel and augmented to the full octave.

On February 6th 1837 Thomas Tolladay called a peal of Grandine Triples rung by the St. James's Society and on May 20th 1839 the Cumberlands rung 5280 Changed of Treble Bob Major.

St. Mary's
Richmond.



After the royal
Commissioners had
made their final
visit to Rychemond in
the year 15 they reported that there had
been "delivered to the churchwardens
there the xv day of May. anno regni regis
Edwardi Sexti septimo by Sir Thomas
Cawarden knight Nicholas Leigh and
William Saunders esq^r." Commissioners of
our soverayne Lorde the kynge among

others to that effect these parcels
of Church goods hereafter ensuing

1590

Imprimis a chalice of silver $\text{poiz } x\text{v } \text{oz } \text{di}$

Item ij altar clothes for the communion table

Also remaining in their charge to the Kinges,
use three bells in the steeple and a paunce bell.

Those were all the goods and ornaments
that were saved from the spoliation. (153)

In 1680 James Bartlet of Whitechapel
recast the bells which at the time were
five in number. The treble, now the fourth,
had one of those bragging inscriptions by
which the founder proclaimed his superiority
over his predecessor - "Lambert made me
weake not fit to Ring, But Bartlet
amongst the rest hath made me sing."
Bartlet also recast the paunce bell, and
it was used for the clock to strike on.

1591

In 1740 the present third was cast by Robert Catlin and at the same time two trebles were given by William Gardiner to complete the octave. Gardiner was a local gentleman. He was a practical ringer and had taken part in a peal of Grandine Coliers at St. Dionis Backchurch in 1729 with the College Youths. In 1744 he held the office of master of that society.

The Eastern Scholars rang the first peal on the bells - 5040 changes of Bob Major on August 25th 1740 Conducted by John Sharpe. A month later the College Youths rang another five-thousand in the same method. The band included Hardham, Catlin, Frenell, the two Gickards

and John Cundell, but not
Benjamin Annable.

1592

There was also a good Local Company
and on March 10th 1742 they rang a Compleat
Peal of Five thousand and Fourty of
Richmond Triples" of which the figures are
lost but which probably was a composition
or a variation of one of the standard methods -
Plain, or Grandiose - something on the style
of Middlesex Triples or Royal Triples. The
seventh was rung by William Walker who
for many years was to be one of the most
prominent ringers in the district, here and
at Northlake. Two other notable peals
were rung by the local band - Double
Grandiose Triples in 1767, and Real Double
Bob Major in 1816, "with two bobs in a

1593

Lead and as many 2^{nds} as 7th
with bobs behind and before alternately".
At William Walker took part in both these
performances, but in the second case it must
have been another man and probably a son.
The longest peal on the bells was John Reeves's
8~~44~~8 of Treble Bob rung in 1810.

Inscriptions on the Bells. (764)

Treble. EX DONO GULIELMI GARDINER MER
GENEROSI ANNO 1740 R C FECIT

2. As Treble

3. CHARLES SCOTT STEPHEN ANDREWS CH
WARDENS R C FECIT 1740

4. SAMVELL MOODY MOSES BODDICOTT CH
WARDENS 1680

LAMBERT MADE ME WEAKE NOT FIT TO RING
BUT BARTLET AMONGST THE REST HATH
MADE ME SING

5. R CATLIN FECIT 1742

6. JAMES BARTLET MADE MEE 1680

7. As the Sixth.

Tenor PERCIVAL HART & THOS ALLEN CH WARDENS
1760 LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT

Clock Bell. MATTHEW MOODY THOMAS ELINC CHURCH
WARDENS 1683 MATHEW WALKER I O B.

Peal Boards at Richmond

1595

March ye 10 1741-2 a compleat peal
of Five Thousand and Forty of Richmond
Triples was rung by the Richmond Society

Rich ^d . Harding	Treble	Peter White	5.
Jasper Munday	2.	Thos. Clark	6.
Robert Smith	3.	William Walker	7
Austin Guise	4.	William Wells	Tenor

Sunday Janry 4th 1767 was rung in this
Steeple, a compleat Peal of 5040 Grandine
Trebles Double in 3 hours and 9 minutes
by the following men

Thos. Huntingford	1.	Chas Thornberg	5.
Chas. Purl	2.	Willm. Walker	6.
Jno. Ryley	3.	Jno. Steel	7
Richd Gurney	4.	Robt. Platt	Tenor.

Called by Chas. Purl.

1596
 Jan'y 28th 1816 was rung on these
 Bells a Complete Peal of Double Eight In
 5040 Changes with five Bobs in a Lead, as
 many 7^{ths} as 2nds and as many 5^{ths} as 4^{ths}
 with the Bobs behind and before alternately
 in 3 hours & 6 minutes. By

Edw. Nelhams	Tree	1.	Geo. Cole	5.
Jr ^o . Bates		2.	Will. Platt	6.
Will. Walker		3.	Jr ^o . Platt	7.
Geo. Bamford		4.	Geo. Cole	Tenor

Conducted by G. Cole.

Monday Feby 2nd 1824 was rung in this
 tower a true and complete peal of Stedman
 Triples, consisting of 5040 Changes, composed
 by Mr John Cooper of Birmingham being the
 first ever rung in that system on these bells.
 Was well performed in 3 hours by the following

men.	Edw. Nicholl	1.	Willm. Winson	5.
	Richd. House	2.	Willm. Platt	6.
	John. Bates	3.	Geo. Cole	7.
	Geo. Bamford	4.	Jno. House	Tenor

This intricate peal consisting of 480 calls
 known as parts ⁽⁷⁶⁵⁾ and singles was ably
 conducted by Mr G. Cole.

1597

Feb 14, 1825, was rung by the Society
of Country College youths a Complete Peal of
Oxford Treble Bob 5120 Changes In 3 Hours
& ten Minutes

Jn Cole	1.	Wm Winson	5
Rd House	2.	Jo Bates	6.
G. Cole	3.	Jn Peatt	7
Wm Peatt	4.	Ed. Whall	Tenor

Conducted by Ed. Whall.

1810 Sunday, Feb 11th on the bells in this
Tower a Complete Peal of 5120 Changes of
Oxford Treble Bob was performed in 3 hours
& 9 minutes by

Jno New	1.	Jch. Bamford	4.	Jno Peatt	7
Edw. Melhams	2.	Jno. Bates	5.	Geo Cole	8
Jas Cole	3.	Wm Peatt	6		

Called by Mr Geo Cole.

Monday April 21 1851 was rung in this
Belfry a Complete Peal of Mr Rews Grandsons
Trebles Consisting of 5040 Changes in 2 hours
and 59 minutes by the following men viz

Henry Nicholls	Treble	John Duffell	5.
Samuel Giles	2.	Thos. Wright	6.
Henry Parslow	3.	Wm Nowell	7
Joseph Clark Jr.	4.	Thos. Winkworth	Tenor

Conducted by Henry Parslow.

On Monday Jan^y 2nd 1854 the following
 persons rang a complete Peal of Grandeur
 Triples containing 5040 Changes in 2 hours
 and 57 minutes viz

G. S. Shury	Treble	R. Jameson	5.
G. Hockham	2.	T. Powell	6.
L. Giles	3.	H. Nowell	7.
H. Nicholls	4.	G. Platt	Tenor

Conducted by G. Hockham.

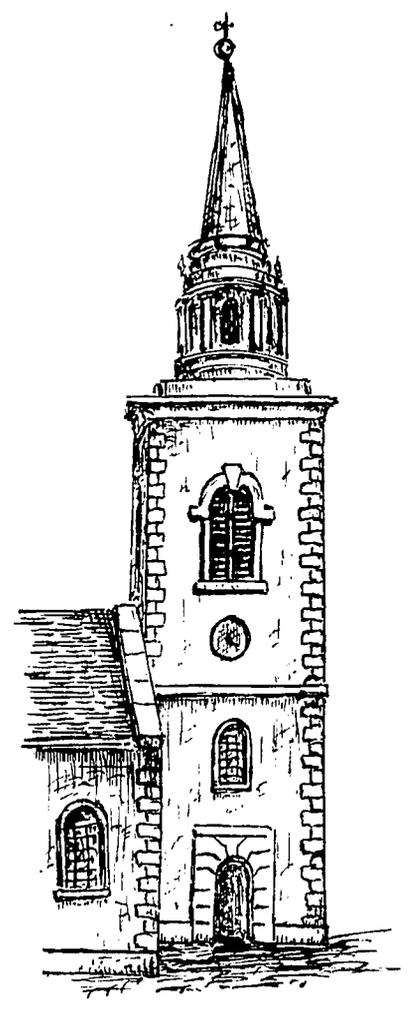
Peals rung at St Mary's
Richmond.

1500

1740	Aug 25	5040	Bob Major	Eastern Sch.
	Sep. 21.	5040	do	College youths
1742	Mar 10	5040	Richmond F.	Local
1758	Mar 27	5120	Gr. T. B. Maj	College youths
1767	Jan 4	5040	Obb. Gran F.	Local
1787		6048	Gr. T. B. Maj	College youths
1810	Feb 11	5120	do.	Local
	Dec 17	8448	do	do.
1816	Jan 28	5040	Reel D. B. Maj	do
1823		5088	Gr. T. B. Maj	College youths.

St. Mary's,
Rotherhithe.

At the time of Edward VI
there were in the tower
"four belles waying by
estymacion iiij c di
and on "In^{de} There was
sold ij belles of ccc iiiij lb^{7/16}
xiiij lbs. weight at xxx the C.



The old building after
standing for four hundred years, became
ruinous, and the fashion of the time not
being to restore but to rebuild, it was by
authority of Parliament pulled down in
1714 and the present church erected. When
Laughton visited the place in 1734 there
were six bells probably from the old

lower. They were recast and increased to eight by Thomas Lester in 1748, and the next year the Eastern Scholars rang the first peal on them - 5040 Changes of Bob Major Conducted by Thomas Bennett.

Inscriptions (767)

1. 2. T. LESTER MADE ME 1748
3. 5 T. L. 1748.
6. MR ROBT SAUNDERS & 1A^S PEW CH: YARDENS
T. LESTER MADE US ALL 1748.
7. THOMAS LESTER MADE US ALL
TOBIAS BENTON HANGED US ALL 1748.
8. T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1831
REY^O JN^O SHORT HEWITT RECTOR
WILLIAM SKEGG }
WILLIAM CIBBS } CHURCHYARDENS.

Thursday October 1. 1749 The Society of Eastern Scholars rang 5040 Bob Major completed in 3 hours and 20 minutes on y^e new bells at St. Mary Rotherhithe case by Mr. T. Leslie in Whitechapel by y^e following persons. -

Edward Hicks	Treble	Robert Putterworth.	5.
Robt. Gregory	2.	Tho. Bennett	6.
Thos. Bate	3.	Geo. Sheakins	7.
Joseph Stotion	4.	John Blake	Tenor.

N. B. This is the first peal ever rang in this Steeple.

The Society of Cumberland Youth's rung in this Steeple on Sunday Oct. the 20th 1776 a fine and complete peal of Union Treble Bob consisting of 5376 changes in 3 hours and 27 minutes the 6th 11 times wrong and 12 times right, it being the greatest performance done on these bells; by the following persons -

John Frazier	Treble	Thos. Smith	5.
Isaiah Gray	2.	Geo. Gross.	6.
Saml. Hoard	3.	William Court	7.
Thos. Whitaker	4.	Robert Mann	Tenor.

The peal was composed and called by Mr. George Gross.

On Monday Feb 7. 11th 1838 was rung 1603
 by a Friendly Society a true and complete
 Peal of Grandure Triples Containing 5040
 Changes in 2 hours and 50 minutes.

Performed by

J. Merrin	Tulle	P. Hall	5.
J. Blacklocks	2.	E. Lansdell	6.
T. Discow	3.	C. Foster	7.
E. Sawyer	4.	J. Prior	Tenor

Conducted by E. Merrin.

The Rotherhithe Society. On Monday
 March 3rd 1823 was rung a true and
 complete Peal of Grandure Triples
 Containing 5040 Changes in 2 hours and
 53 minutes

Jas. Selden	Tulle	Ed. Sawyer	5.
Josh. Ladley	2.	Thos. Sells	6.
John Taylor	3.	John Morgan	7.
Thos. Discow	4.	John Prior	Tenor.

Conducted by J. Ladley.

Rotherhithe Bcefy Rules.

Whoso comes here these ropes for to handle
 Must comply with these rules for buying
 of candle

For each oath that you swear or tell ye
 You throw

Deposit your pence before that you go.

These rules are so just, and orders so plain

Who refuseth compliance shall not practice
 again

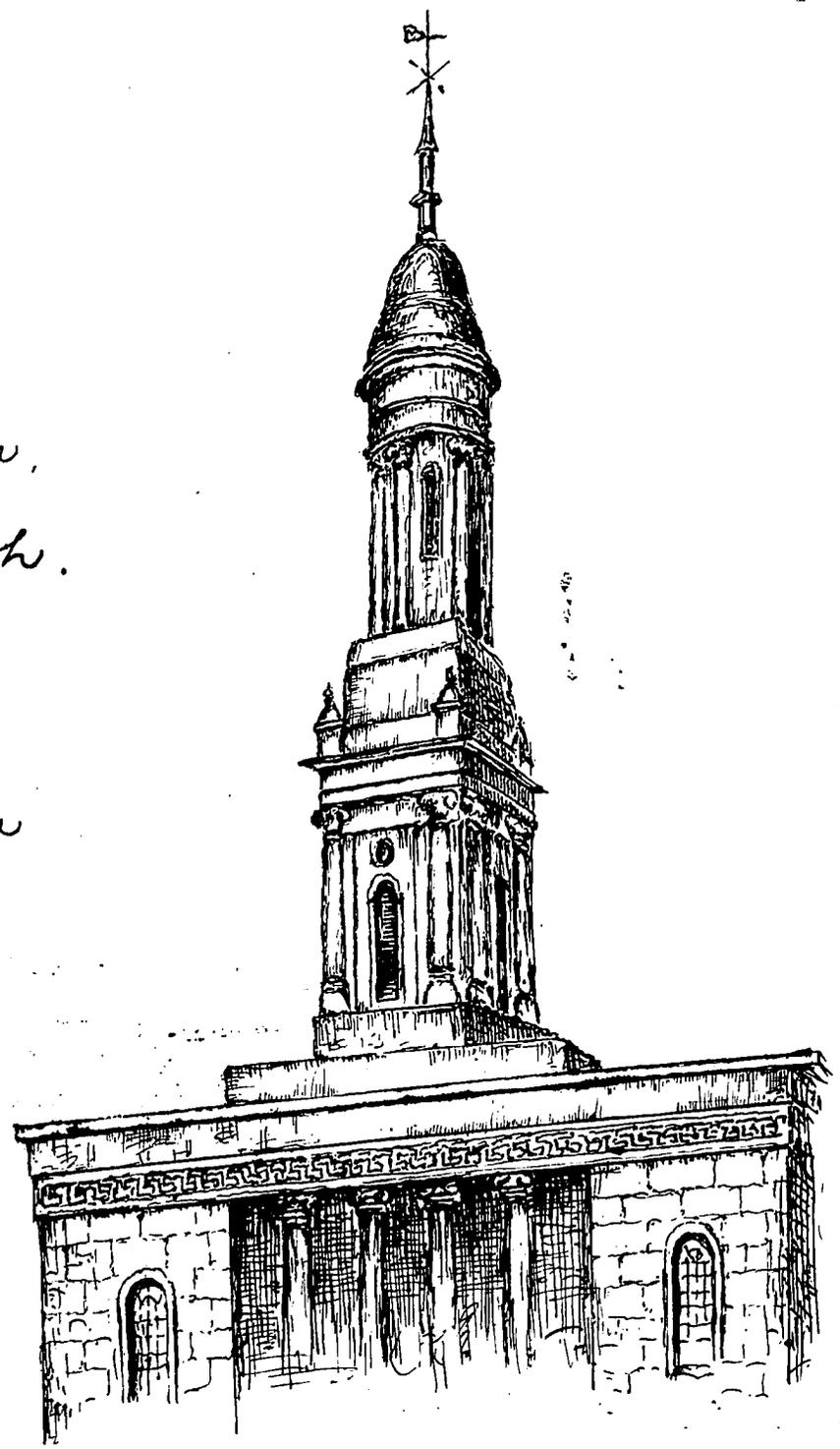
Without paying one shilling to wipe off
 the stain.

Peals rung at S. Mary's
Rotherhithe.

1749	Oct 31	5040	Bob Major	Eastern Sch.
1761	Feb 8	5120	Gx. T. B. Maj	College Yths.
1770	Jan 8	5152	Bob Major	Cumberlands
1776	Oct 20	5376	Gx. T. B. Maj	do.

St Peter,
Walworth.

The foundation
stone of St Peter's
Church was
laid by the
Archbishop
of Canterbury
in June 1820



on the same day that he laid the foundation
stone of Holy Trinity Newington. The design
was by Sir John Soane the architect of the
Bank of England and is not without merit

From a practical point of view one of its chief defects is that the tower is so slender that there is scarce room for the eight bells and it is rather a wonder however they were got into the tower and hung. The tower is 15 cut and the bells were cast at Whitechapel in 1824.

Yeal boards at St. Peter's Walworth.

On Thursday April 18th 1828 was rung in this Steeple by the Walworth youths a fine and complete Yeal of Grandeur Trepples consisting of 5040 changes in the space of 3 hours by the following persons

Saml. Sealow	1.	Danl. Peasley	5.
Willm Thomas	2.	Willm. Hayward	6.
Henry Burwash	3.	Frs. Matthew	7.
Thos. Folladay	4.	John Egaw	Tenor

Conducted by Thomas Folladay.

On Wednesday May 22nd 1828 was rung in this Steeple by the Walworth youths a fine and complete Yeal of Grandeur Trepples consisting of 5040 changes in the space of 2 hours 56 minutes by the following persons

Charles Browne	1.	Frans. Matthew	5.
Marlin Bray	2.	Jas. Hugheson	6.
W. Thomas	3.	Jas. Resley	7.
Danl. Peasley	4.	Wm Clements	Tenor

Conducted by Frans. Matthew.

S. James's Society. Monday Oct 12th 1829
 was rung in this Steeple a fine peal of
 Grandsee Triples containing 5020 Changes
 which was completed in 3 hours

Performers -

T. Tolle	1.		L. Collins	5
T. Tolleaday	2.		L. Scaton	6.
D. Beakley	3.		F. Mathew	7.
C. Browne	4.		J. Tamsley	Tenor.

Conducted by T. Tolleaday.

Society of College Youths.

1609

Established 1637. On Friday 7th September 1830 the above Society rung in a masterly style a fine and complete Peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major containing 6144 Changes which was performed in 3 hours and 42 minutes being the first in that method on these bells

Thos. Toleaday	1.	Fras. Mathew	5.
Geo Barton	2.	Edw. Lansdell	6.
Edw. Sawyer	3.	Jas. Mash	7.
Saml. Austin	4.	Wm. Rice	8.

Composed and called by Saml. Austin.

And on Wednesday 30th Oct. 1833 was rung by the following persons in 2 hours and 59 minutes a fine and complete Peal of Triples on Headman's Principle containing 5040 Changes being the first in that method on these bells

Josh Harper	1.	Fras. Mathew	5.
Richd Thimblely	2.	Jas. Mash	6.
Edw. Sawyer	3.	Edw. Lansdell	7.
Geo Barton	4.	Jno. Munday	Tenor

Called and conducted by Edw. Lansdell.

Peals sung at St. Peter's Walworth.

Appendix 11.

Regulations relating to the ringing of the bells of the parish church of Ashby de la Zouch in the year 1628.

1628 May 20. Agreement signed by nine inhabitants concerning the ringing of the bells and keeping of the clock and chime - "None shall be allowed to ring for pleasure and recreation above twice in the week and that above the space of an hour at a time unless it fall out that some strangers shall desire to ring a peal extraordinary which they shall have liberty to do provided they first obtain the Consent of the two Churchwardens for it. None shall be allowed to ring at burials above two

1612

short peals, viz one before the body
is buried and another after. None shall
be allowed to ring at weddings above
three short peals, viz one before the marriage
and two after. There shall be no peal
at all rung upon the Sabbath days, but
the least bell at 7 o'clock in the morning
and at one in the afternoon and the
second bell at 8 o'clock in the morning
and at 2 in the afternoon [In the
margin is the note - This Continued till
Aug 17.] and the second bell presently
after the chime hath ended after 9,
and between 2 and 3 in the afternoon.
The Clerk shall ring the curfew at due
times throughout the year and the four

1613

oclock bell in winter, and he shall ring no less than by the space of one quarter of an hour at either of those times. The clerk shall look to the keeping of the clock and chimes in due order from time to time.

If any of these orders be broken through the default of the clerk he shall forfeit to the town for every default 12d, which said default the churchwardens shall receive from the feoffee that is to pay him his wages the next next day.

The churchwardens shall allow to the clerk yearly towards the findings of bell ropes and maintaining them in sufficient repair 6s - Manuscript

in possession of R R Hastings,

The Manor House, Ashby de la Zouche

printed in the Report of the Historical

Manuscripts Commission.

Orders to be had and observed concerning
the use of ringing the bells in the Parish
Church of Preston. January 1587-8.

First, that there shall be but three peals
rung for a corpse or dead person, according
to the Law therein provided, that is to say
a passing peal, a peal coming into the
Church and a peal to the grave.

Item, that for a child or poor person
three bells to be rung and no more.

Item for any other person not being a
child or poor beggar four bells and no more.

Item, for a gentleman, yeoman, and
honest householder five bells, and both
for man and woman.

Item that no peals of pleasure to be used
except it be at the request of a worshipful
man or gentleman of the parish.

1616

Item, that so many peals and bells (and no more) shall be rung to service both Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer, in such sort as hath been heretofore accustomed.

Item, that upon the Queen's day and at all triumphs of joy for her Majesty and good success of the realm and Commonwealth all the said bells may be rung, and likewise for the entertainment of the nobility in such sort as is used in other places and parishes of the realm.

Item that before every sermon the great bell is to be rung. And if any person be in extremity of sickness that then it shall be tolled according to the accustomed manner.

Item, it is agreed by the Consent of the

1617

Mayor of the Town of Preston and
his brethren that if the said bells be impaired
by reason of the clock or chime, that the
said Mayor and his brethren shall repair
the same at their costs and charges by
reason the said clock and chime are
only for the benefit and pleasure of the
town and not of the parish

Item, if the clerk (or churchwarden)
of the church do permit or suffer the bells
to be rung otherwise than is set down
herebefore he shall forfeit and lose twelve
pence towards the reparation of the collars
of the bells (sic) for every time he shall
suffer them to be rung

Item it is agreed that if any person
do take upon him of himself to make

any bargain with any workman 1618
for any ornament or reparation belonging
to the said Church without the Consent
of the said Twenty-Four Men, or of every
end of the parish some of them that he
so taking upon him shall of his own
proper Costs and Charges pay and discharge
the same.

Signed by the Twenty-Four Men (the
governing body of the town).

From a manuscript the property of Miss
Langton of Montague Place London,
printed in The Preston Guardian by
F. H. Chestam, F.S.A.

Disputes between Monastic Houses
and Parish Churches concerning the ringing
of Bells.

Disputes between monastic houses and parish churches such as that mentioned on page 619 were frequent in the middle ages, and they usually arose from similar causes. The parish churches in question were either within the abbey church or were small buildings erected just outside. They were intended for the use of the laity connected with the abbey for the abbey church itself was reserved for the monks. There are many such churches still in existence. St. Margaret's at Westminster is a good example and most of the

English Cathedrals have a parish Church either actually within the building as at Norwich, Ely, and old St. Pauls, or immediately adjacent as at Exeter and Rochester. Originally the abbey built or provided the parish Church it held the patronage and either served it's altar or appointed a vicar. The parish Church was treated as a humble dependant on the great abbey.

But the parishioners, especially as time went on and new ideas arose, were not content with such an inferior status. They claimed that their Church was independent of the abbey and here no doubt they had the backing of the diocesan bishops who did not look

Since this Chapter was written
The Lady Chapel at Ely has
ceased to be a parish church.

It was not so before the dissolution
of the monastery either.

There was not a total dissolution
of monasteries in England
but only of some orders. In
the rest it was partial.

with favour on the total exemption
 of the monastic orders from episcopal
 control, or the many encroachments on
 their jurisdiction. The sign of independence
 was the ringing of a bell which thus
 became the centre of dispute. The abbey
 was willing to ring its bells for the
 parochial services thereby showing its
 overruling position; but the parish
 determined to assert its independence,
 to have its own bells, and to ring them
 how and when it pleased.

That seems in all cases to have been
 the real dispute, but the abbey found
 and made much of another grievance
 in the fact that the ringing of the parochial
 bells disturbed and hindered the

performance of divine service
in the abbey church. I imagine that
not infrequently when relations were
strained the parish bells were rung
with the deliberate intention of annoying
the monks. A few years later on
when the puritan and anglican parties
were contending within the Church
it was a common thing for sermons
and services to be hindered by the
"untimely ringing of bells," and orders
and canons were issued to stop it.

It was at the beginning of the
fifteenth century that these disputes
between monastery and parish church
became frequent, the time when

The general public began to take a great interest in their bells and bell-towers. The best known is that between the priory and the parish of Wymondham in Norfolk, which was brought before the Kings Courts, but generally the matter was settled by the arbitration of the diocesan bishop or if that failed by an appeal to Rome.

At Spalding the prior and Convent turned one of their Chapels into a parish Church but laid down restrictions as to bell ringing. These the parishioners tried to set aside and on November 9th 1400 they obtained a papal licence to ring whenever they pleased the bell

1624

the bell in the chapel of S. Thomas
in their parish, which had been converted
at no small expense to the prior and
Convent of Spaldyng and with the
Consent of the parishioners into the
Church of S. Mary. Notwithstanding
the agreement made at the time of
its building that the parishioners
should not ring the bells while the
Convent was in the dormitory except
on certain solemn feasts, and at
divers seasons." (769)

The priory appealed to Rome. The
monks did not intend to have their
sleep at night disturbed by the bell
ringing of jealous laymen, if they could
help it. It may be, though we have

no direct evidence that the parishioners already were amusing themselves with bell ringing after their day's work was done. The licence was cancelled and on July 2nd, 1401, the Pope ordered that hereby in future at night after the ringing of the priory bell, wont to be rung for the curfew, (pro ignitigio) until in the morning it is rung for prime the bells cannot and shall not without evident necessity be rung in the said church. (770)

To end the dispute the prior and Convent were to build a new parish church away from the priory, on the other side of the river Welland. The parish was to build its own bell

lower but the prior and Convent
 were to give them two bells price £20.
 "The parishioners shall not ring in
 their Church at such times as the
 Convent is reposing in dormitory,
 except on Christmas day and night,
 or for fire, flood or other grave misfortune" (771)

In 1201 the Pope wrote to the Abbots
 of Pershore and Evesham and the
 Archdeacon of Gloucester that "having
 recently learned that the parish Church
 of St. Peter Wyndecumbe in the Diocese
 of Worcester, and the Benedictine
 monastery of Wyndecumbe are almost
 contiguous so that it often happens
 that by the ringing of the bells of the said
 Church the abbot and Convent and

1627

others celebrating divine service
in the monastery are hindered and
disturbed in saying the canonical
hours and in celebrating such offices,
the matter was to be inquired into
and "if they find the above to be the
case to ordain that at night, namely
after the ringing of the monastery bells
for the curfew (*pro ignitegio*) until in
the morning the bell is rung in the
monastery for prime, the bells shall
not without evident necessity be rung
in the said church, and that even at
other times and especially during
such divine offices they shall be rung
moderately, and the vicar and
parishioners were to be inhibited

from acting otherwise. (772)

1628

For many years before the Reformation
the see of Worcester was held by a
succession of Italian ecclesiastics
who performed their duties by deputy
Whether this was so as early as 1206
I do not know but on February 5th
in that year Innocent VIII issued
a Commission not to the bishop but
to the Abbot of Pershore to cause by
excommunication and other censures
inviolable observance notwithstanding
its interruption for some years past
by bold despisers of the ancient Customs
whereby after the daily ringing commonly
called the curfew of the evening bell
in the Cathedral (majoris) Church

1629

and also in the morning before
the ringing to prime no bell can or
ought to be rung in other churches of
the city which interruption is to the
no small disturbance and injury of the
prior and chapter and other religious
bound to be present at matins and
prayers and the night offices." (773)

The dispute between the parishioners
of Creechurch and Holy Trinity Priory,
Aldgate, in 1414, was settled by the Bishop
of London but the agreement had to be
confirmed by the Pope, no doubt to safeguard
the monastic exemption from episcopal
control

The quarrel at Wymondham was the
culmination of disputes which had lasted
for very many years. When the priory

was first built it absorbed the parish church and more than two thirds of the nave was allotted to the parsonage for their use. But the prior maintained a sort of supremacy over the whole building and on certain festivals extended his processions round the whole church and made his offerings at the parish altar. Especially he kept control of the bells which not only asserted his overruling rights but allowed him to regulate the times at which the parish services were held.

Originally there seem to have been two towers at the west end of the church built for carrying bells but if any were ever hung there they were removed to

The central tower which was over the monastic part of the building, and to prevent the western tower being used for bells the stair cases were built up.

This probably was done as the result of some disagreement in which the prior had gained the victory for his successor alleged it was done "as well with the assent of the prior and Convent as the parishioners."

The opening years of the fifteenth Century were ~~was~~ a time when there was a strong movement, largely controlled by laymen, against the Church, and we may perhaps see the effects of the preaching of John Wyclif and the Lollards in these efforts of the parishes to free themselves from the control of the monks. At Wymondham

The advent of a prior of autocratic
temper and little fact brought matters
to a climax. Headed by one William
Groul, the parishioners took strong
measures to assert their independence
and rights. They stopped up the doors
and passages connecting the nave with
the rest of the church, pulled down certain
walls which the monks had erected to
enclose parts of the building which the
parishioners considered as belonging to
themselves, and opened the blocked
staircase leading to ~~the~~ one of the western
towers and hung up three bells for the
use of the parish church.

The prior in his complaint of these
proceedings represented them as an

outbreaks of lawless violence. He
 alleged that "Groui and many others had
 violently attacked" a tower of the priory
 at the west end of the church, and that
 they had ejected the prior from his parlour
 and prevented his entering it for three
 days. From this *ex parte* statement it
 has usually been assumed that the
 affair was a more or less spontaneous
 riot on the part of the townsmen but
 there are every signs that it was a
 deliberate action done in an orderly
 manner by the parish authorities in
 exercise of what they considered their
 rights.

The prior appealed to the law and
 a Commission was issued by the King
 to certain Norfolk gentlemen, Sir

1634

Thomas Skerley, Sir Ralph Shelton
the Sheriff of Norfolk and others to make
make enquiry into the facts of the case
and to report. The Commission recites
that the prior had alleged that his
predecessors and himself had from time
to time immemorial possessed the nave
of the priory church, and that the
parishioners had been always called to
church by the sound of the priory bells
and never had bells of their own so
that the prior and Convent were not
disturbed in their services, such being
usually the case in divers other abbeys
and priories."

The return made by the Commissioners
is in the Coram Rege Rolls of 12 Henry IV

and the finding is that the parishioners had been from time immemorial called to church by the sound of the priory bells but that on the Thursday before St Faiths in the eleventh year of the King certain of the parishioners entered the church, broke into a tower standing upon the porch of the church, and suspended three bells to the disturbance of the prior and convent.

When the case was called the defendants appeared and pleaded not guilty, upon which the King granted letters patent to Thomas Arundel Archbishop of Canterbury, to enquire into and settle the matter. The Archbishop's decision was, in the main, in favour of the parish

1636

They were empowered "to Convert a
tower at the west end of the Church
and on the north part of the same into
a belfry for their church, and to place
found, keep, and have sufficient bells
in the same ringing them at their pleasure
but closing all apertures within the
Church, except holes for the ropes so
as not disturb the monks occupying
the priory. (774)

It was probably to save the face of
the prior that the tower granted was
the northern one at the west front, and
not the ~~the~~ other, which had been taken
possession of by the parishioners.

It was not until after these things
that the present lofty and massive
western tower was erected and so it

is not correct (as usually said) 1637
that it was built as a direct result
of the dispute about the bells.

Talent Rolls. Feby 8th 12 Henry IV.
Commission to Thomas de Morley, Thomas
Epynggham, Chivaler, Simon Feltrigg,
Chivaler, Edmund Oldhall, Robert
Martham, John Wyncleve, Thomas Derham,
and the sheriff of Norfolk to enquire into
the Complaint of the prior of Wyndham
which is a cell in the Church of St Albans
of the foundation of the Kings progenitors
and of the Kings patronage, that whereas
he and his predecessors have held the
nave of the Church of the priory with all
profits time out of mind and the

1638

parishioners of the priory have
been governed in their coming to church
by the sound of the bells of the priory and
never had bells of their own so that
the prior and his fellow monks were
not disturbed in divine service as is
usual in divers other abbeys and priories
nevertheless William Grove, Thomas
Boleris, and Robert Kemp with other
parishioners broke a tower of the church
of the priory and hung three bells there
to the disturbance of divine worship,
and his annoyance, broke other strong
walls of the priory, ejected him from his
parlour and kept him out of it for three
days, walled up and fastened the
doors between the chancel of the choir

1639

and the nave of the Church, so
that he could not go out of or into the
Church with possession or otherwise
as in times past, hindered him from
receiving his living and other profits
of the Church, threatened him, and
assaulted his servants; and to take
down the bells if then hung and keep
them safely, repair the broken walls
amend other trespasses open the walled
up and fastened doors and entrances
inform the evil doers that if they do
further trespass it will be at their
peril and arrest any who rebel and
imprison them until they find security
for desisting - Calendar of Patent

1411 May 16 Westminster.

Commission to Thomas, Archbishop
of Canterbury, as by an inquisition
taken before Ralph Thelton, Chivaler,
Edmund Oldhale and Oliver Grosse
sheriff of Norfolk by pretext of a
commission of the king, it was found
that the said William Groule Thomas
Bolder and Robert Kemp with other
evil doers broke the said tower and
hung three bells there, walled up and
fastened the said doors and committed
other trespasses and by other letters
patent the king ordered John Gunville
William Truscion Robert Basage clerks
John Deye John Picket John Kempe
and Richard knyghti and all other

parishioners of the said priory 1641
pending the discussion of these things
before the king not to presume to hang
the bells on the said tower or elsewhere
within the said parish or close the
said doors against the said prior or
monks or their ministers or attempt
anything in this against the prior or
priory, to summon the parties before
him bring them to an agreement and
examine and settle the matter -

Calendar of Patent Rolls. Henry IV.
Vol. IV. p. 312.

See also note 851

1642

V.
Eighteenth Century Seal Boards
in London Towers.

Theingers custom of recording his performances on the walls of Celfies is a unique one. It springs, indeed, from one of the most widely spread instincts of humanity, the desire of men that others should know what great things they have done, the hope that, somehow or other, their names will not be forgotten by posterity, and all that we mean when we talk about fame. Men who have made a record like others to know about it. It is one of the greatest incentives to effort. The man who tries to fly to Australia

1643

in a few less hours than it has
ever been done before, or the man who tries
to be the first to set his foot on the top of
Mount Everest does not do it mainly for
the money he will get out of it, nor
wholly from the love of adventure. Consciously
or unconsciously his motive is "What will
people think of it?" These men would like
to have their exploits engraved on brass
or stone and set up for posterity to read.
But usually they do not get the chance.
That privilege belongs almost entirely to
the pinger. For of all buildings a church
is the most permanent, and of all parts of a
church the belfry is the one least liable
to change and interference.

Yet there is something paradoxical ¹⁶⁴⁴
about the whole thing, something which is
entirely characteristic of the Exercise. The
last thing one would expect to find recorded
on the walls of a place of worship is an
account of some sport, and whatever view
we take of ringing as a whole, even when
we insist that service ringing is church
work and a part of the ritual of church
services, peal ringing and especially long
peal ringing is purely sport. It would
be mere affectation to regard it otherwise.

When we find a stone tablet in a church
like the one at Woodbridge which recounts
how such a one ran up and down the
bellpy steps so many times in so many
minutes, we are struck at once by its

incongruity. That sort of thing, we 1645
say, belongs to the bad days of the eighteenth
Century and would never be tolerated now.
Yet the spirit which put up that tablet
was the same spirit as put up the early
deal boards, and it is only custom and
perhaps ignorance which reconciles modern
clerics and modern Church people to modern
deal boards in churches. In not a few
cases where the belfries are on the ground
floor a new and reforming parson has
pulled down deal boards and banished
them to some chamber higher in the tower, or
pinned them out of the church. Ringers
if they are wise will not only recognize but
will be proud of their incongruous mixture

of worship and sport.

1646

No tower in England equals that of St Peter Mancroft Norwich in the value and interest of its peal boards. It possesses not only the earliest of all, but the first recording peals of Grandeur and Stedman Triples, the first of Double Norwich Maximus and the longest (at the time) of Grandeur Caters, Treble Bob Maximus and Stedman Cinques. These boards are well cared for and are in excellent condition.

The boards at St Michael, Costary, include two of outstanding interest, and in many parts of England there are eighteenth century boards the majority, especially of the earlier ones, being for peals of Grandeur Triples. St Martins Birmingham which next to

1647

Shandrop is probably the most famous belfry in the provinces has many valuable peal boards but none older than 1820.

As we should expect from the part they played in the early development of the art, London belfries are rich in peal boards but more remarkable than the number of those which still remain, is the number of those which for one reason or another have disappeared. In the eighteenth century there were within the City fifteen towers which had ringing peals of eight or more bells and in all of them more than one notable performance was achieved. Not every one was recorded on a board, but whenever it was possible it was done,

and in addition to those of which 1648
some account has survived it is certain
that there were other peals rung by bands
which belonged to societies such as the
London Scholars whose records are lost
or to companies like the City Scholars
which existed only for a short time and
are either entirely forgotten, or are
remembered by a chance reference in
some contemporary newspaper or manuscript.

Thirteen of the rings of bells were hung
by the middle of the eighteenth century
and accounts of 47 peals rung on them
have been preserved. Of these peals we
know that seven were recorded in the
belfries but only two of the boards still

1649

remain, one recording the 5060
Grandsire Cinqnes rung by the College
Youths at St. Brides in 1725, the other
the 5000 Oxford Treble B. Royal by
the same society at St. Sepulchres in
1741.

The first peal accomplished in London
was one of 5040 changes of Grandsire Caters
by the London Scholars in 1717. For this
a board was put up, but it was taken
down when the steeple was repaired in
1796 and was not replaced. ⁽⁸⁾ The same
society in 1729 rang 6204 changes of
Grandsire Cinqnes at St. Michaels, Cornhill
The board remained till about 1840 and
was copied by Osborn, but it was then in
pieces and not hung, and soon afterwards

was broken up.

1650

The second peal in London was the Hecks Triples by the Union Scholars at St. Dunstan's-in-the-East in 1718. We do not know whether they put up a tablet to record it, but it is quite likely for they did put up one to record the 5120 of Treble Bob rung shortly afterwards in the same peeples. What became of it is told in a letter written by Samuel Austin in 1863 to Ellacombe - "That peal was recorded in the belfry and in my younger days I saw it many times. The church was taken down (not the tower) and rebuilt about 1820; the bells were repaired, the belfry painted and whitewashed, and

1651

in taking down the board on which
the peal was recorded it fell to pieces
with old age and was not replaced.

Sixty years ago there was at St. Andrews
Holborn a board for the 6160 Bob Major
rung by a "friendly" society in 1738. It
was then much dilapidated and has
since disappeared. The same tale may
be told about the board for the peal
of Treble Bob Royal by the Eastern
Scholars at St. Sepulchres in 1741, the
first peal ever rung in the method.

The tablet erected to commemorate
the 6012 Grandfire Calers rung at Crutcheff's
in 1732 by the City Scholars does not
seem to be now upon the walls of the belfry

822 1652
but there is one board illegible
through dirt and the discolouration of
the varnish, and it is said that there
are others not hung but stored in a
chamber above the ringing room; so
the old tables may still have survived.

For peals rung in the City during
the second half of the eighteenth century
only six boards still remain. Two
are at St. Bride's recording 5104 Grandine
Cinques by the Union Scholars in 1751
and 5232 Treble Bob Majimus by the
College Youths in 1777; one is at St.
Magnus, recording 5148 Double Grandine
Caters by the College Youths in 1762; one
at St. Botolph Aldgate recording 5040
Grandine Triples by the Junior Cumberlando

in 1785; ⁽⁷⁸⁸⁾ one at St. Sepulchres recording
5111 Grand sire Calers by the same society
in 1793; and the illegible board at
Cripple gate probably commemorates the
5200 Oxford Treble Bob Royal by the
London Youths in 1777

St. Botolph Bishopsgate formerly
had three or four old boards, recording
among other peals, the three rung on
the day the bells were opened. These
boards were taken down some sixty
years ago when the belfry was cleaned
and, after a time, broken up for firewood. ⁽⁷⁷⁷⁾

St. Dionis Backchurch had a board
recording a peal rung by the "ancient"
Society of College Youths in 1785, and
another recording a peal rung by the

Cumberland in 1850. Both boards 1654
disappeared when the church was pulled
down, and the same fate befel a board
recording a peal of Real Double Rob by
the College youths, in 1778, at S. Dunstons
in the West, when that church was
rebuilt.

It will be noticed that more than
one famous belfry possesses no board
as old as the eighteenth century. The
oldest at Bow dates from 1803, the
oldest at Cornhill from 1837. At St.
Lawrence, Jewry, St. Stephen's Coleman
Street, and St. Dunstons in the East,
if any boards ever existed they have
been swept away and the belfry walls
are bare. There were but four peals

1655

hung at Cornhill before 1800
and that perhaps accounts for the absence
of boards, but we should have expected
to find some at Bow, where more than
one outstanding performance was achieved
and we are rather forced to conclude
that here also there has been regrettable
destruction. ⁽¹⁷⁸⁾

When we turn to the temples of
Westminster, Southwark and the inner
ring of London suburbs there is a very
similar tale to be told. At St. Martin
in the Fields the five oldest and most
valuable boards were for long hung
on the stairs leading to the gallery,
but are now in the crypt. They are

in good condition. One other board is illegible but probably records either the 5136 Oxford Treble Bob Masemus by the "ancient" Society of College Youths in 1785, or the 5088 Hedman Cinqes by the College Youths in 1792. Both these years were at one time recorded in the Celfy and the board for one of them has disappeared. The record of the 7325 Grandine Cinqes by the S. James's Society is in good condition but needs cleaning.

The oldest board at S. Margaret's is that commemorating the first performance of Holli's Original in 1751. It was restored half a century ago, and hung in the church porch. It is in good condition. The only other eighteenth century board in the

lower records 5165 Grandeur 1657
Caters by the College Juniors in 1779. The
woodwork is sound but the writing is
almost illegible through dirt and age.
At St. Margaret's probably there has been
a loss of early peal boards.

St. Clement Danes has no early tablets.
Of the many interesting peal boards
at St. Saviour's Southwark, the earliest
records the 5040 Rob. Royal by the Union
Scholars in 1738 when Philemon Shairwaring
turned the 52 cut penon into a peal
single handed for the first time. Other
eighteenth century tablets are for three
peals of Treble Rob. Mascinus - 5136 by the
Cumberlands in 1766, and 5040 in 1758
and 7008 in 1784 by the College Juniors.
The board for the last performance was

1658

restored and rewritten in 1874 and
the wording altered. A tablet which
recorded 6336 changes of P.D. Mascimus
rung by the "old" Society of London
Youths in 1758 disappeared at some
time after 1795. It was copied by
Concanen and Morgan and the wording
is given in their History of Southwark
but in Osborn's time it was no longer
in the belfry.

Any old boards there may have been
at St. Olaves perished in the fire that
destroyed the church and there are
none either at St. Georges or at Christ
Church. ⁽⁵³⁶⁾ St. John's Horsleydown had
two of more than ordinary interest.
One of them recorded the first peal of

1659

Hedman Colours ever rung, the
other 10,421 Changes of Grand sire Colours
rung by the Surrey Youths in the closing
days of the eighteenth Century. The leafy
walls are now bare, and at the neighbouring
Church of St. Mary's Bermondsey no seal
tablets remain.

St Giles in the Fields possesses two
valuable late eighteenth Century boards,
one for the 5040 Grand sire Triples by the
College Youths in 1791 when James Parlett
called Hollis' Original, and was thought
at the time and long after to have been
the first man to do so, and also to
take part in the ringing; the other
for Noonan's seal of Hedman Triples
rung by the Junior Cumberlands in 1799.

Both have been restored and are in excellent condition, but four other boards have disappeared. They recorded 5040 London Union Triples in 1782, Cambridge Surprise Major in 1783, 5040 Bob Major in 1785, and 5088 Oxford Treble Bob Major in the same year. The first was by the London Junks, the other three by the "ancient" Society of College Junks. It is rather remarkable that not only the year book but, with the possible exception of the tablet recording the 5136 Treble Bob Maximus at St. Martin's, all the boards recording the performances of the Cates Company have been destroyed. One perished when Croydon parish church was burnt another when St. Dionis was pulled down,

and another has disappeared from
St. John's Horsleydown.

1661

The oldest board at St. Leonard's
Shoreditch commemorates 5040 New Double
Triples by the Cumberlands in 1750, but
the two most important are in the vestibule
of the church. One on a copper plate in
gilt writing on a black ground within
a gilt carved frame commemorates the
12000 Oxford Treble Bob Royal by the
Cumberlands in 1784; the other in gilt
writing on a black ground within a
carved frame commemorates the five long
peals in the same method by the College
Youths in 1777. Photographs of these two
tables with descriptions are given in

the Survey of London issued
by the London County Council.

1662

Two other boards formerly at Shoreditch
are now in the belfry of St. Martin-in-the-Fields.

When St. Matthews Bethnal Green was
burnt in 1859 five boards were destroyed.
They recorded 5040 Grand sire Major, 8448
Kent Treble Bob Major, 5152 Double Norwich
Court Bob, and 5600 Superlative Surprise.
The last two were rung in the nineteenth
century. When Christ Church, Spitalfields
was burnt in 1836 an unknown number
of boards perished. The first peals on
Hackney bells were rung in the old tower
which still stands, but I believe no boards
still remain (788) St. Georges in the East,
and St. Dunstan's, Stepney, have no peals.

older than the nineteenth Century 1663
and the walls of the belfry at Clerkenwell
are bare.

One eighteenth Century board is at
Islington ⁽¹⁷⁸⁸⁾ and another at Chelsea old
church though the ring of bells at the
latter tower has been broken up. A
photograph of the table is reproduced in
the London County Council Survey of
London.

St Paul's Hammer Smith, and St Mary
Abbeis, Kensington are pleasing exceptions
to the long tale of destruction. Both
churches were built in the nineteenth
Century but in both cases the peal boards
were preserved and recreated in the new
belfries. Hammer Smith has the only

1664

London Board recording an eighteenth
Century pic-bell peal. The Kensington
boards include one commemorating the
first peal of Stedman Triples which we
definitely know to have been true, and
an early peal by the London Jurchs.

All Saints, Fulham, has four eighteenth
Century boards, the oldest recording
10.080 Changes of Bob Major rung by the
Fulham Jurchs in 1735. The other performances
Commemorated are 10.098 Grandeur
Caters in 1762, 5040 Oxford Treble Bob
Royal in 1776, and 5220 Plain Bob
Caters in 1783, the first rung by the "ancient"
Society of College Jurchs, the others by
the "junior" branch. There is also a very
elaborate board erected by J. P. Powell

to record the long peal of Caters
rung by the St. James's Society.

1665

At Lambeth there are five boards
dating from 1777 and 1778 and at
Battersea five dating from 1782 and
1790

In the outer ring of London suburbs
there are early boards ~~at~~ and tablets
at Hillingdon (1730) Greenwich (1732)
Richmond (1742) and Turckenham (1749)

A board dated 1737 which fifty years
ago was at Hillingdon has since
disappeared probably when the old
belfry floor was removed to open up the
tower arch.

Later eighteenth century boards are
at Ealing (1798) Edmonton (1788, 1794,
1795 and 1797), Isleworth (1770) Turckenham

(1785) Skatlake (1761 and 1776) 1666
Harrow (1780) and Richmond (1767). One
board at least has disappeared from
Turickenham.

Some of the destruction of ancient
peal boards has been caused by fire
and the pulling down of the steeples.
This was unavoidable but much has
been caused by neglect. So long as
the boards remained on the walls of
the belfries they were safe enough;
but when alterations have been made
or the belfry walls cleaned there was
usually no one to see that the boards
were replaced. The result was inevitable;
for a while they would stand on the
floor, then they would get broken,
and finally they would be carried away

1667
as published. I have a strong
suspicion that at S. Giles in the Fields
a later set of stoney ringers painted
out one or two old records to replace
them with their own "feals".

1668

Eighteenth Century Seal Boards
in the County of London.

	Now existing.	Destroyed.
St. Andrew, Holborn	0	1
St. Botolph, Aldgate	1	
St. Botolph, Bishopsgate	0	
St. Brides, Fleet Street	3	1
St. Dionis, Backchurch	0	1
St. Dunstan-in-the-East	0	1
St. Dunstan-in-the-West	0	1
St. Giles, Cripplegate	1	1
St. Laurence, Jewry	0	
St. Magnus the Martyr	1	
St. Mary-le-Bow.	0	
St. Michael, Cornhill	0	1
St. Sepulchres, Snow Hill.	1	1
St. Stephen, Coleman Street	0	
St. Clement, Danes	0	
St. Margaret, Westminster.	2	
St. Martin-in-the-Fields	3	1
Christ Church, Southwark	0	
St. Georges, Southwark	0	
St. John Horsleydown	0	2
St. Saviour Southwark	4	1

Bethnal Green, S. Matthew	0	
Chelsea, All Saints	1	
Clerkenwell, St James	0.	2
Fulham, All Saints	4	
Hackney, S. John	0/1	
Hammersmith, S. Paul	1	
Islington S. Mary	1	
Kensington, S. Mary, Abbots		
S. George-in-the-East		
S. Giles-in-the-Fields	2.	4
Shoreditch, S. Leonard	3	2.*
Spitalfields, Christ Church	0	
Stepney, St Dunstan		
Whitechapel S. Mary, Matfelon.		
Battersea, S. Mary		
Bermondsey S. Mary Magdalen	0	
Camberwell S. Giles	0	
Deptford S. Nicholas		
Greenwich S. Stephen	1.	
Lambeth S. Mary	2.	
Rotherhithe S. Mary	1.	

* now at S. Martin-in-the-Fields.

160

Appendix VI.

Sir Henry Tulse.

(see page 159.)

Four men whose names appear in the list of members of the Society of College Youths were Lord Mayors of London, but three of them, Sir Watkins Lewis, King of Bethel, and Samuel Birch, had long since ceased to have any connection with the Society (at least actively) when they held the office. The fourth, Sir Henry Tulse, was elected Master of the Society, in the year that he was Lord Mayor.

Like Sir Francis Withens, Tulse obtained his position and importance through the

1671

political struggles of the reign of Charles II. It was almost the last stage of the Long Conflict which was to decide whether England should be governed by an autocratic monarch or by Parliament, and the Country was sharply divided into two parties, which shortly afterwards were called by the names of Whig and Tory. London was a stronghold of the Whigs, and the citizens, safely entrenched as they supposed behind their Charter and their age long privileges, steadily supported those who resisted the aggrandisement of the royal power, while the government to counteract it, used all their power and influence to secure the election

1673.
to the offices of Mayor and Sheriff
of men who belonged to their own party.
For though the Whigs were in a decided
majority, there was still a large minority
of Tories among the freemen of the City,
and one of their leaders was Alderman
Tulce.

In 1673 Tulce and Robert Jefferies
were elected sheriffs, and the satisfaction
of the Court party was expressed by Sir
John Robinson who wrote to Joseph
Williamson, the Secretary of State, that
"the Sheriff's names are Tulce and
Jefferies, both good men; and a little
later, "we have settled a Lord Mayor,
Sir William Hooker, who I hope will
prove a good one with his two Sheriffs

163

Alderman Tulce and Deputy
Jefferies, honest men." (101)

By "good" and "honest" of course he meant
that they might be expected to do what
the government wanted, and probably
Tulce gave satisfaction for he received
the honour of knighthood.

One of the moves in the political game
was the promotion by the Whig party of
petitions to the king praying for the
calling of a Parliament, and one of these
petitions was drawn up by the City
of London. A number of leading
citizens was selected to present it to
Charles, and among them was Tulce,
but he declined to serve, and when
the deputation went to Windsor he

1674

stayed away, a fact which
was noted with approval by the Court
faction. (10)

When the election for Lord Mayor was
held in the next year, 1682, in accordance
with custom the names of all the
aldermen below the chair were put, one
by one, to the meeting and voted upon
by a show of hands. When, as almost
invariably happened, a poll was demanded,
four candidates were put forward, two
of them Whigs, and two Tories, of whom
Tulse was one. The Whigs confident in
their numerical superiority split their
votes between their two men, but the
Tories were wiser, and gave 2,233 votes
to Sir William Gitchard while Tulse

165

received only 236. Even so both the Whigs had a higher poll, but after a scrutiny, Pittchard was by fair means or by foul declared duly elected.

The reaction against the Popish Plot was now in full swing. The feeling of the Country had turned against the Whigs and Charles and his government who had long bided their time proceeded to crush their enemies, and among them the Corporations of the big towns. The plan was to issue writs of quo warrantis calling upon the towns to show cause why their charters should not be annulled on account of alleged irregularities. By packing the bench

1576

They made sure of a legal judgement
in their favour, and one by one the
corporations had to surrender their charters.
London's turn came. On a writ of quo
warrent's judgement was given against
the City and the charter declared forfeited.
On October 13th the King issued a new
commission in which the terms were
that "no Lord Mayor, sheriff, recorder,
Common sergeants, town clerk, or coroner
of the City, or Steward of the Borough
of Southwark, shall be capable of, or
admitted to the exercise of their respective
offices before his Majesty shall have
approved him under his seal manual."

It meant that the age long traditions

157

of free election and free government
were swept away at a blow and for
some years the control of the City was
entirely in the hands of the Government
and their supporters. Sir William Trichard
the Lord Mayor and 17 aldermen including
Tulse were reappointed, but the rest
were ejected. The Common Council ceased
to exist. When Trichard's term of office
was ended the Court of Aldermen was
informed of His Majesty's Commission
having been issued to Sir Henry Tulse
to be mayor for the ensuing year and
that he was sworn with the usual accompaniment
of civic procession and banquet but
without any formality of election. The

1678

dinner was held at the Grocers' Hall for Tulse was a member of the Grocers' Company and Master in 1681-2.

The Whig opposition was crushed but they made an attempt at revenge. An action was brought against Sir Henry Tulse and Sir Robert Sedgley alleging that as sheriffs they had illegally sold the office of under-sheriff. The respondents did not contest the action in the Court but petitioned the King. The matter was referred to the Attorney General who reported in their favour and a warrant of *nonne prosequi* was issued to stay proceedings.

Tulse showed his political leaning still further when he appeared as the

1679

principal witness in an action
brought by the Duke of York against a
Mr Pilkington one of the alderman for
scandalum magnatum on account of
words spoken in the Court of Aldermen
The defendant was found guilty and
fined the enormous sum of £100,000.

It would however be utterly wrong to
suppose that Tulse and the Tories who
worked with him were merely servile
tools of a despotic monarchy. They
were the successors of the old Cavalier
party and their main motive was their
intense loyalty to Church and King.
and presently this very loyalty brought
them into sharp opposition to the new

1680

King James II. James was a bigoted papist who put what he thought to be the interests of his church before all things else. One of his objects was the repeal of the penal laws and the Test and Corporation Acts by which all power and influence were kept in the hands of the members of the Church of England. His Parliament would have refused to repeal he tried to act by royal authority and endeavoured to secure the support of the Whigs and the puritan nonconformists. On April 4th 1687 he issued a Declaration of Indulgence and a commission of six men was appointed to go through

1581

the country and regulate all
the corporations by turning out those
who were opposed to the abolition of the
penal laws, and replacing them by others
who approved, mainly nonconformists,
Whigs and papists. From these reformed
corporations a number of addresses were
sent up to the King approving his
policy, but none came from the Court
of Aldermen which (with the Common
Council in abeyance) was the governing
body of the City of London. Jeffrey
waited on them and lectured them
in his usual bullying style. They
still refused to submit and so a
large number of them were dismissed

including Sir Henry Tulse.

1682

Tulse was a great benefactor to the church of St. Dionis Backchurch. He gave a marble font, a marble pavement and the steps leading to it. His vault was in the church and when he died he was buried there. When the church was pulled down and his body removed the stone which had covered the vault was placed in the Court which marks the old churchyard and there it is now. The inscription was recut by the Ancient Society of College Youths as part of the celebration of the per centenary of the society which occurred in 1937. The marble font is at present in the

Church of St. Dionis, Parsons Green.

1683

Mr Henry Tulse's daughter married the first Lord Onslow, but she came to a tragic end. She drowned herself in a pond in the grounds of the Archbishop's palace at Croydon.

The dates of Tulse's career are as follows.

Birth - unknown.

Member of Grocers Company.

Alderman for Bread Street Ward 1673

Reappointed by Royal Commission 1683 and 1685

Discharged by the King 1687.

Reinstated 1688.

Sheriff 1673-4

Lord Mayor 1683-84.

Knighthood Oct 29th 1673.

Master Grocer 1681-2.

President of Bethlem and Bridewell, 1689.

Died ^{August 30} September 26, 1689.

Will proved September 26th 1689.

The Deacons of Coventry.

see page 888.

In the year 1834 a man who signed himself T. S. sent to the British Magazine a transcript of two ancient manuscripts which were preserved in the vestry of Holy Trinity Coventry. They are a copy of the "Constitutions of the office of the deacons in that church drawn up in the year 1462, and they have great historical value not only as showing the duties of parochial officers at the time but also (and for our immediate purpose much more important) as throwing a good deal of light on the conditions of early ringing and the genesis of the Exercise.

The dekyms were two in number, 1685
a senior and his fellow. As we read we
quickly realise that they were not
really deacons in the correct meaning
of the word, but the term is used as the
equivalent of "clerk" which is frequently
used in the same sense in contemporary
writings.

The deaconate was originally founded
as we know from the Acts of the Apostles
as a body of men who should attend to
the temporal and mundane affairs of
the Church and save the apostles from
the necessity of "serving tables"; and
much of the original idea still clung
(at least in theory) to the office through
succeeding ages. But long before the
middle ages it had become, what it

is today. Little more than a 1686
nuntiate to the priesthood, though all
along there were men who remained, for
some reason or another, in deacon's
orders throughout their lives, with no
intention of taking the higher step.
This has not been unknown in the
post-reformation Church of England
notably among the fellows of Colleges at
the two Universities.

One of the duties in early times of the
deacons was to assist the priest at mass
both by making the necessary preparations
and at the actual celebrations. At
high mass the three ministers were
the priest, the deacon, and the sub-deacon
the chief duties of the two last being
to read the gospel and epistle. This

1687

Custom has been retained in the Church of England, whenever it is possible, although the titles are not used in the Prayer Book. What we have to notice is that the duties and to some extent the title of deacon was disassociated from the actual order of deacons. The deacon at high mass might be, and usually was in priestly orders, or he might be a bishop, though of course the superior orders included the lesser. On the other hand much of the deacons' duties were performed by men who were not in major orders at all.

These constitutions give an interesting example of this confusion of titles and duties. The senior deacons had to

"find a dekyne to read the gospel at hys masse every sonday and woly [holy] day." He was not to read it himself - he was not qualified.

It is rather a strange order, but it shows that he was responsible for all the arrangements of the service and for seeing that the necessary ministers were available.

The dekyns of Coventry, then, were not, strictly speaking, deacons at all, but belonged to that body of men who were usually referred to as clerks. They were not laymen. They were clerics in minor orders and enjoyed the "benefit of clergy" which was one of the causes of the bitter disputes between Church and State in the middle

ages. They claimed exemption from 1689
the jurisdiction of the civil courts and
could not be punished by the king's officers
even for such crimes as murder until
they had been condemned by an ecclesiastical
court and degraded from their orders.
This benefit of clergy lingered long after
the Reformation and was not finally
abolished until the beginning of the last
century, the last people to enjoy it being
oddly enough the members of the House
of Lords.

The clerks as a body took an important
part in church life. In the monastic
organization there was no room for them,
but in secular conventual churches,
in the many hospitals, in colleges
connected with parish churches, and

1690

in the parish Churches themselves they were indispensable. Socially and in importance they were at least the equals of the chantry priests, and though they were inferior in status to the incumbents they all came from much the same class of people, and there was no great social distinction between them.

In the Coventry manuscripts we have a detailed list of the duties of the two deacons which do not differ in essentials from those of the clerks throughout the Country.

At half past six in the morning of every week day the second deacon had to be at the Church to unlock the doors and ring the bell for matins. If it was

1691

a Commemoration, that is an ordinary saint's day (of which there were many) the first debyrn had to be there too to help to ring "all in". They got ready the books and vestments and assisted at mass, and at high mass sang in the choir. After the service was done the first debyrn was responsible for seeing that the chalice and books were safely locked up in the vestry. At three in the afternoon, if it was a saint's day, a "feast of nine lessons", or a double feast he had to be in church to help to ring all in and to sing in the choir as "rector" or leader on the south side; and afterwards to lock up the church.

His other duties included sweeping the floor of the choir when needed,

and clearing away snow; and 1692.
he and his fellow were specially charged
to keep the leads of the church clean. He
had to provide holy water for the priest
and to bear holy water to every house in
his ward, to hang a towel about the font
at Easter and Whitsuntide, to vest the
altars, to tend the lamps and find oil,
to find palms for Palm Sunday, and to
watch the sepulchre at Easter. It was
he had to see that the holy bread was
cut up and distributed to every man
according to his quality; and he had to
attend the priest when he went to visit
the sick, or else find a deputy. He had
also to provide "iij" disciplyn rods" and
presumably to use them on refractory

1693

Boys. In Lent the two deacons
helped the churchwardens to veil the
altar and rood: "and y^e churchwardens
schall gyffe them money to drynke."

To some extent the second deacon
was the assistant of the first but he had
clearly defined duties of his own. He
had his part of the church and the leads
to clean and keep clear of snow. He had
to lead the singing on the north side
of the choir; and while his fellow had
to provide a deacon to read the gospel
at high mass, he had to provide a
child to act as server. He had to
take charge of funerals, put on his
surplice and escort the body to the church,
and provide candles. "Also he schall

1694

helpe to parve at ev'g drinkyng
after ev'g derige done at ye. Coste of ye.
Churche.

We notice two things especially in
these directions. One is the importance of
the bells in the services of the Church; the
other is that all the care and maintenance
and use of them was entrusted to the
clerks. They took charge in turn. During
one quarter the first dekyng had to oil
the bells and look to the baldricks and
ropes. If anything was amiss he had
to report it to the Churchwardens so
that it might be put right in due season.
The next quarter the second dekyng took
charge and so turn and turn about.

The first dekyng rang the day bell
that is the 12 o'clock bell. The second

1695

dekyng rang curfew at eight
in the evening and afterwards "he schall
searche ye churche all aboute lest ther
be any persons lyeing in any stile or corner
and yew lokke ye churche dur sure."

These are peculiar bells rung for peculiar
purposes. There is no mention of the ringing
of an angelus or ave bell, though no doubt
many pious persons would repeat the Hail
Mary when they heard the sound of a bell
rung primarily for other reasons.

The fees for the use of the bells at
buryings and obits were given to the
dekyngs, and they were made responsible
for the bells being rung whenever the
bishop, king, queen, or prince came to
Coventry. Royal visits to the city were

rare and this probably was a 1696
general rule throughout the Country.

We have come across several instances of parishes being fined for not ringing on such occasions, and at Holy Trinity it was ordered that if there was such negligence the deacons should bear any fine that might be incurred.

Throughout the day the services - matins mass, and evensong - were marked by bell ringing, the more important feasts being distinguished by two bells being rung instead of one. There were also special services; during Lent the first deacon rang the great bell to comply on Saturdays, but on festival days the second deacon rang the first bell.

In addition to the ringing before the

services there was ringing which 1697.
was done during the services as part of
the ritual. The two deacons took turns
monthly to ring the sacring bell at
high mass on Sundays and holy days.
Evidently this was not a handbell but
a small bell hung on the screen or wall
of the choir. No doubt they also rang
the sanctus bell but of that there is no
mention.

There was also ringing during the
procession before high mass, for which
the deacons were responsible. This was
not merely knolling by a single bell,
but all the tunable bells in the tower
were rung up as high as they could be.
Now, we may ask, could the deacons
buried with their other duties, attend

to this ringing? And of course
they could not.

1698

In the early days of the Church, when
the buildings were small and the services
simple, the priest himself rang the bell
that summoned the faithful. In some
cases it was a handbell, in others a
small bell hung on the roof with a cord
coming down inside the building.
As time went on and towers were built
and heavier bells were cast, and as
the services became more elaborate, the
ringing was (with other things) entrusted
to assistants who became the clerks
in minor orders. So long as only one
bell was used and that could be rung
from the floor of the church they could

quite easily include the bell ringing 1699
among the other things they had to do
to assist the priest at the altar. But
when the bells were heavy, when the ringer
had to climb a lofty stair case or ladder
and especially when several bells had
to be rung and not merely tolled, this
was no longer possible. Part of the
difficulty was got over by providing the
small paunce bells which were light
enough to be rung by a cord coming
down to the floor of the church. It is
not, I think, known when these bells were
first introduced but they were in general
use in the fourteenth century. Soon
afterwards and especially in the fifteenth
century the number of bells in the tower

of the parish Churches was increased. 1700

It was no longer possible for the clerks to ring them and attend to their other duties and so another set of men had to be employed. In earlier times that would have meant adding to the number of men in minor orders, and there would have been an order of ringers to take their places alongside the ostiarii or door keepers. But in the fourteenth century the time for that sort of thing was long since gone by. The customs and traditions of the Church had crystallized. In theory the clerks were still supposed to do all the ringing themselves, but as an old French proverb says (it may date from this time) "on ne peut sonner les cloches et

1761
aller à la procession" and they
had to get others to help them. It was
the natural and obvious thing to pick
a few strong lusty young fellows and send
them up into the tower to pull on the
ropes. So was the ringing Exercise born.

It seems that the first deacon controlled
the ringing at procession time and
gave the necessary signals to the ringers
by knolling the paunce bell, but the
second deacon was the man who was
responsible for providing the ringers.

Now we must notice that the ringers
did not receive any regular status in
the parochial organization. They were
not the servants of the Church nor were they
employed by the Church. The parish

dealt with the debyn and the

1702

debyn dealt with the ringers. It was so everywhere and it continued to be so for five Centuries. How much this fact affected and still affects ringing and the ringing Exercise it is not easy to say.

Once a year on All Saints Eve the bells were rung throughout the night. It was a very old custom, the origin of which I believe, is unknown. Perhaps it was some pagan survival and it was connected with the belief in evil spirits which was so strong in the middle ages, and which we have already noticed in connection with the use of bells at deaths and burials. It was supposed in some way to benefit all Christian souls. And

much in the same way that in 1703
later years the people of the parishes gave
to the ringers at Christmas time, in
these old days they collected for the
ringers at All Hallows tide. At evensong
on All Saints day the two deacons went
through the church, the first deacon on
the north side and the second deacon
on the south side and gathered the money.

Notwithstanding the many changes
in doctrine and ritual during the
sixteenth and seventeenth centuries
the Church of England is, or at any
rate until lately was, in many ways
the most Conservative Church in
Christendom. Her organization, customs
and traditions went back to remote
ages. And especially was this so in the

1704

parochial life. Throughout the Reformation period and even throughout the time of the Commonwealth the parochial organization remained unchanged. The parish clerks and readers of post reformation times were the successors of the clerks of the middle ages, holding the same office and discharging the same duties adapted to the changes of ritual and doctrine. The first deacons of Coventry were the predecessors of the later clerks and readers and indeed in the regulations drawn up at St. Stephens Coleman Street in 1467 only five years after those at Coventry they are so called by name. In smaller parishes the two offices were often held by the same man ^{man} ~~name~~, and as in early times the bells

and ringing were in the charge of 1705
the clerks so they continued to be in the
hands of their successors. Throughout
the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries
and well down into the nineteenth
century we never come across an instance
where the ringers were appointed or paid
by the churchwardens directly. And of
any contact between the clergy and the
ringers there is absolutely no trace
whatsoever. We shall have to remember
this when we come to deal with the
condition of the Exercise in the nineteenth
century.

I have pointed out elsewhere that
the very unsatisfactory state of the Exercise
in the 19th century
was largely due to the fault of the clergy
who grossly neglected their ringers and

made no attempt to see that

1706

they were recruited from reputable classes.

It is easy to attribute this to the sloth and apathy of the eighteenth Century; but it would be wrong. The cause is far deeper seated.

It is held by competent authorities that the incumbent has the sole control of the bells, the ringers, and the ringing and that he alone can say when they shall be rung and by whom. The Jacobean Canons instruct the Churchwardens to prevent superstitious ringing but give them no authority to order or allow any ringing themselves. No doubt this has always been the law, but when we study what we know of the history of the past we get a considerably different impression.

The incumbent was the chief man 1707
in the parochial organization but he was
not the only one who had authority. The
Church wardens acted independently and
on behalf of the laity to whom very often
the bells were important things. The clerk
was subordinate to both incumbent and
Churchwardens but he was not merely
their servant. His office was a freehold
and within his limits he acted on his
own authority. And, as we have seen, by
custom and prescription the bells and
ringing were within his province. The
clergy did not consider that these matters
were their concern and it is quite likely
that their interference would have been
resented.

The Coventry manuscript, supplemented ¹⁷⁰⁸
as it is by the statutes of St. Stephens'
Coleman Street (quoted on page 863) and
from other sources give us a good deal
of information as to the ringing of bells
in medieval times and the beginnings
of the Exercise. We can see that the sale
of bells being considered such sacred
things that they might only be rung
by priests vested in surplices, is a mere
fable. We can see too that there was
no room for guilds of ringers in the
middle ages. The Guild of Westminster
was unique and had no Competer or
successor. The societies of ringers which
sprang up towards the end of the sixteenth
Century had their origin in the practice

1709

of ringing as a secular sport,
and were totally unconnected with any
parochial organization. Nor did they
comprise more than a small and select
part of the Exercise.

The transcript of the Coventry manuscript
fills four octavo pages of print. The
following are those clauses which relate
to the bells and ringing. The spelling
is archaic but with a little trouble the
wording can be followed without much
difficulty.

1. In old English script the letters
th (the Greek theta) were written
something like  which in time was
altered to a symbol not unlike the
modern y. Thus the was written as

ye or ye; that as ye; but it was 1710
always pronounced as th. The letter
i was also written like y and we
have hys for his, yff for if, and
paya for paid. The aspirate is sometimes
not shown and so we have ys for
both is and his, and ymself for
himself.

2. The following are other spellings -
quere = chow. gedyn = gather.
Chales = Chalice. Complyn = Compline.
p'fets = profits (i.e.) fees.
quorse, quorseyes = Corse (i.e.) Corpse.
flawie = default.
Wholy, woly = Holy.
anod = another
todur = the other
ye woodur alpe = the other half.
dowlull festi = double feast.
fowle festi = full feast.
Fery, Feryall = ferial (i.e.) not a Saturday.

1711

Ita yf thes be ye Costic'ons off
ye offesse off ye dekyw off ye k'ntle churche
made in ye yere off our lord a meccccx
and ij yer.

Iti' ye sayd dekyw schall ryng all in
to matens w^c hys Felo at evy com'emoracion
and ix lessons. * * * Iti' ye sayd dekyw
schall ring w^c ys Fellow to hye masse
and ryng in ye quere at ye masse and
wan masse ys don to se y^c ye Chales
and ye bokes be lokkyd pure in ye
vestie. Itim ye sayd dekyw schall be
at ye churche a gayn be iij off clokes
to help to ryng all in to evyn song
yff yt be a com'emoracion or a Feste
off ix lessons or dowbull Feste. * * * * *

Itim ye sayd dekyw schall ryng day
bell w^c won bell every day. Also he

1712

schall se in his quarter y^c ye
clapurs off ye bells hynq in order and
so se ye bawdryks be sure and yffe
they be nott so shewe so ye church
wardens y^c they may be mended
in pesen and so shewe so them ye
bell ropes in lyke maner. * * * And
hys Fellowe schall grease ye bellys
and fynde gresse thereto wan they nede.
And they schall have ye p'fettes off ye
bells wan they ryng for any quorse or
obete. Also ye sayd dekyrn and hys
Fellow schall ryng ye bells at ye cumyng
off ye kyng and ye quene and ye p'ince
yff they flawie ye dekyrn and hys fellow
so beye ye losse * * * * Inm ye sayd
dekyrn schall ryng ye grete bell so

Complyn every sett' day in Lent.

1713

Item he schall knoll fo by masse sacryng
every sonday and wholy day he won
quarter & hys Fellow anod and every
p'pess'on day fo knole ye p'pess'on
lykewyse * * * * Also ye sayd dekyrn schall
go on All Halowe day at evyn among
ye pepyle in ye northe syd off ye churche
and gedys money off them for ye ryngars
ye ryng For all crystyn solds. It he
schall fynde won fo ryng a p'pess'on
every sonday and his fellow lykewyse

It^d ye there be ye constitucions be
longing fo ye offesse of ye sec'nd dekyrn
off ye trinite churche

Imprimis the dekyrn schal be at
churche every weke day alfe ow a for
vij a cloke and ryng ye sec'nd bell a feel

1714

to matens yff yt be a Feste
of ix lessons or a Comemoracion yff yt
be a fowle Feste he schall ryng ij bells
at ye sec'nd fell. Iti ye sayd dekyrn
schal be at church and helpe to ryng
all in to matens and masse and evynsong
wihys fellow. yff it be a Ferry he shall
ryng won bell ymself a partayn space
as ye ordinall spesyffythe. Iti ye sayd
dekyrn schall ryng Curfew every nyght
at viij off ye cloke and wan yt ys don
he schall searche ye church all aboute
lesse ther be any persons lying in any
pche or corner and yen lokke ye
church dur pur. Itim ye sayd
dekyrn schall greyse ye bells and Fynde
gresse ther to he won quarter and hys

1715

Fellow ye foder and also he
schal se in hys quarter yt ye bawdryks
off ye bells be pur & ye clapers off ye
bells hung in order. If they be nott
he schall schewe ye church warden
yt ye bawdryks may be mendyd in
peson. It he schall se ye bell ropes in
lyk maner also he schall knyll ye
pessesson every p'essesson day and
also every sonday and woly day knyll
fo hys masse pacynq in his quarter
He schall every sonday and woly day
ryng ye seind bell fo matens at syche
hour as ys wont fo be " " " " Also ye
payd dekyn schall go on all hallow
day at evyn among ye pepyll in ye
powthe syde off ye church and gedys.

1716

off them money for ye ryngars
ye ryng for all Crystlyn solds. Item
he schall ryng for quorsyes & obetes
and have alle ye p'fete off ye bells and
ye foder dekyn ye woder alle.

Also he schal ryng a gayne ye cumyng
off ye byschop and off ye kyng ye quene
and ye prync. * * * * Also he schall
Fynd alle ye ryngars to ryng a
procession on every sonday and woly
day * * * Also he schall ryng to
Complyn every feryall day in lenth wth
ye Fyrste bell.

Notes
to
Chapter Eight.

Notes to Chapter Eight

1. The number of parish churches in London before the Fire is sometimes said to be 109. This figure is arrived at by including S. Peter ad Vincula in the Tower and Holy Trinity, The Minories, both of which are really outside the City. Of the 107, 35 were never rebuilt and 23 have since been removed.
2. Strype John A Survey of London. i, p. 615
3. City Corporation Letter Book, C. p. 85.
4. Ibid C p. 15. circa 1300, A.D.
5. Ibid E p. 142.
6. "That no one wander about the City after Curfew sounded at S. Martin-le-Grand unless he be a great lord or other person of good repute and this for reasonable cause and with a

Light^s - Letter Book F 1337 p 190. 1718

Proclamation to the effect that no one
wander about the City after Curfew, rung
at S. Martin le Grand, except he be of
good character and carry a light; and
no Taverner or Brewer to keep open his
house after Curfew and that no one
wander about the City by night with
a mask or with his face covered - 1352

Letter Book G p. 3.

That no one wander in the City and
suburbs after Curfew rung at Our Lady
of the Arches unless he be of good
character and his servants, and for
good cause and with a light, 1362, -

Letter Book G p. 150.

Proclamation. That the doors of Taverns
be not kept open after Curfew sounded
at the Church of S. Mary-le-Bow,
under penalty, 1369. Letter Book

7. City Corporation Letter Book, 1719
G. p 27. Ibid H. 25.
8. Ibid, L
9. Knight, Samuel. Life of D. John
Colei (1724) p. 6.
10. The text of the Archbishop's Commission
to his comner is given on page 311
of Vol 2. of this book.
11. Ibid page 315.
12. 1517-1518. St. Mary Lambeth - Paid to
Jem amynner for default of the
rhyngyng of the bells at the kynges
Comyngge ijs. iiij d.
1529. St. Laurence, Reading. It is the
Queens' amercement for that the bells were
not rung at her Comyng into the
town
- 1601-2 Bray, Berkshire It. paid for
not ringing when the Queen dyed
at Folly John - iijs. iiij d.
13. Durand
14. Chapter appendix

15. Letter of Abbp. Cranmer to King ¹⁷²⁰
Henry VIII. see Chapter 1. p. 60.
16. See Chapter 1. p. 61.
17. The best extant example of this is at
Scarning in Norfolk of which a rough
sketch is given in the text.
18. Inventories of Church goods. Temp. Ed VI.
19. For example at St. All Hallows, Bread
Street - "A Chyme of 4 small belles"
20. Halliars, H. B. Church Bells, p. 86.
21. In the Roman Church this bell is
not rung when the Pope says mass
privately.
22. A Catholic Dictionary, 7 ed. 1905, p. 311
23. Book of Common Prayer - Concerning
the service of the Church.
24. "Two bells seem to be to be necessary
to every parish church that notice
may be given when the minister
comes in -" The Vicar General of the
Bishop of Winchester to the Churchwardens

of Shaftey, J. H. A.D. 1801. 1721

See also chapter III. p. 436.

25. of The School of Recreation A.D. 1684.

26. The signal given three times a day by sounding a bell to remind Christians to recite such a salutation

was according to some authors instituted by Urban II (1088-1099) chiefly as regards the morning and evening signals in order that the faithful might by this prayer, beseech God for the recovery of the Holy Land the struggle for that object being then in progress. So writes Alfonso Chacon in his account of that Pope, and more especially Arnould Trion [a French Benedictine 1554-1610] in his *Lignum Vitae*, that this pious

Custom lasted 134 years, but ¹⁷²²
falling into neglect it was resumed
by order of Gregory IX [1227-1241], with
the addition of the mid-day signal
Now also adds 'The evening bell
points to the joyful Mysteries of our
redemption, the midday to the
Sorrowful Ones, and the morning
bell to the Glorious Ones. Others write
that the mid-day bell was instituted
by Louis XI, but the more common
opinion is that Calixtus III [a
Frenchman, 1455-1458] ordained this
pious observance for a victory gained
in Hungary in favour of the Faith. -

Hierolesion by Domenico and
Carlo Magri published in Latin, at
Rome in 1677, quoted by John W. Bone
Notes and Queries - Jan 10, 1893.

27. Butler, Alban The Lives of the Fathers, Martyrs and other principal Saints

28 A. Catholic Dictionary
Barius Guil. Romanorum Pontificum Brevis Notitia Bruscellensis, 1763.

29. quoted by John W. Bone.

30. Sacchi Bartholomaeus de Platina Historia de vitae Pontificum Romanorum 1505. translated by H. Benham 1887.

31. Michin, Dean G. H. A History of France. He quotes an old French writer Jean de Terre - Dorenavant à l'heure d'midy que sonnerait à l'Eglise d'icel Paris la grosse cloche chacun feroit fleschy un genouil à terre en disant Ave Maria, pour donner pais au Royaume de France.

32 "At length by authority of the Supreme Pontiff 300 further days

1724

of indulgence were added
after which it had been ordered
by Louis XI in 1472 that the Angelus
should be said thrice a day, which
practice has been piously and
religiously observed to the present
time - Ducane, 1733, quoted by
John W. Bone in Notes and Queries
Jan 10th 1893.

33. "At Visitations it is usual to
receive the Bishop or the Archdeacon
with the ringing of bells. The custom
can be traced to the twelfth century
and the reason assigned for the
ancient practice is as follows -
Mandamus et statuimus quod
quotiescumque Episcopi per civitates
suas et Diaconos transierint

1725

Rectores seu Clerici Ecclesiarum
qui perciverint eae per suas Parochias
transire Campanas presserunt seu
pulsare faciant, ita quod pulvis
adire possit et exire et genua
flexere ad benedictionem percipiendam.

- H. T. Ellacombe, *Bells of the Church*,
page 247.

34. Burnet, Gilberti *History of the Reformation
of the Church of England*.
35. H. B. Walters, *Church Bells*, p. 89.
36. See especially Ellacombe's writings in
his books and in "Church Bells."
37. H. B. Walters, *Church Bells*, p. 98.
28. The custom of ringing a special bell
as soon as the priest was present in
church and ready to begin the service
dates from before the Reformation. See
Regulations for the two Clerks of the

parish of St. Stephens Coleman

1726

Street, passed by the Vestry in 1476. (p.

- 39 " The Custom of welcoming the arrival of kings or ambassadors with a cheerful peal is a very ancient custom and seems to have been derived originally from the French. Et est assavoir que en la dite ville et semblablement par toutes les autres villes ca il a esté fait en venant à Paris comme en son retour, il n'a été reçu en quelque Eglise à procession ne cloches sonnés à son venir au 1378 -

De Cagne, Glo. Ver. Campana.

40. Until 7 and 8 Victoria, when the Law was repealed, it was not lawful to buy or sell anything at a market until the market bell had rung. The object was to prevent "forestalling", and to give all

the traders an equal chance.

1727

41 Bishop Hooper of Gloucester apparently attempted to stop all ringing of bells except for the purpose of summoning the people to divine service. Hooper represented the extreme puritan party and distinguished himself by refusing to wear episcopal vestments at his consecration. The following injunction was issued by him in 1551, but whether it was generally obeyed may perhaps be doubted;— Item, that from henceforth in no parish in the diocese shall bells be rung to noon upon the Saturdays or other holy days even, nor at evening to Curfage (as it is called) nor yet in the time of service in the Church for the oppressing of the sounds of the Minister that readeth the word of

1728

God, but before service as well
in the morning as at evening to warn
the people, as many peals or ringing as
they think good, and in case there be
any pause between the Morning Prayer
and the Communion, then to advertise
and signify unto the people of the ministeration
of the Holy Sacrament to toll one bell such
as the parish shall think most meet
and convenient. (see note 64)

42. The custom of ringing three for the
Angelus was not introduced into all
the provinces at the same time. It existed
at Soissons in 1375 They gave the name
of Gardon to the Angelus on account of
the indulgences attached to the recital of
the prayer. The Gardon rung by the great
bell of Notre Dame at Paris at seven

o'clock was vulgarly called the 1729
Curfew of the Canons.

43. See the Edwardian Inventories of the
bells at St Peter, Gornouthergate, and St
Michael at Plea, Norwich and elsewhere.

44. See the Edwardian Inventories quoted
later on in this chapter under the various
Churches.

45. Romeo and Juliet Act IV. Scene IV.

46. There are many references to places where
the Curfew was rung in various numbers
of Notes and Queries. See especially
Sep 18th 1897.

47. Dr. Raven, The Bells of England p 318.

48. There is a bell at Coventry with the
inscription -

I RING AT SIX TO LET MEN KNOW
WHEN TO AND FROM THEIR WORK TO GO.

49. John How Survey of London

50. See page

51. John L'Esclapart, The Church Bells
of Norfolk, p. 175.

- 1730
52. L'Estiange (1874) says that the bell was rung every night except Saturday and Sunday for a quarter of an hour at 9 o'clock in the summer and 8 o'clock in the winter. In my time it was rung always at eight and only on those evenings when some one would volunteer to do it. It ceased about 1893.
53. There are several instances in different parts of England of the evening bell being called the Bow Bell. At St. Peter Mancroft the morning and evening bells were still rung when L'Estiange wrote, but had ceased before my time. The evening bell was a recent memory.
54. "Bells rung at strange times and called by strange names are all lingering relics of the Angelus or Ave bell which previous to the Reformation

1731

was rung in every parish church
morning, noon, and evening where practicable
in memory of our Saviour becoming man
for us and our salvation, and of the
morning mass bell. The people had so
long been accustomed to their sound, and
they became so useful for social purposes
that they continued after the Reformation
when they were given new names. The
early single bells on Sunday morning are
to be accounted for in the same way -

H. T. Eccacombe in *Church Bells*, Jan 27, 1872.

55. Dr. J. J. Raven, *The Bells of England*, p. 35.
56. Ingulphus' *Chronicles*.
57. Dr. J. J. Raven, *The Bells of England* p. 43.
58. Manuscript notes to L'Estianges' *Bells of Norfolk* in British Museum.
59. In the accounts of St. Martin in the Fields, (1532) the bell is called the mass bell.

60 Although the doctrine of purgatory ¹⁷³²
was expunged from the official services
and together with "pardons" condemned
in the XXIInd Article as a fond thing
vainly invented and grounded upon
no warranty of Scripture, the idea of
it for long lingered in the sub-conscious
minds of the people as is shown by the
speech of the Ghost in "Hamlet".

61 At Oxford Great Tom is tolled nightly
101 times, a survival of the old evening
bell.

62. See page

63. J. R. Jenam, the bell antiquarian who
at one time was a practical bell-hanger
at Sutton Bridge in Lincolnshire
wrote in "Church Bells" as follows -
Wooden strap bawderick clappers. -
These consist of a wooden strap clasping
the crown staple with a block inserted

1733

below and the clapper itself fitted
between the flats of the strap and secured
by a couple of bolts. These straps are mostly
made of oak and through the top a rivet
is inserted to prevent them from slipping.

Mr Ferram was of the opinion that the
wooden baldrick was decidedly superior
to the iron and leather one, but his
opinion, apparently, was not shared by
the contemporary bell-hangers. (But see note
826)

64 Addition to note 41. Interrogation
and Examination of the ministers and
of their conversation to be required and
known by the parishioners - Item,
whether they ring or knoll the bells at
the time of the Communion or between
morning prayers which is commonly
called matins and the Communion
as they were wont to ring out of matins

to mass before this order was
brought in. - Bishop Hooper.

1734

65. See St. Michael's Courtbill, page.

66. On May 3rd 1490 John Bishop of Ely
Consecrated one large bell in honour of
the Holy Ghost and St. Nicholas the
Confessor and granted 100 days indulgence
to all truly penitent who at the sound of
the same great bell shall say five paternosters
and five Salut^m. Angel. for the good state
of the Universal Church for the Bishop
Consecrating, the King and Queen and
all the souls of the faithful departed this
life - H. F. Ellacombe Bell of the Church
p 501.

67 This opinion needs perhaps some
qualification - "Thasston who subsequently
relapsed under Mary and became
himself a Romanist persecutor, was now
strutting in his new authority, and

punishing, suspending and inhibiting
in behalf of Protestant doctrines which
were not yet tolerated by the Law — James
Anthony Froude, History of England.

68. See the accounts of St. Margaret's Lothbury
on page 642, and of St. Michael Cornhill
on page.

69. Mr. A. H. Cocks was a change-ringer to
the extent that he rang the treble to a
peal of Grand sire Triples at Marlow.

70. Dr. Edwin Freshfield writing in 1880 says
he remembered three churches in London
where the early bell was rung at 5.0
and was called the apprentices bell —
Archaeologia 1880 p. 64.

71. The five at St. George's-at-Tombland,
Norwich, which are a pre-reformation
ring (except that the tenor was recast
in 1619) are tuned to the minor scale.

1736

There are more than one ring of three
at Norwich joined to the minor scale
and consisting largely of pre-reformation
bells.

72. Ellacombe.

73. Oxford English Dictionary

74. Royal Commission on Historical Monuments
Buckinghamshire Vol ii p 83.

75. Fraude J. St Edward the Sixth. Chap III.

76. Strype John, Memorials of the Reformation
Lutris C. W. Church Bells, p 50.

77. The History and Fate of Sacrilege p. 285
"Some other Reports I have often in times
past heard touching some other parts of
the Kingdom but (as I said) I then
regarded them not and will not therefore
speak anything of them." p. 286.

78. 31 Henry VIII Cap. 13.

79. These are the figures given by Sir Henry
Spelman. I have not checked them from
any other source

80. Raven J. Bells of England pp 45, 52, 247.

81. Latten (Lattin, Latyn.) a mixed metal of yellow colour either identical or closely resembling brass - O.E.D. 1737
82. Tets of the Privy Council of England.
83. Shroff metal. shruff metal old brass or copper - O.E.D.
84. The Chancellor of the Augmentations. was the head of the Commission appointed to deal with the sequestered lands and property.
85. Shaw. see page
86. Stanley Baldwin On England, p 117.
87. Canterbury, Winchester, Ely, Norwich, Worcester, Rochester, Durham, and Carlisle. They of course suffered many changes in ritual and ornaments in preceding years but not at the time of their conversion; and so far as their bells were concerned not at all.
88. Oxford, Peterborough, Bristol, Gloucester, Chester, and Westminster.

89 "That fair steeple [All Hallows,
Lombard Street] hath but one bell as
fiars were wont to use" Shows Survey of
London. Pope Urban IV granted a faculty
to prior and Augustinian friars in England
to have one bell in their churches - Calendar
of Entries in Papal Registers. Regesta Vol XXVI.

90 John Maclean, History of Tugg Skanos,
Vol 1 p 345.

91. "1540 16 Nov 32 Henry VIII. Agreement
by Robert Parlysh of Oxford Currier and
John Marcy of the same Tailor, Churchwardens
of Oxford with Robert Pawlyn, John Eye
and Matthew Ferrer Burgesses to sell to
Thomas How of London one bell of thirty hundred
weight for which the said Thomas will
pay to them for the use of the whole parish
of Oxford at the day of delivery in London
at the Kings beam for every hundredweight
xxs delivery to be made in London at

1739

Dyce Key before the feast of the
Purification of Our Lady next ensuing" -

Records of the Dissolved Corporation of Oxford
Historical MSS. Commission. Report.

92. Somerset's Character is one of the most controversial
in English history. The Cambridge Modern
History says - "Few rulers of England
have been more remarkable. Many have
been more successful, many more skilled
in the art of government, but it is
doubtful whether any have seen further
into the future or have been more strongly
possessed of ideas which they have been
unable to carry out. He was born before
his time a seer of visions and a dreamer
of dreams" Vol II p 476. The article
in the Dictionary of National Biography
which is by the same historian, A. F. Pollard,

says - "The Chief blot on Somerset's
Career is his incapacity in profiting by the
dissolution of the monasteries, the abolition
of Chuntries and the sale of Church Lands."

D.N.B. Vol LI p. 308. Froide is generally
favourable to the man while condemning
his policy J. R. Green wrote - "Able as
Somerset was his temper was not that
of a ruler of men and his miserable
administration had all but brought
government to a standstill - History
of the English People Vol IV p 56.

93. Patent Roll Edward VI 1549

94. Ibid.

95. Ibid. 1548.

96. Ibid.

97. Ibid 1553.

98. Ibid 1547.

99. Ibid

100. Ibid 1553

101. Acts of the Privy Council 1551. 1741
"Westminster iiij Day of June 1551 - A
letter was written to James Pascomb
and John ap Ithelips to cause certain
bells seized for a forfait in Milford
Haven to be brought to Pentrooke
Castle and there to be kept untill the
Kinges pleas^r wer further known."
102. Talent Roll, Edw. VI Roll 836.
103. Acts of the Privy Council
104. Talent Roll, Edw VI Roll 848.
105. How gives many instances of this in
the churches of London See the reference
to All Hallows Staining quoted on
page 384.
106. See my second volume, page, 304.
107. The government had debased the currency
to meet the cost of war, the sixteenth
century equivalent of the inflation by
printing notes which was done in the

1742

Great War, and in addition Sir William Sharrington Controller of the royal mint at Bristol had coined an immense amount of base coin for his own profit.

108. Letters of the Council to Mr. Damosell at Antwerp quoted by J.A. Froude.

109. Talent Roll Edw. VI 16 March 1549.

Sir Henry Spelman (History and Fate of Sacrilege) says they were pulled down by Sir Hugh Gaultier "at the end of Queen Mary's days", which seems unlikely. The Commission which was to sell church goods in the Isle of Jersey including bells and bell metal was issued in the time of the Duke of Somerset's Protectorate.

110. J. A. Froude Edward the Sixth, Chap III.

111. quoted by Strype, Eccles. Memorials Vol II
part 1 p. 270 Clarendon Press ed.

112. Talent Roll, Ed VI. Roll 830.

113. Strype John, Memorials of Thomas Cranmer
Book II Chap 26 p 381 Clarendon Press Ed.

114 Many well disposed minds

1743

Conceived an hard opinion of him for that
a Church by Mand-Cridge and five Bishops
houses were pulled down to make a seat
for his new building *** and because the
stones of those houses and the Church did
nothing suffice for his worke the steeple
and most part of the Church of S. John of
Jerusalem neere Smithfield most beautifully
erected and adorned not long before by
Dorsey, part of that Church was mined
and overthrown with powder and the
stones applied to this spacious building.
And because the worke could not be
therewith finished the Cloister of Pauls
on the north side of the Church *** and
a Chappell that stood in the midst of the
Church, also the Chamell house that stood
upon the south side of Pauls with the
Chappell, Tombs, and Monumentis therein

1744

were beaten downe and the stones
Converted to his building It is constantly
affirmed that for the same purpose he intended
to pull downe the Church of S. Margaret in
Westminster and that the standing thereof
was preserved only by his fall - The
Life and Raigne of King Edward the sixth
written by S. John Hayward, K^c. D^r. of
Lawe 1630

115.

116. MS. Public Record Office E 117 14/24.

117. Godolphin, John. Repetitio Canonica
also Spelman in Henry History and Fate
of Sacrilege.

118. Acts of the Privy Council, 1552.

119 Patent Roll, Ed VI. 1553.

120 Instructions to Sir Richard Dobbes,
Lord Mayor and other Commissioners.

Public Record Office MS. E 117 4/64.

121 Chancery Warrant, 29 May 1553, 7 Ed VI.

122. The original summons of the Commissioners

1745

of 1553 to the Churchwardens of
Beddingfield Suffolk is extant. It requires
them to appear before the King's ma^{tie}
sayde Comysyioners at Ipswyck the Secounde
daye of Maye next ensuenge before 12 of the
Clocke And that ye lrynge before them
(All excuses sett aside) All and everye
suche p'cell of plate Jewells metall or
other ornaments (whatsoever they be) belonging
to yo^r Church Chapell Seylde Brotherhoode
Fraternyties or Companies as doe Remayne
in yo^r Custodye or of any person or persones
to y^r knowledge the uses aforesayde as yow
will answer upon othe. The grete Bells
and Saunce Bells in the Steples only excepte -
printed by D. Raven, The Bells of England
p. 194.

#5.
123

" Bells rich in silver hung silent in
remote Church towers or were buried
in the vaults ... Some few peals of bells

were spared for a time but only on 1746
Condition of silence - J. A. Froude Edward
the Sixth p. 459. There is no evidence
that bells were silenced other than that
the more advanced reformers like Bishop
Hooper of Gloucester were active in stopping
"superstitious" ringing.

#6.
124. Robert Louis Stevenson, "Edinburgh"
Stevenson was writing of the Edinburgh
of his student days before the fine ring
of ten was hung in the steeple of St. Marys
Episcopal Cathedral. The bells he refers
to all belonged to the Church of Scotland

125. The Churchwardens were bidden to keep
the bells "unsported unblundered and
unsold until the Kings pleasure was
further known."

126. The inventories of Oxfordshire are not
complete. They relate to 160 Churches in
the south and east of the County all

of them except five (Henley, Thame, 1747
Watlington, Bicester, and one Oxford parish)
in small Country villages. These 160 Churches
possessed 2 rings of five bells, 29 of four,
76 of three, 52 of two, and one single bell,
in addition to a large number of paunce
bells.

127. An illustration of a 15th Century wheel
at Dunchidock, Devon is given in
Lutkiss's "Church Bells". My sketch is
based on this but the collar fixing of
the rope had long since been displaced.
- 128 The Great Bell of the Abbey of Leicester
was sold to the parish Church of St
John Leicester - Thos. North, Church
Bells of Northamptonshire. p 174.
- 129 The contrasted passage from L'Allepro
is - "When the merry bells ring round
And jocund pebbles sound"

130. The writer on Church Bells in 1748
the Quarterly Review of 1854 misquotes
it as "swinging slow with solemn roar,"
and so turns a supremely fine line
into a merely good one.
131. Since writing this I have come across
the regulations for ringing at Ashby
de la Zouch in 1628. See Appendix
page 1611.
132. In 1547 the Churchwardens of All Hallows
Barking sold the church plate for £77
and expended £37 of the proceeds on the
reparation of the church - L.C.C. Survey of
London.
133. Lydd 1466. Robert Lucas appointed
to be Parish Clerk at a salary of 20s per
quarter with half profits of all the bells
with other profits of the same office -
Archives of the Corporations of Lydd.

134. The Custom of ringing a small bell at the elevation began in France during the 12th cent. and was introduced into Germany in 1203. - A Catholic Directory 7th Ed. p. 311.
135. "Inventory of belles, challusses, and surpleses of the parische abovenamed delivered by the same Commissioners unto the Custody of — Churchwardens pafflye to be kepte to the use of our soverayne Lord the kyng."
136. 1552 May 16. Commissions to some of the gentry in each County under which they had power to view "all goodes, plate, juelles, belles and ornaments in every Churchre and Chappell and to cause a just and full perfect inventourye to be made of the same and to compare the same with the beise of the former inventoues made and remaining with the

137. Part of that exported may have been new metal. On June 6 1608 a warrant was issued to the officers of the Customs to permit merchants trading with Russia and Moscow to export 2000 weight of bell metal on paying the usual duties - Calendar of State Papers, Domestic. That could not have been church bells. It probably was copper and tin already cast into an alloy and intended for making Cannon.

138. Among the state papers is an account by John Burd, Bishop of Chester of the sale of church ornaments, plate, jewels, bells &c within the Diocese of Chester and of the appropriation thereof. Jan 12th 1548. The bells referred to are sacring bells not tower bells.

139 A similar dispute occurred between ¹⁷⁵¹
the Bishop of Bath and Wells and the Abbot
of Glastonbury in 1446. Among other things
the Bishop claimed the right of receiving
reverence and honour by the ringing of bells
from the same Abbot and Convent and
monks and persons whenever he should
arrive at, pass by, or depart from the
said monastery. The Abbot appealed to
Rome and Pope Eugenius IV issued a
papal Commission to Cardinal John Kemp
Archbishop of York to hear and terminate
the Cause which the Bishop had brought
against the said abbot and Convent of
Glastonbury and rectors and vicars of the
said archdeaconry about the ringing
of bells. Seeing that the pope has been
informed by many and especially by

John, Bishop of Palestina his major 1752
penitentiary that the same abbot has
always been and is faithful to the Pope
and the Roman Church and has never
perpetrated such things as to merit
deprivation, the pope now at the petition
of the said abbot and consent decrees
null and void all proceedings taken
against them in the matter of their jurisdiction
and hereby ratifies and confirms their
said privileges customs and indulgences, and
orders the said bishop to respect the same
under ipso facto excommunication. - Jan
14th 1446.

In his turn the Bishop appealed to
Rome and in 1448 Nicholas V who had
succeeded Eugenius issued a mandate
to John Cardinal Priest of Ballinas to

summon the abbot and convent 1753

before him and hear and decide the cause.

Dec 16. 1448 - Calendar of Papal Registers.

What the final decision was does not appear.

140. The possession of a bell by a chapel, hospital or oratory was a privilege valued as showing that the master or chaplain was independent of the parish priest and often opposed by the latter. It was a privilege which in many cases had been obtained from Rome^{*}. For instance in 1398 Boniface IX. issued a papal licence for building an oratory with bell the College to be called from thenceforth the Chantry of S. Mary of Melyngham. In the same year an indulgence was issued

* or from Avignon during the schism. It was still styled the Court of Rome.

at the petition of John Kalvin, 1754
Rector of the poor hospital of Ledour to
have a bell which may be sounded at
hours convenient for the celebration of
divine offices. On April 10th 1400
licence was granted to William Farnworth
priest, of the town of Brystowe in the
diocese of Worcester to celebrate mass at
the Chapel of St. Mary and to have a bell
rung without requiring licence of the
diocesan or the rector of the parish of
St. Nicholas the latter of whom he fears
may hinder the same. About the same
time licence was granted to Henry
Haselbeck, priest, in the diocese of Canterbury
of the Chapel of Holy Trinity Smeethouse to
celebrate mass and other divine offices
and to have the bells rung without requiring

licence of the Vicar of Cranbrook. - 1755.

Calendar of Papal Registers. William of Wykeham obtained an indult from Pope Boniface IX to build the bell-tower and ring the bells at his College of St Mary at Winchester.

141. A letter of Pope Boniface IX from St Peter's at Rome in 1390 refers as an exceptional case to the parish church of Emseton in the Diocese of Canterbury "which by reason of the poverty of the parishioners has no bells."

142. L'Estrange, Bells of Norfolk, p. 3.

143.

144. Mr C. T. Flower, the Secretary of the Public Record Office gave me his opinion that the figure is illegible. I who am but an amateur in these things

am very chary of differing from 1756
an authority; but after very carefully
examining the figure or letter more
than once, I came to the conclusion
that it is "xxx". A ring of ten bells
is out of the question and the only
alternative seems to be that it is the
final letter of "sync" or "sic". We should
have expected "syce" or "sice" and still
more "vj" but the spelling and notation
of these inventories vary considerably.
The sentence reads "xxx" bells and
a little bells hanging all in the steeple."

145. How.

146. Including the 10 at All Hallows
Lombard Street now being demolished.

147. St. Paul's Cathedral; St. Andrew Holborn;
St. Botolph Bishopsgate; St. Bride, Fleet Street;

St. Dunstons in the East; St. Magnus; 1757
St. Giles Cripplegate; St. Laurence Jewry;
St. Mary-le-Bow; St. Michael Cornhill;
St. Olave, Hart Street, and St. Sepulchres.

148. Froude thus describes the popular feeling - "The glad news spread like lightning through London and the pent-up hearts of the Citizens poured themselves out in a torrent of exultation above the human cries the long silent Church-bells clashed again into life; first began St. Pauls where happy chance had saved them from destruction then one by one, every peal which had been spared caught up the sound and through the summer evening and summer night and all next day the metal tongues from power and

steeple gave voice to England's
gladness." This picture is as true as it
is eloquent except that there is no
reason to suppose that the bells had
been silent in Edward's reign.

149. 1+2 Philip and Mary. - Public Record
Office, E 117, 14/127.

150. Given at Windsor the xix of September
the seconde yeare of her Majesties maygne
(1560) Imprinted in London in Poules Church
yarde by Rycharde Jugge and John Barwood
Printers to the Quenes Majestie. The draft
of this proclamation corrected in the
handwriting of Sir William Cecil is among
the state papers (S.P. 12, -19) and also one
of the original printed copies.

151. " 25th September 1560 Note of a
proclamation made to the Comons beyng
called together by the bellman agayne

The defacing of the olde ancient
monumentes in Churches of the nobilitie 1759
as also agayne the pullinge downe of and
sellinge of belles or any ledde of any church
&c - Records of the City of Exeter, Report
of Historical MSS. Commission

152. Chaplin 11 page 42

153. Sir Henry Spelman

154. Afterwards Lord

155. Notes in Sir Wm. Cecil's hand relative

to measures to be taken in consequence

of the insurrection by the Earle of Northumberland

and Westmorland - State Papers, Vol LX.

156. Sir Henry Spelman, History and Fate
of Sacrilege, p 287.

157. In Norfolk and Suffolke for instance

158. " These (i.e. monastic bells) were distributed

among the parish churches and many

instances may be traced of second hand

bells still existing as at Abberley in

Worcestershire where there is an 1760
ancient bell from a Yorkshire monastery -
H. B. Wallers, Church Bells p. 33. The
Thirst is a bell said to have come from
Fountains Abbey. Ibid p. 32. There is no
evidence that monastic bells were distributed
among parish churches by the government.
Quite the contrary; but parishes probably
did buy bells when they were for sale.

159 Crooks are wooden templates by which
the mould is shaped in which the bell
is cast.

160. See pages

161. Raven, J. J. The bells of England p. 195.

162 See The Church Bells of Sussex by
Amherst D. Fryson where the number
of bells known to have been cast in
England is given for every year from

16 to 17

- 1761
163. Robert Scott's name is spelled in
Contemporary MSS. in several ways. - Scott,
Skoti, Skool, Skoott, etc.
164. Some of the Cate's founders used the
stamps and lettering belonging to the older
men. Probably they also acquired the Crooks
165. Sachs who was at the time employed
at the Cripplegate bell foundry writing to
Ellacombe on June 8 1852 speaks of a small
bell about 4 cwt. with a black letter
inscription in Latin Robert's made me 1578
(sic) He says he "was shewn a curious old
book written in very quaint character on
vellum in which is an account of the
Cost &c of a peal of eight bells cast in 1578
the price 28 cwt 2 gr 7 lb and a list of those
who subscribed for them and the building
of the church "
of the church Brit Mus. Add MSS. 33,206.
The small bell is still in the tower.

166 St Andrews Monach. The Last

1762

& greatest bell was bought of the Prior of the
black friars at the dissolution of the house
& weighed than after v^{xx} & xij^{li} to the C
 $xxij^c$ & Cost $xxvj^e$ [It was cast into two
trebles in 1704-5 when the ring was increased
to the full octave

167. A list of the doctrines, ceremonies, ornaments

& C abolished as superstitious is given in
the Injunctions of Edward VI - "That no

man maintain purgatory, invocation
of saints, the six articles, [see Act of

Parliament Henry VIII] ~~Chadrolls~~,

images, relics, lights, holy bells, holy beads,

holy water, palms, ashes, candles, sepulchres,

paschal, creeping to the cross, hallowing of the

font of the popish manner, oil chrisem

altars beads or any other such abuses

and superstitions contrary to the kings
majestys proceedings.

1763

The "holy" bells were probably the
sacring bells See also the following Item -
that going to the sick with the sacrament
the ministers have not with them either
light or bells.

168. Helkeshall S. Andrew, Suffolke. John
Emerys and John Chevez, Churchwardens
report that Robert Skyle with the consent of
the whole Towne did sell one payre of
Chalyes v yeres agoe to the sum of iiij
mres. x d. which was bestowed about one
bell also that Roger Walker and Rycharde
Warner did sell one payre of Chalyes the
last yere to the sume of xxxvs whereof
we have bestowed vpo a greatt belle xxj^s.

J. Raven. Church Bells of Suffolke.

169. A bell at S. Ives by Henry Penn of Peterboro'
(1703-1723) is inscribed ARISE AND GO ABOUT
YOUR BUSINESS.

170. See Chapter Vol. page
171. Calendar of State Papers, Domestic 1577-8.
He need not take as literally correct, his statement that he was "greatly impoverished and come into decay." In such a petition he was bound to make his case as strong as he could.
172. J. L. Eschinge, Bells of Norfolk
J. J. Raven, The Bells of England, page 167.
173. The late Mr Hughes of the Whitechapel Foundry told me that the bells of St Stephens Ealing (1912) were cast from crucks which had probably been used for the bells at Christ Church (1852) in the same town.
174. The second at Felcham has the shield illustrated on page
The Newcomes of Leicester also acquired some of Prasers' letter stamps and shields - J. J. Raven The Bells of England p. 197. North, F. Church Bells of Northamptonshire p. 88.
175. after Struvinus a Dutch theologian.

176 Papers relating to Archbishop Land's
visitations. - Report of Royal Commission on
Historical Manuscripts.

177. Ibid.

178. Ibid.

179. Documentary Annals, Edward Cardwell.

180 Dec 12th 1642. - Report of Royal Commission
on Historical Manuscripts 11 p. 60

181 See Appendix to Chapter II Vol II p 299.

182 In the opening years of the fifteenth
Century there were many complaints by
monastic houses of the nuisance caused
by bell ringing in parish churches after
curfew and before prime (see Appendix
page 1619). It is rather difficult to see
how this ringing could be for ecclesiastical
purposes, and the thought is suggested
that we have here the beginnings of
pleasure ringing, which naturally often
was done after or before the hours of work

see reference to regulation of pleasure
ringing at St. Margaret's Westminster at a
later period, (page.)

183. See page.

184. For many years after her death the bells
continued to be rung on the anniversary
of her Coronation day.

185. From time to time vestries attempted
to curtail the amount of official paid
ringing, mainly it would appear on the
grounds of economy.

186. See pages

187. at St. Margaret's Westminster, St. Bartholomew
by the Exchange and no doubt in every
church in London.

188. At St. Benet's Gracechurch Street.

189. At St. Giles Cripplegate. St. Bartholomew
by the Exchange provided six new ropes
"to ring when General Montk came with
his army into the City"

190. See Chapter XII Vol p 371

191. See page also Chapter

192. See Chapter II Vol II. p. 142.

193. See Chapter

194. Dr. J.J. Raven, The Bells of England p. 223

195. Ibid.

196. A.T. King (The Bells of S. Sepulchres) says that Michael Darbie cast the bell for S. Sepulchres and his statement has been copied (by myself among others) but that certainly was a mistake for John Darbie. The parish accounts say simply "M. Darby."

See page.

197. Dr. J.J. Raven The Bells of England, p 223.

198. Anthony a Wood See Chapter Vol page

199 Dr. J.J. Raven, The Bells of England, p. 224

200 do. The Church Bells of Cambridgeshire p. 48.

201 In addition to the transaction referred to in note 91 I have only come across only one other instance of bells being sold by the parish during the Reformation

period. That was at Rotherhithe 1768
(see p.p. 334) It was agreed to do the
same at St. Botolph Aldgate but met
with too much opposition among the
parishioners (see page 494)

202 Not the churchwarden, but the parish
clerk, who kept a book recording the
events which happened in the parish -
Thomas Haridance, citizen and Ironmonger
of London, and Parish Clerk here in this
parish for the space of nineteen years
and five months. 1601. He was a verie
carefull and industrious man in his
place - Parish accounts.

203. Robert Hoale buried April 1 1608, -
Register St. Mary Matfelon Whitechapel
Joseph Carter was a Reading bell founder
(L'Esrange p. 59) He left £1-0-0 to his
"servant Thomas Barlett."

204. See Parish Accounts of St. Sepulchres
Holborn

205. D. J. Raven *The Bells of*
England p. 212.

1769

206 Greasy in his *Sketches of Leamford*
published 1825 p. 71 says so recently
as within 10 years of the present the
time of ringing the morning bell was
at 5.0 during the winter and 6.0
during summer. This absurd distinction
is now discontinued and the morning
bell rings at 6.0."

"Beddington, Northants. What is
known as the eight hours bell has for
centuries been rung at 4.0, 12.0 and 8.0
The four o'clock was to call up the horse
keepers and cow-keepers. In 1890 the early
bell was discontinued - C. Wise, *Notes*
and *Queries* Apr 1899.

"Epsworth 6.0 A.M. 12.0 and 6.0 P.M.
to call the labourers to work, to dinner
and to rest from their labours."

207. Continuation of Stiro's Survey 1770
6th edition, 1754.

208. See page

209. "The streets empty now even in London
which is a sad sight" - S. Pepys Aug 8th

"To Lambeth. But, Lord, what a sad
time it is to see no boats upon the River;
and grass grows all up and down White
Hall Court, and nobody but poor wretches
in the streets!" - Ibid, September 20th.

210. "It was a sad noise to hear our bell
to toll and ring so often to-day, either
for death or burials; I think five or six
times" - Ibid, July 30th.

211. Ibid, August 31st.

212. "The History of the Great Plague in London
is one of that particular class of Compositions
which hovers between romance and history -
Sir Walter Scott.

213. See Volume II p 329
also The College youths by J. A. Trollope.

214. Inscription on the Monument (translated)

215. In parish accounts there are '77'
entries of sums paid for moving the books
and plate to places of safety.

216. St Stephen, Wallbrook.

217. Eighty-nine is the number given on the
Monument. It was probably intended to
include churches like St Sepulchres, St
Aethage, London Wall, and All Hallows
Barking which were more or less damaged
but not destroyed. Eighty six may be said
to have been destroyed. See list on page

218. See accounts of St Sepulchres parish, St
Michael Cornhill, St Mary Aldermanbury
etc.

219. These churches are shown in the list
on pages by a dash in the third
column.

220. Wren has laid it down somewhere that
in a city there should be a few towers
large enough and strong enough to carry
the heaviest bells and the rest should suit

for carrying fewer comparatively
light bells. 1972

221 There are many instances of this in the London district. - St. Mary's Whitechapel; St. Mary, Ealing; St. Michael Paddington are examples of clock towers insufficiently buttressed. St. John Waterloo Road, and St. Giles Walworth are strong enough but far too cramped in size although in each case a ring of eight bells was intended from the beginning. The fine tower at the Imperial Institute is badly designed for carrying the weight of bell metal it holds. At Truro Cathedral the architect built a fine tower and forgot to provide any aperture for getting bells into it.

222 Many modern churches have been built with what looks from the outside as a tower but really is only a raised

part of the roof of the church. There ¹⁷⁷³
is no place to hang bells and if there
were no strength to resist the force of
them swinging. e.g. Sir Giles' Scott's Church
at Eastcote which had to decline the
offer of a light ring from the Barron
Bell Trust.

223 When did not leave the pines arch
open to the church as it now is. Whether
that has made any difference to the
swaying of the pines I cannot say, but
I think it is well established that
there was less movement of the tower
with the old heavy wooden frame than
with the present comparatively light one.

224 When did use a combination of portico
and two towers at St. Paul's and a
very successful combination it is. A
comparison of it with St. Martin-in-the

1774

Fields is instructive. In the one
towers are a part of the west front. In the other
the tower and spire seems to be a separate
architectural feature the bottom part of which
is hidden by the porches. Gibbs' west front at
St Mary-in-the-Strand is an entirety of which
the steeple is an integral part.

225. £832 worth of metal from the broken bells
of Lincolnshire was given in 1542 to Sir Charles
Morris under royal warrant to make guns
and engines of war. At the same time 68
bells remained unsold in that district.

Henry Grew a grocer of Coventry purchased
many of the bells in that town.

William Gerard, a London haberdasher, and

Thomas Walker, a vintner, jointly purchased
80,000 lbs of broken metal for which they paid
£800.

Sir Richard Gresham paid £31 for the bells
of Blakeney and Burnham in Norfolk.

1775

John Core a grocer of London paid
£1.345 for 144,500 lbs of metal — F. A. Gasquet,
Henry VIII and the English Monasteries, p.p.
428-430.

226. The parish of Buckfastleigh paid £33-15-0
to Sir Thomas Strundel for five bells of the
old abbey.

Five bells of Ford Abbey were bought by the
parish.

The parish of Churchstoke bought the bells of
Newham Abbey for £26-13-4. — Ibid.

The bells of Goresy Abbey went to Christ Church
Oxford, and two of them are there now.

The bells of Bordesley Abbey were bought by
Sir John Russell of Shensham and hung
hung in his parish Church.

227. Roger Lupton Vicar of Cropedy, Gloucestershire
in 1512 gave certain money to the Church
wardens upon condition that they should
among other things toll daily the Aves bell
at pes of the cloke in the morning, at xij
of the cloke at noon, and at foure of the

Clock at afternoon — D. Royce, Historical 1776
Notes of Cropredy, quoted by Thomas North in
the Church Bells of Lincoln.

228. "Paid for not ringing when the Ppp went
by - 000 17 04." — Churchwardens' accounts of
the Parish of St. Christopher Stocks, 1634-5.

229. "October 17 1691 It payd that when the
bonfires and ringing of the bells was for the
surrender of Lymericke (the next day being the
late King James birthday) after the clock
struck twelve which was the beginning of the
other day, a fresh bonfire was made in some
part of the town, and the bells rung out
a fresh according to a secret reservation
under the umbrage of the other celebration which
was taken notice of — Coffin 1755. at Torlege
North Devon, quoted in Report of Historical
MSS Commission Vol IV p. 382.

230. About 54 of Mals' bells remain in
various towers in different parts of the
country. — Walters, Church Bells of England p 216.

231. Other names occasionally used 1777
for this bell are "Jerial bell" S. Michael
Counhill; "gabriel bell", Norwich Churches.
"morowmass bell", Lewisham.

232 At Glastonbury "Cale monastery" there
were according to an inventory, "in the
tower there viij very great bells; and
in the Churchyard iij most huge." At
Reading Cale monastery there were vj bells.
- Inventories Public Record Office.

233 "The Curfew bell is rung at Pershore
at eight o'clock in the evening from Nov.
5th until Candlemas Day. It was formerly
rung also at five o'clock in the morning
but owing to the old Tescion (named Blake)
who for many years performed the duty
of ringing the Curfew bell making a
mistake as to the time on one occasion
and ringing it five hours too early, the
practice was discontinued" N. & G. July 28, 1894.

234. Tiche and Davis Annals of 1778
Windsor, Vol ii p 363.

235. A typical bell hanger of this sort in the
nineteenth Century was George Day of Eye
and his son Fredericks.

236. The following are payments made in
connection with Barly's work at Windsor.

" pd for writing the articles of
agreement between the Bell founder
and us 00 04 00

Spent in beere all that time 00 03 06

pd. for inke and a glasse 00 00 03

pd for drinke for the bell founder
men 00 01 00

pd for mending the Saints bell 00 01 00

pd for beere and tobacco to ye
bell founders men all the time of
the Runnings 00 05 06

237. How thus describes the fate of the bells at
St Anthony's Hospital one of the smaller
religious houses - One Johnson, a schoolmaster
became a prebend of Windsor, and then by

little and little followed the spirit
 of this hospital. He first dissolved the choir
 conveyed the plate and ornaments, then
 the bells, and lastly put out the almshouses
 from their houses, appointing them portions
 of twelve pence the week for each, but now
 I hear of no such matter performed.

238. The pinon at Avebury is inscribed - RICHARD
 PHELPS LONDON NAT PAR HUIUS FECIT 1719 - C.H.

Lewis, Church Bells p. 110.

239. On a brass tablet at St. Clement Danes the
 Wighimans are described as THEIR MATIES
 FOUNDERS.

240. Stahlenschmidt, Surrey Bells p. 99.

241. Cyril F. Johnston - Concerning the Antiquary
 the Bell founder and the Church. See also
 E. A. Young Bell Tones and how to observe them
 and English Bells and their Tuning. And
 Simpsons and Lewis's books.

242. See Chapin Vol. p.

243 This certainly was so at Southwark so far

as the penon was concerned. Ellacombe

1780

included the penons at West Ham, S. Sepulchres

and S. Margaret's in a list of bells cracked

by clucking. What exactly was his authority for

so doing is hard to say. Mr E. Morris merely

Copied Ellacombe.

244. See Chapter

245. At Hertingfordbury in Hertfordshire

there is a bell inscribed - W. Whitmore for

John Hodson 1656.

246. William Hull was for a time foreman to

Michael Darbie - A. H. Coates, p 251.

247 Mr H. P. Walters says that "between

1567 and 1575 the Whitechapel foundry

was in the hands of an unknown man

probably Robert Doddes." - Church Bells

of England, p. 216.

248. Swain cast the bells at Thames Ditton

and single ones at Cobham Godalming

and a few other places.

249. See page. For a full account of the Eldridges with pedigree, wills, etc., see Hahlschmidt, Cocks, etc.

250. A. H. Cocks, p 254.

251. See Vol. II page 129.

252. H. B. Wallers, Church Bells of England, p. 234. See also holograph letter dated June 26 1920, H. B. Wallers to D. J. J. Raven Brit Mus. Add. MSS

253. A. F. Tolland in "England under Protector Somerset" p. 269 suggests that Somerset and the Council were sincere when they wrote to the Commissioners appointed in 1547 to make the first inventories, that there was no intention of confiscating church goods and ornaments and the object was to see the same preserved entire to the Churches without embeswinge or private sales. (Acts of Privy Council ii 536.); and he points out that confiscation became general only after Somerset's fall. Mr Tolland is a recognised authority on the history of the period but I

do not think the evidence bears out his views. Somerset's record as a spoiler of Church property is a very bad one, (Mr Tolland himself says that it was the blot which has left the deepest stain on his memory" (p. 315) and I do not think he can be exonerated because the spoliation actually took place after he had ceased to be Protector.

254. See Chapter page

255. Add. MSS.

256 St Peter's Mancroft in the City of Norwich was cast a peal of twelve in the year 1775 the tenor weighs upwards of 2410. This at present though it remains the best is by some deemed the first in point of merit. Clavis, 1st ed p. 274.

"St Peter's Mancroft still maintains its superiority as the best peal of twelve in the kingdom" - Shipway p. 22.

257. The proposal to recast St Michael's

Coventry bells was opposed by the 1783
Central Council who appeared by Counsel
before the Chancellor. The Correspondence
on the matter was published in 1926 under
the title of Coventry Bells.

258. Unless of course the listener has trained
his ear to notice especially the overtones
and then usually any charm the old style
bells possess is lost to him.

259 It seems that at all times men have
argued about the correct way to tune a
bell and usually without much technical
knowledge — "The many disputes that
have often been amongst lovers of Ringing
hath caused me to insert this chapter,
and I know well by Experience that not
one ringer among a Thousand rightly
understands the scale of musick; which
if he did, he could immediately tell if

a Seal of Bells were in right Tune 1784
or not. I appeal to all Gentlemen Masters
of Bell Founding whether it is not Customary
with them always to Tune their Seals in
the Sharp and chearful Key? To which

they will answer. It really is (unless
desire to the contrary by some very
whimsical Persons) from which it is
clearly that Tenor, lowest, or greatest bell
must always be C (whether in concert
pitch or not), all the lesser bells above
that being in a regular Diatonic Order.

William Farnes, A Musical Grammar
p. 105. For the tuning of bells see

Simpson, Canon A.B. "Why some bells
sound out of tune and how to cure them.

1897. Lewis T.C. A Protest against the
modern development of musical tone.

Davies C.D.S. On a Ring of Bells in
perfect tune. - Bell News 1881.

Johnston Cyril F. Concerning the 1785
Antiquary, the Bell founder and the Church
1929.

Raleigh, Lord, On Tones of Bells 1890.

Young E. A. Bell Tones and how to
observe them 1928. English Bells and
their tuning 1928.

260. Ordynance in the Citie of Londone. That
the Patrones of the Colyese shall kepe there
doyrs shytted at the ryngyng of Curfew of
Berkyngze Chyrche and not releye their
ware in Londone. Manuscript by John
Colyng temp. Henry VIII. Harleian 1755 2252.

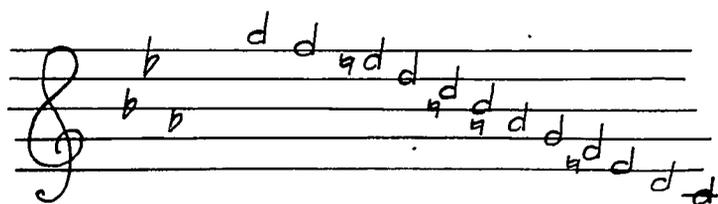
261 A printed broadsheet giving the bells cast
by the Rudhalls is in the British Museum -
Add 1755 19369.

262. When they were cast rehung, Mancroft bells
were taken to the Loughborough foundry, but
Messrs Taylor & Co wisely refrained from any
returning except slightly in the case of the tenor
which was not one of the original twelve.

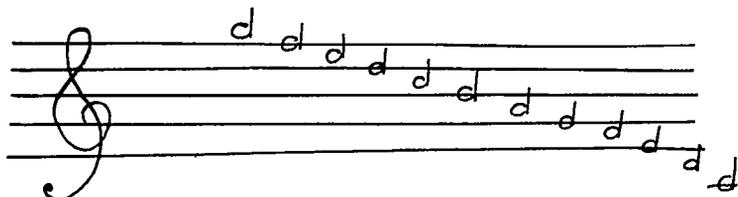
263 See page

1786

264 It is the difference between



and



265. My authority for this statement is M. A. Hughes.

266 See Chapter XII p. 558.

267 This inscription is on the seventh at St. Mary Abbe's, at Hornsey and elsewhere. The St. Martin's Birmingham society reproduced it on their dinner ticket.

268. See Sears & Plainbanks Bell catalogue the list in which however is not complete

269. Stahlschmidt.

270. See page

271. See page

272. This is not Kennington the London suburb and should not have been included.

273.

274. Thomas Fuller *The Injane State.* 1787
275. Indenture of lease between Dean & Chapter
of St Pauls and Dr. John Denman and others
Churchwardens of St. Faiths demising to them
a certain vault under the Cathedral of St.
Pauls called the Crowdes or Jesus Chapel
together with the chapel of Our Lady and St.
Nicholas - Calendar of State Papers, Domestic.
Ed. II 1552 Nov. 1. Vol. XIV.
276. Winnett, H.R. *A History of St. Dionis
Backchurch and St. Dionis Parsons Green.*
277. Written in 1937.
278. Riley, H.F. *Memorials of London and London
Life in the 13th, 14th and 15th Centuries*
279. When we find references in the sixteenth
or seventeenth centuries to bell-metal, it
does not necessarily mean that the metal
had been used for making bells or would
be used for making bells. The term was
used much in the same way and for the

same purpose as the more modern 1788
term gun-metal to describe an alloy of
Copper and tin in the proportion roughly
of 3 to 1. In June 1610 licence was granted
to Sir W. Pengoloy and others to make
furnace bell metal to with sea and grit
coal instead of wood and charcoal, for
21 years - Calendar State Papers.

280. P.R.O. E117 4/71.

281 P.R.O. E117 2R 12/25.

282 This statement is not quite correct. The
fifth and sixth at St. Brides were recast in
1736 by Samuel Knight.

283. Ely Cathedral in 1347 had six bells of
which the largest weighed nearly two tons -
Walters p. 26. Canterbury Cathedral is said
to have had five large bells, the first and
second of which required ten men, the third
eleven, the fourth eight and the fifth twenty
four men to ring them. - Ellacombe
Dr. J. J. Raven The Bells of England p. 45.

- 1789
284. This very fine inscription was
the suggestion of Canon Liddon.
 285. All Hallows the More P.R.O. E117 4/95.
 286. All Hallows the Less P.R.O. E117 4/44.
 287. Samuel Pepys Diary Sep 5 1666.
 288. Continuation of Stow's Survey 1754.
 289. L.C.C. Survey of London.
 290. P.R.O. E117 4/76.
 291. Continuation of Stow's Survey, 1754.
 292. All Hallows in Cumberdstreet
P.R.O. E117 4/53
 293. All Hallows in the Wall, P.R.O. E117 4/81
 294. Stow.
 295. Ibid
 296. The largest weighed 49 Cwt. see page
 297. Trynkle parishes Twentythe Ward
P.R.O. E117 4/67.
 298. Laynie Albons within Crefulgate
P.R.O. E117 4/72.
 299. St. Alphage Cripplegate, P.R.O. E117 4/19
 300. St. Andrew Holborn, P.R.O. E117 4/93
 301. Christopher Sachs, Letter to Ellacombe
Add. 1755 33.206.
 302. See Vol II p. 124.

303. See Chapler 1790
304. St Andrew Hubbard, P.R.O. E117 4/47
305. St. Andrew Undershaft, P.R.O. E117 4/86.
306. St. Andrew in the Wardrobe P.R.O. E117 4/60
307. St. Anne and St Agnes P.R.O. E117 4/30.
308. St. Anthony, P.R.O. E117 4/99.
309. Saint Augustyne next Pauls gate,
P.R.O. E117 4/87.
310. Little Bartholomew Bread Street, P.R.O.
E117 4/1
311. See page 447.
312. The Account Books of St. Bartholomew
Exchange, Edwin Freshfield.
313. Probably the bells were rung on St. James's
day as a complement to the King James!
There seems no other reason in the account
books.
- 314.
315. Prince Charles afterwards Charles II.
316. St. Peter Fink. P.R.O. E117 4/52.
317. St. Peter Gracechurch, P.R.O. E117 4/35.
318. Malcolm J.P. Londinium Redivivum
p. 514.

319. *Sealcolm.*
320. *St. Benedict Castle Baynard, P.R.O. E117 4/29*
321. *Continuation of Stow's Survey.*
322. *There were cases where the lead of the damaged churches were stolen by thieves and precautions had to be taken against it. See pp. 526, 551*
323. *St. Botolph's Without Aldersgate, P.R.O. E117 4/26.*
324. *Hallow, quoted by John Staples, Notes on St. Botolph's Without Aldersgate.*
325. *In the list of fittings transferred from the old church and at present in the new, given by the Royal Commission no mention is made of bells and I conclude they were not put up in the new tower.*
326. *St. Botolph Aldgate P.R.O. E117 4/69.*
327. *J. C. L. Stahlshmidt Surrey Bells and London Bellfounders.*
328. *St. Botolphs beside Billingsgate P.R.O. E117 4/57*
329. *Seynt Botolphes Without Parshoppgate P.R.O. E117 4/12.*
330. *Continuation of Stow's Survey.*

331. A copy of the board is printed
in "Church Bells".
332. Osborn.
333. Board in the church. Also The Clavis.
334. "Eboracum". an 18th Cent Book.
335. The Clavis.
336. See Chapter
337. St Christopher in the wards of Brodeshele
P.R.O. E 117 4/49.
338. Parish Books. sup. 538.
339. See Vol II p. 311 The Bishop of London in
1634 was
340. These have been printed in extenso by
Dr. Edwin Freshfield.
341. It is not clear what was the use of soap in
connection with the bells. Probably it was
rubbed into the ropes to make them more supple.
342. The plank was probably tied across the frame
to keep the bell in a raised position while
repairs were done to the clapper and Caldwell.
There was no play and slider.
343. This entry tells us how the Caldricks were
fastened.

344. Evidently an iron Caldrick was now
in use. See page 117.
345. Evidently for casting the Crasses.
346. James Duke of York afterwards King James II.
347. St Clements in Candlewick Ward Eastchepe
P.R.O E117 4/59.
348. Continuation of Rivers Survey.
- 349 The inscription has been recut at the
expense of the Ancient Society of College Youths
in connection with the celebration of the
pericentenary of the Society See The Ringing
World
350. An account of the bells of St. Dionis taken
from the parish books appears in Notes and
Queries, June 30th 1877, 5th Series Vol VII.
351. Lyall, W. H. St Dionis Backchurch.
Correspondence &c.
352. Winnett A. R. A History of St. Dionis,
Backchurch and St. Dionis, Fulham.
353. St. Denis Back Church P.R.O E117 4/70
354. The peal boards at St. Dionis Backchurch
were published in Church Bells.

355. *Sturpe*.
356. *St Dunstons In the East in London P.R.O.*
E 117 4/98.
357. *Osborn*.
358. " That peal was recorded in the Belfry and in my younger days I saw it many times. The church was taken down (not the tower) and rebuilt about 1820; the bells were repaired the Belfry painted and whitewashed and in taking down the board on which the peal was recorded it fell to pieces with old age and was not replaced. S. Austin to Ellacombe, 1863, quoted by Jasper Snowdon *Bell News*, Vol 1 p. 150.
359. *St Dunstons West P.R.O. E 117 4/37.*
360. *The Tintinnalogia and the Campanalogia* were both printed and published in *St. Dunstons Churchyard*.
361. *Continuation of Sturps Survey.*
362. *Malcolm, Londinium Redivivum* iii p 456.
363. *See Chapter xii p 356.*
364. *St Edmund Lombard Street P.R.O. E 117 4/43.*

365. St Allorough Bishopsgate, 1795
P.R.O. E117 4/42.
366. St. Faythes London, P.R.O. E117 4/5.
367. St. Gabriel P.R.O. E117 4/15.
368. Sainte Georges in Bouthollane, P.R.O. E117 4/88.
369. A good many particulars relating to St
Giles's bells are given by J. J. Baddley in his
book *The Church of St. Giles without Cripplegate*.
370. St Giles Cripplegate, P.R.O. E117 4/48.
371. St Gregory in Castle Baynard P.R.O. E117, 4/83.
372. St John the Evangelist in Brede Spiele Ward
P.R.O. E117, 4/62.
373. St John, Wallbrook. P.R.O. E117, 4/36.
374. Saynt John Zacharye, P.R.O. E117, 4/80.
375. See Appendix page
376. John How.
377. St Katherine, Christchurch, 1552 P.R.O. E117, 4/32
378. St Laurence Jewry 6. Ed VI. P.R.O. E117, 4/84.
- 379 The Union Scholars first rang the method
and one of their members, Robert Baldwin,
Composed the first 5040. There is no reason to
suppose that their early records are complete
and quite likely they rang a peal of Union
Triples. See Chapter XII pp. 35. 136.

- 380. Bell News.
- 381. St. Lawrence Pountney, P.R.O. E117 4/16.
- 382. Continuation of How's Survey.
- 383. Saynt Leonard Foster Lane 2 Ed VI E117 4/78.
- 384. How.
- 385. Waller Rye.
- 386. St Magnus, P.R.O. E117 4/41.
- 387. As first built there was no passage way under the tower, but when had so designed the church that by very slight alteration it could be opened up.
- 388. Saynt Margaret in newe Fysher Street.
P.R.O E117 4/68 6 Ed VI.
- 389. St Margaret, Louthbury, P.R.O. E117 4/25.
- 390. The Vestry Minute Book of the Parish of St Margaret Louthbury 1571-1677 was transcribed and published by D. Edwin Freshfield.
- 391. St. Margaret Hoyses, P.R.O. E117, 4/58.
- 392. St. Margaret Pattens, P.R.O. E117, 4/63. "one bell in the steeple".
- 393. Thomas Lester had cast an octave for St. Botolphs in 1744. The back three or four were recast in 1764 by Lester and Pack. Mears and Stainbank's list gives 1764 for the eight.

386. The report of the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments describes this as the most remarkable bell in London. pp xxxviii, 170, and 71. 1797
387. Royal Commission report, p. 90.
388. The best account of St. Alphage's Church and parish is by P. C. Carter.
389. Royal Commission report p. 129.
390. Stuyves Continuation of Stow's Survey ii p 272
391. Dr. Raven Bells of England p. 109.
392. In 1872 this board was much decayed and the record nearly obliterated. It has since entirely disappeared.
393. Sanctus bell by Robert Scot 1587. Royal Commission report, p. 120.
394. According to the report of the Royal Commission the present 3rd, 4th, 5th and tenor are by Ruddall.
395. Continuation of Stow's Survey.
396. Royal Commission report p. 27.
405. See Vol II page 66.
406. Peter Heylyn, Ecclesia Restaurata.
407. How.
408. St. Martin. C. Grand P.R.O. E 117, 11/47.

409. Glomer H.R. St. Martin Ludgate 1798
article in Home Counties Magazine.
410. St. Martin, Ludgate, P.R.O. E117 4/38
411. St. Martin Organ Beside Candelwickstreet,
P.R.O. E117 4/59.
412. St. Martin, Giltwich, P.R.O. E117 427
413. For an account of St. Martin's see H. Bruce
Barrerman St. Martin's Giltwich.
414. Payne's Martyrs, Pomary, P.R.O., E117, 4/46.
415. St. Martin, Vintrie, P.R.O. E117, 4/82.
416. Osborn E.J. add. MSS.
417. St. Mary, Abchurch, P.R.O. E117, 4/13.
418. Royal Commission report, p. 40.
419. St. Mary, Aldermanbury P.R.O. E117 4/59.
420. For an account of St. Mary, Aldermanbury
see J. C. Carter.
421. Aldermarke Church. P.R.O. E117, 4/92.
422. St. Mary Axe, P.R.O. E117, 4/65.
423. St. Mary Bothaw, P.R.O. E117, 4/22.
424. St. Mary. Ce. Bow, P.R.O. E117, 4/39.
425. Weaver, John, Ancient Funerary Monuments.
426. Gillett and Johnston, Bow Bells.
427. See Chapter XII pp. 268, 286, 398.
428. See J.A. Trolope The College Yards, p. 74.
429. Royal Commission Report p. 76.

430. See Chapter XII. Also The College
 Journals by J. A. Trollope. p 66.
431. Yeal board in belfry.
432. The following description of the belfry at Bow
 was given by F. W. J. Rees in Church Bells of
 Dec: 26 1874 - "The ringing room is very
 high up and so near the bells that the din
 is rather overpowering. It is very dark and
 the rope of the eighth hangs in one corner quite
 out of the proper circle."
433. For an account of St. Mary Colechurch
 see Thomas Milford The History of the
 Church of St. Mildred Poultry with some Notes
 of the Church of St. Mary, Colechurch.
434. Saint Mary Colechurch in Chepeward.
 P.R.O. E 117, 4/73.
435. Homer is said by Nichols and others to
 have been a chantry priest, mainly, I take it,
 because it was customary to style priests who
 were not entitled to a university degree as
 "Siv"; but it is hardly likely that a chantry
 priest would have been wealthy enough to

build part of the church and give 1800

a bell. I have not found any particulars of the John Plomer who was created a Knight of the Bath in 1465 but there is no reason why he should not have been a London citizen. cf. p. 672. Sir William Eastfield.

436. A William Smith probably the same man cast a bell for St. Margaret's, Westminster, see page.

437. St. Mary-at-Hill, P.R.O. E117, 4/79.

438. Henry Littlehales, Mediaeval Records of a London City Church.

439. Thomas Sulbourne, The Church of St. Mary Somerset.

440. St. Mary, Somerset, P.R.O., E117, 4/75.

441. St. Mary, Staining, P.R.O. E117, 4/450.

442. St. Mary, Woolchurch, P.R.O., E117 4/20.

443. Harleian MSS. 2252.

444. St. Mary, Woodroth, P.R.O. E117 4/96

445. Shalston, Londinium Redivivum.

446. St. Mary Magdalene, Old Fish Street, P.R.O.,
E117, 4/141

447. Continuation of Stew's Survey. i p. 737.

448. St. Mary Magdalene, Milk St, P.R.O. E117 4/66.

449. St Matthews, Friday Street.

1801

P.R.O., E 117 4/34.

450. St Michael Bassishaw, P.R.O. E 117 4/28.

451. H. B. Walters

452. St. R. Winnett, see page 379.

453. See chapter

454. of Dr Jocelyn Perkins.

455. Peter Munday, Rawlinson MSS. Bodleian Library

456. MS in possession of the Ancient Society of
College Jurks.

457. The Churchwardens' accounts of St. Michael
Cornhill were transcribed by St. J. Waterlow and
printed for private circulation

458. This was copied by Osborn.

459. See Vol II p. 156.

460. An Account of St. Michael's Crooked Lane
was published by William Herbert.

461. Whittington is usually styled Sir Richard
Whittington but he was never knighted.

462 " Our few ringing is getting rarer every
year (and the waking bell at Berwick on
Tweed ceased last year) so the following
may be welcome - The Tenby and County

News of Nov. 13 1912 - Hall Keeper 1802
and Ringer of Curfew Bell. Alderman Griffiths
seconded by Mr. Pikes. Miss N. Nook was
re-elected hall keeper and ringer of the Curfew
Bell. - Notes and Queries, Dec. 14th 1912.

463. For an excellent account of Richard Whittington
see England in the Later Middle Ages by Professor
Kenneth H. Vickess, (1913) p. 375.

464. St. Michael upon Cornhill, P.R.O. E 117 4/1

465. Sayrie Myghill Queenhyshe, P.R.O. E 117 4/85
6. Ed. VI.

466. St. Michael, Huggen Lane, P.R.O. E 117. 4/3.

467. St. Mildred, Bread Street, P.R.O. E 117 4/40.

468. St. Mildred, Poulling, P.R.O. E 117 4/21.

469. "Licence in mortmain to Richard
Whittington, Henry Londine, and John
Chamberlayne, chaplain, to grant a
certain parcel of land lying in the
street called the Rede in the parish
of St. Michael de Paternosterchurche
to John White, parson of the said church

and his successors for the purpose of 1803
rebuilding a certain parish church in honour
of God and of St. Michael the Archangel together
with a churchyard. Witness the King at
Westminster 20 Dec. 11 Hen IV. 1409. Letter
Bark Corporation of London 1 p. 27.

470. "They have turned it into an ale house,
a barbers' shop, a smith's forge, a scullery,
and, I blush to think of it, into a Bowdy
House" - "Mercurius Melancholicus" Jan 1.
1648. [1649 N.S.]

471. "Last Thursday night about nine o'clock
a tragical accident happened at the Royal
Foundry near upper Moorfields where when the
workmen were casting a cannon, the metal that
was running into the mould flew up on a
sudden with great noise and violence and
came down like drops of fire not only upon
all the workmen but spectators (of whom

There was a great number to see (1804
the performance.) Several attended from the
Tower particularly Mr Hall, clerk of the ordinance
who was so sorely wounded that he dyed
next morning. The Master Founder and his
son with above twenty others were also very
much hurt. It is generally agreed that
this sad accident was owing to the dampness
of the mould — The Flying Post of May 12th 1716

The Weekly Journal further states that
Bagley the Master Founder has lost his eyes
and his son and sixteen others are desperately
wounded

St Giles Cripplegate register of deaths —

1716 May 22 Matthew Bagley founder
killed

May 26 Matthew Bagley jr founder
killed.

472. "I have known Florence intimately since

my childhood, but I have never 1805
heard the story before. I recollect however
being told that many of the church bells in
the north of Italy about the Italian Lakes
were of English origin. — Lt Col Gerald
Thorp in Notes and Queries, Apr. 16, 1927.

“The family of Corsini in Italy, I have
somewhere read, raised themselves by
purchasing bells at the demolition of religious
houses in England.” — Edward Innes, *History and Antiquities of Turckenhams*,
1797, page 11.

473. “In the old church at Ravenstonedale
there was a small bell called the Saint's
bell which was wont to be rung after
the Nicene Creed to call the dissenters to
the sermon and to this day the dissenters
besides frequenting the meeting-house
oftentimes attend the sermon at church”

Nicholson and Burns, West, 1806
Vol. 1. p. 524 quoted by R. Louthey, Common
place Book, Vol. ii p. 78.

474. "June 1563. In the morning there was
sett on dyvers churches doores because
that he [a harbinger of the Queen] sayde
that they dyd not ring when that the
queen went to Grenwyche and that they
should not open the chyrche doore tyll
that he had a nobell on every church
by the water syde from Tempull bare
to the Tower but he cold gett no thynge
yet". - Machyn's Diary, page 310
a noble = 6s.

475. "Agreed at this accompt that every marriage
having or requyring to have the bells rung
shall pay vj^d. to the foremans box and vj^d
towards repairinge of the bells". - Loughborough
1588, quoted by Morris, p. 23. North p. 155.

476. Acts of Court 20th June 1544.

180th

477. During the seventeenth Century a number of Church bells were exported from England under licence. These were cast for the purpose and not taken from Church steeples.

" Oct 18. 1693. Henry Guy to the Customs Commissioners to permit the Spanish Ambassador to export two bells for Cadiz on the Merchant of Greenland, Cap. George Matthews, Commander, on payment of Customs pursuant to the Queen's pleasure -

Calendar of Treasury Books.

1694 Oct 16. Treasury reference to the Customs Commissioners of the petition of Col. Richard Tilden for leave to tranship a bell to Barbadoes - This

Treasury warrant to Cus. Com. to permit Col. Richard Tilden to export to Barbadoes a bell not exceeding four hundredweight

1808

Customs free, being the gift of
a merchant to a parish church. Bellmials
being prohibited to be exported by
certain ancient statutes 23 Hy VIII c 7
and 2 and 3 Ed VI c 37 and the said
statutes being still unrepealed, although
the reason upon which they were grounded
seems obsolete - Ibid.

1695, June 28. Treasury warrant
to Customs Commissioners to permit
Henry Summers to export to Muscovia
a bell about 1000 lb weight which he
had provided for the Emperor

1699 Aug 9. Treasury warrant to
Cust. Com. to permit Jabez Prentiss to
export for New England a bell weighing
two hundred a quarter and 13 pounds - Ibid.

1700 Sep 10 Treasury warrant to C.C.

to permit Samuel Parwick to
ship for Barbadoes eight bells weighing 28
cut 14 lbs for chime for Prudgelion there.

1699 Apr. 14. Treasury warrant to
the C.C. to permit Andrew Hopeford of
London, merchant, to export a bell of
2,500 pounds weight to Messina paying
duties on same - Ibid.

1685 Mar 9 Warrant by Treasurer
Rochester to C.C. to permit the export,
Customs free, of a bell weighing 3040 lbs
which the Queen Dowager is about to ship
for Portugal - Ibid. [This was the widow
of Charles II, who was of the royal house of
Portugal]

478. Malcolme says the tower was begun in
the 25th year of Henry VI and the bells placed
in it in the 35th year of the same king. It
was not completed until the seventh or eighth
year of King Edward IV. 1611. 5.

479. William Culverden died in 1810
1523. The 3rd at Brentford and the 2nd
at Greenford are by him.
480. The sanctus bell at Christ Ch. Southgate
is by W. Carver and T. Bartlet.
481. The three-quarter wheel at Dunchidock
was said by Lukis (Church Bells p. 24) and
Ellacombe (Bells of the Church,) to date
from the fifteenth century. I have no title
to differ from two such distinguished
antiquaries in this matter, but I may
point out that the entries from the parish
accounts of S. Edmunds' Salisbury, quoted
on page 188 of the first volume of this book
show that the three-quarter wheel was first
used in that parish in 1620-1636 so that the
bells could be rung "in more compass." It
would seem that the three-quarter wheel
was a result of the invention of change

1811

ringing in the early seventeenth
century, and that therefore the Dunchideock
wheel is really not older than that date, and
probably, since the village is a remote one,
somewhat later still.

482. "In the Abbey Church of S. Edmundsbury
says John Major, who wrote in the reigns
of Henry VIII and VIII is reported to be the
greatest bell in all England, though in
England be a vast number of bells of the
finest tone." - Owen and Blakeway.

483. Dance and Chambers the architect's
reported that "neither such additional
weights, nor any weight that can be put
upon the steeple will have any greater effect
than the bells now placed there." Accordingly
few bells were completed.

483. Pope Julius III died Mar. 1555. 1812

485. "On the 30th the happy moment was supposed to have arrived; a message was sent off to London announcing the Commencement of the pains. The bells were set ringing in all the churches." J. A. Froude, History of England.

486. Elizabeth.

487. The Battle of Lepanto.

488. St. Nicholas, St. Cross, P.R.O. E117 4/61.

489. St. Nicholas, Cold Abbey, P.R.O. E117 4/54

490. St. Nicholas Olave Greenhithe P.R.O. E117 4/99

491. St. Olave Hart Street P.R.O. E117 4/24

492. Govah St. Annals of the Parish of St. Olaves Hart Street and All Hallows, Plaining.

493. Payne's Olyve Upwell in the Olde Jurye in London as it was in the first year of the kynges majesties payne that now is. P.R.O. E117 4/9.

494. St. Olave Seven Street P.R.O. E117 4/74.

495. St. Pancras Popes Lane P.R.O. E117 4/8.

496. St Peter, Cornhill, P.R.O. E117 4/11. 1813
497. St Peter, Queenhithe, P.R.O. E117 4/97
498. St. Peter le Poov, P.R.O. E117 11/51.
499. St. Peter, Cheap, P.R.O. E117 4/31.
500. Payne's Sepulchre w^outle Stungate of
London P.R.O. E117 4/89.
501. Scholars of Cheapside original MS. Hoan
MSS 3463.
502. An account of S. Sepulchres bells by
Arthur T. King was printed in The Bell
News Feb 22 1908.
503. Annals' Note Books.
504. Edwin Freshfield LL.D. Some Remarks
upon the Book of Records and History of the
Parish of St. Stephens Coleman Street in the
City of London.
505. St. Stephens Coleman Street P.R.O. E117 4/2.
506. See page 283.
507. Morris E. History & Art of Change Ringing
p 107.
508. St. Stephens, Wallbrook, P.R.O. E117 4/56.
509. H. B. Walters.

510. "in the year 1668 [S. Dunstan's] 1814

was in great measure re-edified and for the most part restored by the beneficence of Lady Williamson who laid out £4000 on the same

Continuation of Stows Survey. Dame Williamson also contributed liberally to the rebuilding of S. Paul's Cathedral and S. Mary le Bow. see page 688.

511. Correspondence and Proceedings under the Union of Benefices Act resulting in the Order of Council, etc 1878 p. 12.

512. Michael Darbie was churchwarden of All Hallows, Barking, in 1670.

513. Plingsby Bethel was churchwarden of All Hallows, Barking, in 1733.

514. Seynle Thomas the Appostill in the Cyrie of London 6 Ed 6. E117 4/91. P.R.O. "Item fyve bells one and a pounce belle."

515. S. Vedast P.R.O. E117 4/23 and 4/26.

516. Laughton is uncomplimentary to S. Vedast's

Bells. He says they had a nasty
gingle.

1815

517. St. Paul's Covent Garden Bells 1660 by

Inigo Jones

St. Ann's, Soho, Bells 1678

St. James's, Piccadilly Bells 1685 by Hren

St. George's Hanover square Bells 1725

by

St. John's Westminster Bells 1721-1728 by

Archer Before the church was completed
the fabric began to settle and in

consequence a tower was added to
each corner to strengthen the building -
Walcott p 310.

518. Perpetual appropriation at the petition
of King Richard and Robert, Bishop of
London to the Bishop's mensa of the
Churches of St. Helen's, Fulham, and
Hakeneye value 330 marks of his patronage
Among other reasons that the bell tower
and nave of his church in London are in
need of repair on account of recent

earthquakes - Calendas of Papal
Registers, Boniface IX 1391. 1816

519 The History of the Church of S. Maudred
the Virgin & Cellij etc by Thomas Milbourn.

520 "Whereas in the sixth leaf of this present
book it appeareth that there was a vestry
holden in this Church for sale of plate
and bells and with the money thereof
to purchase the row of houses at the end of
the Churchyard one for the curate and
another for the clerks upon this agreement
the Church plate was sold as appeareth by
this book Then some would not consent to
the sale of the bells so there was not money
enough for the payment thereof" - S. Boleph
parish records quoted by A. G. B. Atkinson,
S. Bolephs Magale. p. 71.

521 In 1733 "Certain Citizens of that city"
gave £20 to York Minster for restoration and

providing a new ringing floor -
Eboracum.

181

522. "List of Deals of Bells hung by Samuel
and Robert Turner, Bell hangers to Messrs.
Leslie and Pack, White-Chapel London.

Acton 6. 14 cur.

Chiswick 6. 14 cur

Shoreditch 10. 29 cur

S. Peter's Eccles 10. 67 cur.

Isleworth 8. 19 cur

York Minster 10 53 cur

Richmond 8 19 cur.

S. Margaret's Lynn 8 30 cur.

S. Johns Norwich 6. 12 cur. Levensham 8. 16 cur.

Harrow 6. 24 cur.

Guildford 8 25 cur."

On July 31 1770 S. Turner wrote "it would
suit me to come down next week for the
week after I am going to put a new Deal
of Eight Bells at Carisbrooke in the Isle
of Wight."

Turner hung the twelve at
S. Peter Mancroft Norwich and the late
Frederick Day, bellhanger of Eye, a competent
judge, told me that the work was first class.

523 "The Curfew, a practice now confined
to four or five East End Churches," - H.

Georges in the East (7th), Spitalfields 1818
(7th), St. Botolph Bishopsgate (Linos), St.
Leonard, Thoreditch (11th) — J. O. Pary on
Church Bells, 1844.

524. Walsford. Inventory, & Bells in the
steeple and one m'kei bell.

Stamford. "It is ordeyned that no person
opyn the sack or set the corn to sale
afore the hour of ten of the clock or els the
undernone bell be rungyn."

525. Tryack states that the bell in the
gateway tower of Lincoln's Inn is part
of the plunder of the City of St. Sebastian
near Cadix stormed by the English under
the Earl of Essex in June 1596. There is
no mention of any such bell in the
Inventory of the Royal Commission on
Historical Monuments.

526. Patent Roll of Edward VI, 1553 1819

527. John Islip born 1464, died 1532.

528. De Campana Westimasterii pendenda.

Skandalium est Edwardo de Westimasterio
quod statim visis litteris istis magnam
novam Campanam pendere faciat ita quod
pulsari possit in vigilia Beati Edwardi
nec a London' recedat antequam id fieri
fecerit. Itaeremum etiam querat ad
Cumulum novi operis regis ecclesiae
Westimasterii et ad stella monarchorum
in eadem ecclesia facienda. Et quancumque
poterit operari faciat circa factoram (sic)
plattorum illorum. Teste rege apud
Clarendon xxv die Novembris. Per regem.

- Calendar of Close Rolls of the reign of
Henry III, preserved in the Public Record
Office. 1252.

529. Referred to by John Whitaker in 1820
The Ancient Cathedral of Cornwall, 1804.

530. Calendar of Patent Rolls Temp. Hen III.

531. See Chapter 1 page 138. H. B. Walters
Church Bells p. 67 *cit.*

532. See page 653.

533. See pages. 864,

The regulations for the "fraternitie and guild
of the Jesus Chapel" in a place called the
shrowdes of the Cathedrall Church of Pauls'
in London" contain the following -

The Belle Ryngers. Also yt is ordered
that fivv belle ryngers of the seyd church
shal be have for openyng closyng and shutyng
the doores of the Crowdes at al seasons
whanne service shal be or whanne neede
requireth aswelle in evny of the seyd
Festis as Fridays and when services shal
be songen or other tymes convenient
so that the said Fraternitie benot hurt

or enpaued by their negligence. And 1821
also for rynging ringers and tolling of belles
blowynq of organs lightynq and quenchnng
of torches and tapers in maner and forme
as hath bene accustomed and for sweepynq
and making cleue the said cruises.

o. xxxiijs. iiijd.

betwene them by the yeare to be paid
in forme folowynq that is to sey in the
Feste de Nomine Ihesu xiijs iiijd and xxs
to be payd quarterly." 1507.

534. or of a college or (as in note 533) a guild.

Some guilds owned their own bells and
hung them in the steeples of parish churches
(see page 146). In others they got permission
[they got permission] to use those in the
collegiate or parish church as at St.
Martin-le-Grand. The Jesus Chapel at

1822

S. Pauls was a very wealthy guild
and could afford to pay men to do the
bell-ringing, cleaning, organ blowing etc.
In the lesser guilds these services would
be rendered by some of the members.

535. G. P. Tyack p. 137.

536. See Appendix page.

In the medieval Church there were eight orders
viz Bishops, priests, deacons, sub-deacons
acolytes, exorcists, readers and ostiarii
or doorkeepers. The first three (or perhaps
four) were the greater orders, the others
the minor orders. The office of a deacon was
to be the chief assistant to the priest at
the altar. In later years, as at the present
time, it was a novitiate for the priesthood
but in early days and in medieval times

many men remained in deacons' orders 1823
throughout their lives. The parish clerks
discharged many of the duties of the lesser
orders. As shown on page 86 the "good
custom of London" was for them to open
the church doors prepare the sacramental
bread and wine and the water to be
blessed, ring the bell, and then put on
a surplice and assist the priest to say
mass. The person in many ways was
an assistant to the clerk. It is perhaps
noteworthy that in Shakespeare's *Much
Ado about Nothing* it is the person
who is vested in a gown and acts
as the clerk in the enquiry held by

1824

Dogberry and Verges. Whether the
dekyms of Coventry were actually in deacons
orders or whether the name was used in
some parts of England as the equivalent of
clerk is a moot point. Parish clerks
continued to be admitted to their offices
by the bishop during the sixteenth and
seventeenth Centuries and there was no
abrupt alteration of their status in
Reformation times.

537 That is of course so far as their duties
respecting the bells are concerned.

538. M. E. C. Walcott Westminster Memorials
p. 82. Jocelyn Perkins, The Organs and
Bells of Westminster Abbey, etc.

539. Walcott.

540. 1250 De Campanis faciendis. Mandatum

1825

est Edwardo de Westmonasterio quod
per Magistralium Johannem de Leyni'
fieri faciat de metallo quod remansit
de magna campana Westmonasterii
quatuor Campanas forendas in Capella
castri de Wydnis videlicet duas similes
illis quae sunt in Capella Sancti Stephani
Westmonasterii et alias duas secundum
quia superior Westmonasterii ei dicit
ex parte regis Teste rege apud Wydnis
xj die Februarii — Calendar of Close
Rolls of the Reign of Henry III.

The Close Rolls for 1252 have two other
entries relating to bells —

De Campana faciendis. Mandatum
est Edwardo de Westmonasterio quod emi
vel fieri faciat Lond. duas mediocres

Campanas dulcis soni appendendas 1826
in quodam clocheris quod Constitui fecit
resc in castro suo Sherleberge et eas Liberis
vicecomitibus Lond' Caruandas usque
Sherleberge sicut resc eis injunxit.

Teste apud Sherleberge xix die Julii

De quadam Campana liganda et
pendenda. Mandatum est Edwardo de
Westmonasterio quod novam campanam
quam sacrista Westmonasterii fieri
fecit ligari et pendere faciat et ei
Liberis aurifruquum Calium ad quandam
Capam de choro quam idem sacrista
fieri fecit deomandam. Teste rege
apud Wintoniam xvj die Junii —

Calendar of Close Rolls.

541. The Statutes of Bishop Aldham of

Exeter direct the Chantry priests to toll the bells at the Canonical hours. 1511. - 1827

Ellacombe Bells of the Church.

542. The belfry was completed in 1253 - H.R.

Leithaby, Westminster Abbey and the Kings

Craftsmen

543.

Henry's expedition to Poitou was in

544. See page 347 The price paid was £3025-17-6

545. Dart

546. There are many tales from all parts of the world of bells being rung by earthquakes though the absurdity of thinking such a thing to be possible must have been evident to anyone who knew anything about the way bells are hung. Matthew Paris relates that on Jan'y 26 in the eleventh year of King Henry II an earthquake rang the bells in Ely, Norfolk, and

Luffolke - Eodemque anno terraemotus 1828
factus est septimo Kalendas Februarii in
Ely et Norwich et Luffoc ita quod stantes
prostravit et Campanas pulsavit - Matthew
Paris Chronica Majora A.D. 1165.

547. H. B. Walters Church Bells, p. 53.
548. Various Collections ADD. MSS. 23096 1749-1752.
549. W. R. Lethaby, Westminster Abbey and the
Kings Craftsmen.
- 550 Wm. Stirkely The Sanctuary at Westminster
Archaeologia Vol. 1. p. 39.
551. J. Wickham Legge An Inventory of the
Vestry in Westminster Abbey taken in 1388.
552. See page 393.
553. See page 768.
554. Sloane MSS. 904.
- 555 Sir Frederic Bridge. A Westminster
Giltium.
556. " Westminster Abbey. Tenor 36 cur. Pretty
good; but it is by no means generally

known that these are only the first 1829
piece of an intended peal of Twelve, the
largest of which in proportion would probably
have weighed full sixty cwt. and would
have gone down very low. Whether the tower
would have sustained them when ringing
is a different question" — J. D. Pary, on
Church Bells, Gentleman's Magazine Nov 11th
1844 p. 483.

557 Jocelyn Perkins, The Organs and Bells of
Westminster Abbey.

558. See Article in Campanology.

About the year 1900 I had a very interesting
conversation with Charles Gore at the time
Canon of Westminster. He told me that
the Chapter knew about the unsatisfactory
condition of the bells but had no money
to put things right.

559. Thomas Walsley, *The Bells*
of Westminster Abbey. No. 2. July 16. 1870.
- 560 W. R. Lethaby suggests that the belfry may
have been the tower clochard of Westminster. It
seems rather presumptuous to differ from so great
an authority, but all the indications appear
to me to be that it was an appendance of
the royal palace.
561. Stirkely thought the building consisted of
two chapels with the belfry as an appendage
It was from him that the idea arose that
it was the sanctuary of Westminster (see
Sir Walter Besant's account), but actually
all the Abbey precincts were the sanctuary.
562. How. Survey of London, Patent Rolls
of Edward VI, 1553.
563. Copy of brass plate in vestibule -

THE EIGHT BELLS IN THIS STEEPLE

WERE CAST BY WILL: & PHIL WIGHT =

1831

= MAN THEIR MA^{TIES} FOUNDERS AN^O DOMI

1693

T C G L
WEIGHT TOTAL 4. 3. 2. 28

THE GIFT OF EDW^D. CLARKE.

The sanctus bell is by Robert Mot.

564. H. F. Westlake, S. Margaret's Westminster
page 4. But Lethaby points out that the
claim for the foundation of the church by
the Confessor goes back a long time, and
he states that the name was in use earlier
than is alleged. - Westminster Abbey

Reexamined, p. 19.

565. See page 701.

566. See Appendix page. see also note 140.

567. Originally the tower was not so high as
it is at present.

568. See page 476.

569. Sir John Hayward, The Life and Reign
of King Edward the First.

570. W. Boghurst's manuscript (Hoare 1832 MSS 904) Calé 17th Cent. gives "S. Margarettes is 6 belles ye biggest 4 yards and a foot in Compas."
571. See page 825.
572. An entry in the Era for 1843 states that C. Oliver, Junior, had supplied a new frame for S. Clements' and recast the third (the present fifth).
573. Journal of the House of Commons, 1735.
574. "It is constantly affirmed that for the same purpose he intended to pull down the Church of S. Margaret in Westminster, and that the standing thereof was preserved only by his fall" - Peter Heylyn, Ecclesia Restaurata, Vol. 1. p. 151.
575. H. H. Henson, S. Margaret's Westminster
H. F. Preslake, S. Margaret's Westminster p. 112
576. Ibid p. 67.
577. The statement in Collection of Major

Methods page 2 that the first peal 1833
of Reverse Bob Major was rung on March 23
1751 at Harwicham in Kent is wrong
by two months.

578. Illustrations of the Manners and Expenses
of Antient Times in England in the 15th
16th and 17th Centuries deduced from the
Accounts of Churchwardens by John
Nichols. Nichols modernized the
spelling and figures to the usage of his
own time.

579. The Royal Exchange.

580. The Battle of Lepanto.

581. The Shandy Thursday ceremonies at the
Abbey.

582.

583. James I removed the body of his mother
Mary from Peterborough Cathedral and
reinterred it in the Abbey.

584 Afterwards Charles II.

585. Afterwards James II. 1834
586. Copied by Mr William H. Hewett.
587. Laurence Knight was afterwards casting
in Houndsditch and may have been the
successor of this founder
588. I know of no further account of this founder.
589. John No. Master, A Short History of the
Royal Parish of S. Martin in the Fields p. 65.
- 599 William Bellon A History of the English
Stage, p. 115.
- 600 " Nell Gwynne left the ringers of the
bells at S. Martin-in-the-Fields money
for a weekly entertainment in 1687, and
many others have done the same" - Haydn's
Dictionary of Dates, 1910 edition p. 159.
601. The Bell News, April 9. 1887.
- 602 The date on the second (now at All
Saints Fulham is 1727.
604. Norwich Gazette, Oct 26. 1728.
605. J.V. Mils. S. Martins-in-the-Fields. The
Accounts of the Churchwardens 1525-1605.

606 The word ferial really means 1835

festival but rather curiously is used for any day which is neither a Sunday, Saturday nor greater festival. It is almost exclusively used in connection with ecclesiastical rites and ritual. My explanation in the text is rather a round-about one but is, I think, substantially correct. See the Oxford Dictionary and A Catholic Directory.

607. Barnes was a maker of horse collars
i.e. a paddler.

608. It is not clear what the collars for the bells were. Probably they were Cottrells
(See page 119)

609 picinge = splicing. To piece is still used in a somewhat similar way though not usually of bell ropes.

610 "A Collee to hang the bell by" - I can hardly guess what this can be. It may be the same as the iron stirrup.

611. pessenge = welding. See note 609.

612. with the exchange i.e. the allowance for the old iron.

613. The Battle of Lepanto.

614. Ball rige = Baldricks. The old Churchwardens seem to have exhausted every way of spelling this word

615. I understand that the spire was damaged during an air raid in the great war and is considered unsafe. The wheels have therefore been taken from the bells and a chiming apparatus fixed.

616 They have been rung in recent years.

617. Unreadable that is under ordinary conditions

618. It does not appear why there should have been a special sanctus bell and why one of those in the ringing peal was not

1837

used as it is today. Most writers appear to have thought that the normal thing was for the sanctus bell to be hung in a cot at the east end of the church, (see H. B. Walters Church Bells p. 86) but though that was not uncommon usually the bell was in the steeple with the others. In London practically every sanctus bell was so placed. It was probably found that a very small bell could be more conveniently rung from the church.

619. How.

620. Stahlschmidt.

621. See Chapter XI p. 125.

622. See Chapter XII p. 347.

623. See Chapter XII p. 359.

624. Stahlschmidt.

625. How.

626 Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments

627. "An Act for the uniting of 1838
the parishes of St. Margaret's and St. Mary
Magdalene in Southwark and that it
be from henceforth called the Parish of
St. Saviour and that some of the Parishioners
shall be incorporated by the name of the
Wardens of the Parish of St. Saviour -

32 Hen. 8. Cap. 15.

The wardens were six in number as
follows: -

The warden of the great account

The warden of the general poor

The warden of the College

The warden of the bells

The warden of New Commens' gifts

The warden of Young, Spratt, and
Jackson's gifts

"The first chiefly the care of the affairs of
the Church and to whom the revenues
and profits thereof are paid" - Concannon
and Morgan, p. 140.

628. "This Church is famous for an excellent peal of bells, and those who are skilled in the art of ringing speak in very high terms of several peals which have been rung, some of which are particularized on tablets in the belfry" — Concanen and Morgan, 1795.

629. The 6th and 7th were recast in 1703 — *Ibid.*

630. Aubrey, John, F.S.A. The natural History and Antiquities of the County of Surrey. Begun in the year 1673.

631. Skellon was Register to the Bishop of London. He was a ringer and a member of the Society of College Youths. See page

632. D. Raven The Bells of England, p 216.

633. Some no doubt were cracked through clocking.

634. Manuscript in possession of the Ancient Society of College Youths. See Vol II p. 542.

635. This Board was Copied by 1840
Concanen and Morgan.

636. This is the original wording of the Board
as Copied by Concanen and Morgan. The
Tablet was restored by the Ancient Society
of College Youths in 1874 and the wording
altered. The present inscription is
given in Snowdon's Treatise on Treble
Bells part 1. p. 16.

637. Continuation of Stow's Survey of London.

638. Royal Commission on Historical
Monuments.

639. St. Mary's Station, P.R.O. E315 498 f. 16.

640. Shipway does not include the peal in
the account he gives of his performances.

See Campanalogia, Reprints, page XLIV.

641. The Pysche of Chelsea, P.R.O. E315. 498 f. 2.

642. It was formerly in the old ringing room.

643 See page 377.

644 See The Bells of England, Raven, p. 140.

645. "Mr Bentley says that the 1841
steeple standing in his time (whose sides have
received a new casing and still remains
beneath it) was begun in the 25th year of
Henry VI and the bells placed in the 35th year
of the same king [] but that it was not
completely finished till the 7th or 8th of Edward
IV." Malcolm J. P. Londinium Redivivum,
Vol II p. 187. Bentley was Churchwarden
of St. Andrew's in the reign of Elizabeth.

646. In 1538 the Grand Jury presented
William Sandford parson of St. Peter's
Canterbury for "maliciously tolling the
Ave bell in the said church after the
evening service done with a view to set
up again the Bishop of Rome" - *Stahschmidt*
p 213. This was before the doctrinal changes
in the Church.

647. There was a detached bell-tower at
Canterbury which contained some heavy bells
It was destroyed in 1382

648. There may have been a ring 1842
of four and a priest's bell. "The height of
the tower is about 50 feet wherein are
4 bells to ring in Teal besides a small
one which is used to call the People
to Prayers and is therefore called the
Saint's Bell" - Hatton, New View. p 113.

649. The weights of the eight bells are given
in the "New View" (p. 197) as follows -

1 - 4 - 2 - 7	5. 8 - 3 - 8
2 - 4 - 0 - 15	6. 11 - 1 - 21
3 - 5 - 3 - 19	7. 14 - 3 - 0
4. - 6 - 3 - 23	8. 18 - 2 - 17.

650. "There was in the old church a tower
raised in the Cloysters but there are not
now any Remains of it" - Dart. Vol 1. p 58.

651. This board disappeared about 1875. a
copy was given in Church Bells of 187
The wording in Morris's "History" is really
that of the teal book somewhat altered.

652. Copied from Church Bells

653 C. R. Simpson, St. Luke's Church p. 5

654. J. D. Parry. On Church Bells,
Gentleman's Magazine Nov. 1844. ii p. 483.
655. "Christ Church Newgate Street, 22½ Cwt
but very powerful, a melancholy note"
ibid.
656. Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments
657. P.R.O. E 315 498 f. 16.
658. W. J. Girtles, The History of Clerkenwell.
659. P.R.O. E 315 498.
660. Jackson, E. Annals of Ealing.
661. P.R.O. E 315 498 f. 13. "Yelunge".
662. P.R.O. E 315 498 f. 38.
663. P.R.O. E 315 498 f. 8.
664. C. J. Ferec Fulham Old and New from
which I have taken much information
concerning the bells.
665. Faulkner Thos. An Historical Account
of Fulham.
666. "On Wednesday the eight new bells, cast
by the famous Mr Rudhall at Gloucester
for Fulham Church were landed at
that town, being brought by water
most part of the way; the barge they

1844

were in punks under Gosford
Bridge and it was a week before they could
be weighed up. The penor is 1900 weight
The others answerable, and it is not
doubted but they will prove as fine a
feal as any in England of their weight.
We hear the London Scholars design to
try them as soon as they are hung.
The London Correspondent of the Norwich
Gazette or Cosgrove's News. January
1730.

667. ~~Nation~~ Dictionary of National Biography
668. A Book for a Rainy Day, or Recollections
of the Events of the Last sixty-six years.
By John Thomas Smith, Calli keeper of
the prints at the British Museum. p. 280.
669. In 1796 a William Seal of Grandnie Calis
was rung by the Cumberlands.
670. See Chapter
671. See page 991.
672. Published by Bertram Grewitt in The
Bell News Dec 30th 1903⁵ No such issue

673. Robinson, William - History 1845
and Antiquities of Hackney.
674. A. A. Hughes.
675. See Chapter XI, pp. 127, 131.
676. Faulkner Thomas - An Historical and
Topographical Account of Fulham, including
the Hamlet of Hammersmith.
677. S. Martin - The Bells and Belfry of St
Paul's Hammersmith. Middlesex County
Association report for the year 1901.
678. Ibid.
679. P.R.O. E 315. 498.
680. Harrowe P.R.O. E 315. 498 f. 27.
- 681 Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments
682. J. C. L. Stahlshmidt Bells of Kent. p 60.

Laurence Wright seems to have been a
litigious sort of person for among the
State Papers is a letter from Thomas Clarke
to Thomas Willys. Sep. 28 1586. Sends
him the letters of attorney from Mrs.
Elizabeth Cocks to Hugh Coss (or Cocks
whereby he may make answer to the
suit of Laurence Wright.

683. The 3rd at Thurnham in Kent. 1846
684. Rachael de Sales - Hellingdon through eleven centuries
685. John R. Nelson - History of Islington
686. Barber's name as Churchwarden is on two beadle's slaves belonging to the Church.
687. Letter by Samuel Austin add. mss.
688. see Hedman by J. Armitage Trollope.
689. R. A. Daniell S. Mary Abbots Kensington
Campanology June 27 1897
690. Ibid.
- 691.
692. W. W. Druett Gunner through the Ages.
693. The Sketch on this page was reproduced in the Literary Supplement of The Times for
694. Saint Giles yn the ffeldes. P.R.O. E315 498 f53
695. John Parson. Some Account of the Hospital and Parish of S. Giles in the Fields
696. The priory of Marebon. P.R.O. E 315 498.
697. S. Pancras in the Fields P.R.O. E 315 498.
698. John Norden. Speculum Britanniae. 1593.

699. Daniel Lysons, *The Environs* 1847
of London.

700. Photographs of these two boards with descriptions are given in the *Survey of London* published by the London County Council.

701. Quoted in *Notes and Queries*.

702. "In a book I have here is an entry under Sep^r 25 1801 - 'Spittlefields - 2 Trebbles 2'8" x 2³/₄, - x 2³/₄'. The other diameter is obliterated by a blot. With a 36 cut penon, such measurements would be the trebbles to make 10" - Letter from Mr. A. A. Hughes of the Whitechapel Foundry.

703.

704. J. H. Snowdon, *History of Coniques on Steadman's Principle*.

705. Ed. Parrell was buried at Whitechapel on July 20th 1816. - E. J. Colborn.

706. Cutting from a contemporary newspaper (name not preserved) among Colborn's Collections

707. Such things were not unknown 1848
in bellies in the olden times. See an
address to his ringers by the Rev. John
Hopkins, Vicar of Cropredy (1758-1785)
printed in the Oxford Diocesan Magazine
and the Bell News Sep. 1904. p 340.
708. Letter in the Ringing World
(see note no. 793)
709. From Osborn's Collections.
710. John How, Surveyor of London.
711. This and the following extracts from
the parish books are taken from
Memorials of Stepney Parish, by G. B. Hill
and W. H. Frere.
712. This was a common impertinent
expression. Cf. the remark of Maria
to Malvolio in Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night"
713. In the 18th Century there were several
ringers of the name of Purser and it is
not at all unlikely that they were
descendants of Edmund Purser.
714. Stepney Bells by J. B. The Bell News 1912.

715. Mespah Gilbert - Chiswick 1849
Old and New
716. P.R.O. E 315 498 f. 11
717. Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments
718. Thomas Faulkner - History & Antiquities
of Brentford Ealing and Chiswick, p. 309.
719. Sir Thomas Herbert - Cardina Theodica
1702. p. 34.
720. Cobbe, R. V. - Memorials of Twickenham.
721. See Chapter
722. This bell is supposed to have been
cast by J. Saunders of Reading.
723. P.R.O. E. 315 498 f. 40.
724. This statement is incorrect. The London
Youths sang 5151 Grandis Major at
St. Mary's in 1775.
725. Royal Commission on Historical Monuments.
726. I have taken much of the particulars
of Battersea bells from "Our Lady of
Battersey" by J. G. Taylor.
727. J. R. O. Tysen - Inventories of Goods and
Ornaments of the Churches of Surrey.

How much the rate of ringing is influenced
by things which

is slower or faster than is comfortable for a particular band will not be likely to produce good ringing while another band ~~would not~~ might not experience the same difficulty

728. British Magazine and Monthly Register. Vols. xxxii, iii, and iv.
729. "Collar = an encompassing and restraining band or shap. 1507 Taid Godder makynge bell colars x^d. Louth Church wardens accounts - Oxford English Dictionary.
730. "Month mind" = the Commemoration by the celebration of masses etc of a deceased person on a day one month from the date of his death - O.E.D.
- 731 "spykynges" = spikes or iron dogs
732. fett = pit or grave.
733. as transcribed in the British Magazine but I do not understand the meaning
734. Isabella wife of Charles V Emperor of Germany, died in 1539.
735. Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments
The bells are said to be inaccessible.
736. A Protest against the modern development of unmusical tone, By Thomas E. Lewis.
1897.

1851
737. "I may mention that I have
Cast several sets of bells in perfect tune
by which I mean that they have not been
touched after casting. The largest was a
set of eight for the Church of St. Andrew's
Wells Street London, the tenor being twenty
one hundredweight" - T. C. Lewis.

738. In olden times bells were tuned by hand
usually with hammer and chisel and
this process must often spoil the tone of
the bell. Rudhall of Gloucester is said to
have been the first founder to use a form
of cathe for tuning.

739. "Now as a fact there is nothing poorer
in tone than a large bell having the
tap or percussion note of a stated definite
pitch and the lower or hum note accompanying
it an exact octave deeper" - T. C. Lewis.

740. It should be remembered that Lewis
published his Protest in 1897 which was

only one year after the first Simpson 1852
tuned ring had been hung - at Norton
in Derbyshire by Taylors. St. Patrick's Dublin
and Heavilee rings were cast in 1897.

Lewis had already given up bell founding.

741. See a debate at the meeting of the Central
Council at Ipswich in 1926. Also the
proceedings relating to the recasting of the
Bell of St. Michaels Coventry. 'English Bells
and their Tuning' by E. St. Young, etc.

742. Canon A. B. Simpson.

743. So far as the outside public is concerned
the ideal seems to be a bell which appears
to give one full rich note only. The number
and quality of the notes it actually gives
is a matter really for the bellfounder.

744. T. C. Lewis's protest was also against
the thick type of bell with its hard tone
which through the influence of Lord

Grimthorpe was being cast especially 1853
at Loughborough at the latter end of the
nineteenth century, such bells as the rings
at Worcester Cathedral, St. Paul's Buryton
on Trent (both since recast) Doncaster,
the Roman Church at Cambridge and
(to some extent) St. Paul's Cathedral. Here
the modern bell founders agree with Lewis.

745. Henry Cowley was one of the subscribers
to John Hollis's broadsheet of yeals. For an
account of Robert Holmes see Chap.

His tombstone is in the churchyard near the
western side of the tower. Ed. Grosvener (who
was a contemporary) refers to him as a
freeholder of Trickenham Common; not an
"esquire" or a "gentleman", and therefore
a yeoman farmer.

746. J. C. L. Stahlenschmidt, Surrey Bells.

- 747 From Church Bells. 1854
748. J. R. O. Tyssen - Inventories of Goods & Ornaments of the Churches of Surrey.
749. G. M. Johnson - Old Camberwell and its Antiquities
750. J. C. L. Stahlenschmidt - Surrey Bells.
751. St. John's Waterloo Road was finished in 1823 at a cost of £18,000.
752. Samuel Denne - Historical Particulars of Lambeth Parish and Lambeth Palace
- J. C. L. Stahlenschmidt - Surrey Bells.
- 753 yemā amynen = yeoman almoner.
- 754 J. C. L. Stahlenschmidt - Surrey Bells.
The ring has since been recast by Taylors.
- 755 See page
756. J. E. Anderson - A History of the Parish of Norilake
757. Ibid.
758. J. E. Anderson - Extracts from the Official Documents of Norilake.
759. Tyssen J. R. O. - Inventories of the Goods and Ornaments of the Churches of Surrey.
760. J. C. L. Stahlenschmidt, - Surrey Bells.

761. Church Bells 1855
762. Tysen, J. R. D.
763. Ibid.
764. Stahlschmidt J. C. L. - Surrey Bells
765. So on the peal board but the word is probably a writers error and should be
" " of
Cobs.
766. Tysen, J. R. D.
767. Stahlschmidt, J. C. L.
768. "Church Bells."
769. Calendar of Entries in Papal Registers
relating to England.
770. Ibid.
771. Ibid.
772. Ibid
773. Ibid
774. Calendar of Patent Rolls
Henry Harold - Some Particulars relating
to the Abbey Church of Wymondham in
Norfolk. Archaeologia 1871 p. 263.
775. In the year 187 Church Bells published
copies of peal boards in belfries in
all parts of England. They were sent by
many correspondents and of course were

not always scrupulously accurate 1856
many of the originals being difficult to
read. This series is of great historical
value as since it was compiled many
of the boards have disappeared. I have
made considerable use of this information
in this history.

776. Printed by J. W. Snowden in *The Bell
News*.

777. Letter in *Church Bells*.

778. I have personally visited many of these
belfries but for others I have had to
rely on other information and possibly
the loss of boards has been even greater
than I have stated.

779. St. Laurence, Brentford, was rebuilt
(except for the tower) in 1764, at a
cost of £2450.

780. Calendar of State Papers, Dom. Cav. II. 337 57

781. *Ibid* 337 No. 79.

782. William Blathways to Sir Coline
Jenkins. S.P. Dom. Cav. II. 415. 183.

783. P.R.O. E 315. 498 f. 35.

1857

784. Ibid.

785. Shears & Painsbank's List.

786. Osborn.

787. A copy of this was given in Church Bells of 1871 when it was said to be very delapidated. When Jasper Snowden wrote A Treatise of Treble Bob in 1878 it had disappeared from the Church.

788. I have not verified this personally.

789. None older than the 19th Cent. that is.

790. Probably the soldiers were merely amusing themselves by ringing the bells and were not very skilful ringers. Compare a somewhat similar incident which happened at Peterborough Cathedral in 1643. - "One thing indeed I must needs clear the Soldiers of which Mercurius Rusticus upon misinformation Charges them with, viz - That they took

away the Bell-Clappers and sold 1859
them with the Brass they plucked off from
the Tombs. The mistake was this: The
neighbourhood being continually disturbed
with the Soldiers jangling & ringing
the Bells a-bow [backwards] as though
there had been a scare-fire (though
there was no other but what themselves
had made) some of the inhabitants by night
took away the clappers & hid them in the
Roof of the Church, on purpose only to free
their ears from that confused noise; which
gave occasion to such as did not know
it to think the Soldiers had stolen them
away" - Genton's History of the Church
of Peterborough. p 336. North's Church Bells
of Northamptonshire, p. 364.

191. See Chapter XI p. 117.

792. 5184 Changes by the College Juniors 1858
at Putney on Jan 24th 1898. A band of
the same society, which included five
members of the Paristie family, rang
5600 Changes of London Purpise Major
at S. Mary's Woolwich in 1849.

793. Among them were included more than
one man of the name of Hurdnote. The
family supplied several ringers during
the eighteenth Century and probably a
succession of steeple keepers at Fulham
and Hammersmith. "Paid Hurdnote
for ringing when the Queen arrived at
Bradenburgh House £1-11-0." - Hammersmith
Churchwardens' accounts for 1820. See
also Chapter XII page 435.

794. A society called the London Juniors had
been in existence since at least 1737, but
this was a separate Company. See Chap XII p. 328.

792^a See Lidman by J. A. Trollope, 1860
page

793.^a In The Ringing World of September 1860
1933, Mr. E. H. Young quotes ~~it~~ a note among
the records of the College Youths records referring
to a peal at Christ Church Spitalfields
It is signed S. Austin, College Society, 20th
August 1857. — "These bells were originally
a noble peal of 8, the Tenor 4th Cwt. in the key
of C, and were the gift of — Wheatley, Esq., a
wealthy inhabitant of the Parish, about the
year 1735. They were augmented to Ten
Bells in 1792 and finally augmented to
Twelve in or about 1804 and were esteemed
by all Ringers to be the finest and most
musically tuned peal of Twelve in London.
They were destroyed by Fire on Ash Wednesday
1837, at which time the office of Steeple keeper
was vacant, and through the neglect of

the Parochial Authorities in appointing 1861
an efficient person to the care of the Bells a
parcel of Boys had the run of the place, got
smoking on the Splee and set the Place on
fire. The Church had a very narrow escape
and Cost the Parish £10.000 to repair the
damage done. The present peal of eight bells
are by no means to be Compared with the
original Bells given by Mr Wheatley.

Another version is added - Mr Edwin Gibbs
says that this [fire] was due to a party of
ringers who were ringing there on a very
cold day and who had a charcoal fire
in the belfry for the purpose of heating up
some refreshments. While this was in
progress someone in authority was heard
Coming up into the belfry and the ringer
was hurriedly hidden away under the

John Cose and left. This version 1862
was given to Mr Gibbs by the late John Cose
and it was also confirmed by the late Mr
Matthew Wood who saw the fire as a boy.

At the time of the fire Wood was only ten
years old, and so could hardly have been
present in the beepy; but Cose was twenty-
three, and Haley seventeen, and though
there is no proof that they were actually
among the culprits, there is not much doubt
that they belonged to the same party.
Austin was of an earlier generation
and like Osborn not one of those privy to
the secret.

794. Royal Commission on National Monuments
795. Means & Stainbanks' list.
796. Ibid
797. See Chapter
798. Stedman by J. A. Trollope p. p 105, 108.

1863
799 It is possible that there was a
younger George Cole but there is no evidence
of it. Cole rang his first recorded peal in
and if he were then twenty years old
he would be in 1853.

800 See *The College Youths* by J. St. Frolepe
page 78 and also Chapter of this history.

801 "The parishes churches in London and
adjoining are in number CXX Besyde the
Cathedral Churches of Pauls, Westminster,
the Temple Church and the Church of the
Robes in Chancery Lane." - Richard Grafton
A Little Treatise, 1572.

802 Phelps succeeded to Whitechapel in 1701
he had already been in business for himself
and had cast a bell for Burham Kent
in 1700 He died August 1738. He bequeathed
all his trade implements, his business, and
the lease of his foundry to Thomas Leston -
Stahlschmidt.

803 N. J. Pinks, page 54.

804. "Before the Reformation no
Layman was allowed to be a ringer
and the ecclesiastics had to perform their
offices in surplices - J. Tim's Curiosities
of London p. 46. See also D. Gally - "The Bell".

1864

805. The Public Advertiser of Friday June
22nd 1770 announces the death of John
Hasfield the man who was said to
have heard the Westminster Bell at Windsor.
His age is given as 102 years which is
enough to throw doubt on the whole story.

806. In 1847 the Curfew was still rung at
St. Edmund, N + M; St. Botolph, Bishopsgate;
St. Leonard, Shoreditch; Christ Church,
Spitalfields; St. Michael, Queenhithe; and
St. Antholin, Budge Row. In 1847 it was
was discontinued at St. Swithin's Bread
Street by order of the Vestry - Lye's Curfew,
Proceedings of Brit. Arch. Soc. Apr 12. 1848.

- 807 "The Times" printed several letters discussing the merits of these bells from Sir John Stainer, H. R. Hawes and others. They were reproduced in "Church Bells".
- 808 In the early 19th Century there was a society at Watford called the Watford Union Youths who rang several peals and may have scored one or more at Harrow. See the Board formerly in the Chantry of St. John's Hillingdon page
809. The inscriptions on the bells at Soleworth are a good illustration of the change in taste in the matter. I was responsible for those on the two new pebbles and take credit to myself that there is no advertisement of anyone, - neither vicar nor churchwardens nor the Middlesex Association which was instrumental in putting the bells in the tower. But compare the inscriptions on the new bells in the tower of St. Mary-le-Bow.

810. puled = puled i.e. in agreement 1866
with each other, in tune.

811. I had an experience of this in Devon since
the war. I was staying at the vicarage. The
local ringers refused to ring even for the
Sunday services, and we made up a band
of visitors and the vicar.

812 For an account of the Trinity Jousts
see Chapter

813 The weights of Poplar bells are -

1.	2	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	6.	0.	6	6.	3	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	10.	2	8
2.	2		7 $\frac{1}{2}$	6	2	25	7.	3.	5		12.	1.	22
3.	2.		8 $\frac{1}{2}$	7	0	9	8	3	7 $\frac{1}{2}$		14	0.	18
4.	2		9 $\frac{3}{8}$	7.	3	0	9	3	11		18	1.	19
5.	2		11 $\frac{1}{2}$	8.	2.	23	10	4	5		25	0.	13.

- T.E. Scott, An Account of All Saints Ch., Poplar.

814. This was for Blake's naval victory over
the Spaniards at Santa Cruz

815. "There are *** ten bells in the tower of
Fulham which are considered among
the finest in the country" - Quarterly
Review, 1854.

816. J. W. Snowdon - "Treble Bob" p. 7.

817. Shipway Reprint, p 229. 1867

818 Ibid p. 83. See also the 5025 of
Grandsire Triples given on p. 112 of Snowden's
"Grandsire".

819 Compare a similar incident at St. Bartholomew
Exchange in 1629 See page 476.

820. C. J. Ferri - Fulham Old and New.

821. Compare the incident at Turickenham
related on page

822. A Register Book of the Worthy Benefactors
of the Church of Fulham.

823 Vol page 583.

824 Royal Commission on Historical Monuments.

825 Jasper Snowden (Double Norwich page 48)

suggests that the method was neither the
Norwich nor the London one; but there can

be no doubt that all the peals of Court, Boro

ring in the Metropolis before 1780 were what

is now called Double London Court. (See

Vol pp. 124, 145.

826. See article by A. D. Tyson. Trans. London
and Middex. Arch Socy 1919 pp. 180-3

827. The claims made on these two boards are not sound. See list of peals rung in the tower in the 18th cent. given on page 1335.
828. In Church Bells of _____ a copy is given of a board recording 5040 changes of Reverse Grandure Triples by the Cumberlands said to have been removed from the old tower to the new. See page 1223a.
- 829 See Correspondence in Church Bells Aug 15th 1874, Dec 19th 1874, and Jan 2nd 1875 relating to churches where the curfew was still rung.
830. The board seems to make the claim that John Cosc was the first man to compose and call a peal of Stedman Cinqes but Thomas Plakemore had done the same thing in 1788.
831. There is a board at Fulham for 10.098 Grandure Caters rung in 1762. It is read Society of College youths. It was not by the "junior" company and must be

Credited to the "ancient" society 1869
It is not entered in the present feal book
and probably was never entered in any
feal book.

832. When I speak of a board being illegible
I mean of course that I could not read
it under the conditions available. By
taking a large amount of care and by the
help of a ladder and an electric torch
all these illegible boards could be read
especially if they were first washed with a
little warm water.

~~833~~ It is given in The Bell News Mar. 16th 1912.

834 The word probably is "voco". But it is
possible that the inscription on the present
bell incorrectly reproduces that on the
original.

835 I have taken this copy of the feal board
from Church Bells but the date is wrong
It should be 1808.

836. Stahlschmidt does not mention
this bell. I imagine that it is the old paunce
bell.
837. In 1847 the Woodluch ringers were calling themselves
the Society of Good Samaritans. - The Era.
838. According to a broadsheet published in
1715 by Leonard Lichfield of Goxford, Abraham
Rudhall of Gloucester cast three bells for
St. Sepulchres.
839. "Et quod fratres ipsi et eorum successores
in perpetuum habeant omnes libertates et
liberas consuetudines quas habuerunt a
tempore beati Eduardi Regis et Confessoris
usque ad tempus Confectionis presencium -"
Pat. Rolls. 29 Hen. III m. 12.
840. Ordinances of Worcester A.D. 1267 - Also
the Bow bells accustomed in the said
cite to be rung at 10 of the bell to
be continued yearly for quiet ease of
the said cite The parson clerk then

to have his fees accustomed therefore - ¹⁸⁷¹

Foulmer Smith, English Gilds p. 402.

1430. Memorandum that there was
anciently given to the said Church one
acre of land called *seynt Laurensis*
acre lying in the fields of Earham
for which said acre the Rectors for the
time being are bound to find a man
to ring in the bell tower every night
throughout the year for the space of one
hour and it is commonly called
Curefew - Latin MS. property of the
Dean and Chapter of Norwich, quoted by
L'Eschange

841. St Peter Mancroft, Norwich 1666-7 -
Paid Brand for boring the greaie bell
when the Cannons take 2.0.0.

842 Both morning and evening bells are still
(1938) rung at St. Michael, Spurriergate,

York, at 6.0 A.M. and 8, P.M.

1872

- 843 The most probable explanation is that these were the two original pebbles at Shotlake given by Eccleston to that Church in 1741 and replaced by him in 1746. See Chapter X page 421.
- 844 As late as the year 1244 the Liberati Rolls contain a "Contract" to the keepers of the Bishopric of Winchester to seek for a chaplain to serve the chapel of Wheseye daily and toll the bells (pulsatio Campanis) and to find him necessaries - Calendar of Liberati Rolls, 30 Henry III - Public Record Office.

- 845 In the most famous of all the Town and gown riots at Oxford which took place on Feb 10th 1354 the Townsman were called together by the Town Common Bell at S. Martins,

(Carfax) and the gowmen by the
University bell at S. Mary's.

1873

846. "I fully endorse his [J. R. Jeram] statement
of the mischievous character of the iron
shap lined with leather." - G. Eaton,
bell hanger, Titmarsh, Northants - Church
Bells, Feb 7th 1880. Jeram had written
that the Baldricks "where an iron shap
lined with leather is used is most
objectionable, inasmuch unless the leather
be frequently renewed, the iron soon comes
in contact with the crown staple and I
have seen some crown staples worn down
to about half an inch or less through
neglect" - Church Bells, Jan 24, 1880.

847 The ring of ten at S. Mary Abbots was
rung for the first time muffled by the
Cumberlands on old years night 1779-80.
They were chimed when they were dedicated.

828. I have followed H. B. Hallier here, 1874
but the statement requires some qualification.
The injunctions of Archbishop Teckham
issued in 1281 direct that at the elevation
of the Consecrated elements in the service
of the mass a bell should be tolled
(lit. "struck on one side") so that people
whether in the fields or in the houses
should bend the knee - In elevatione
Corporis Domini pulsatur Campana
in uno latere ut populares ubicumque
fuerint, sive in agris, sive in domibus
flectant genua. This has been read as
referring to a hand bell rung through
a low window "one one side" of the Church
another writer objecting that "Campana"
is never used for a hand bell, the proper

word being tintinnabula; and also that ¹⁸⁷⁵
a hand bell would be of little use in calling
the attention of people whether in the fields or
in the houses. - See Correspondence in The
Times on Low side windows in Churches
in September and October, 1938. (See note 853.)

849 The Guild of the Taylors at Exeter paid "iiiijs"
to them that shall ring the bellis at their
requiem mass - Faulmer Smith p. 326

850. Abbot Adam de Godbury who died in
1341 gave an organ to Glastonbury Abbey
and cast eleven bells six of which he caused
to be hung in the church tower and five
in the clock tower - Dugdale, Monasticon
Anglicanum - ii p. 6.

851. "Till now [some time previous to 1459
the prior had claimed the right of
ringing the bells belonging to the Abbey
[of Bath] first and last in the city, none

1876

of the parish churches tolling their bells
(except on particular days) before the bells of
the convent had struck out in the morning
nor after the prior's curfew had tolled in the
evening. This privilege the mayor and
citizens considered as an impertinent
interference with their municipal rights,
for even in the 15th century bells began to
serve certain civic as well as ecclesiastical
purposes. They therefore determined to
interrupt the claim of the monastery by
ringing the bells of the parish churches
at hours hitherto unprecedented both
before and after the prior's knell had been
sounded; and accordingly gained over to
their cause the vicars of several churches.
This breach of privilege was highly resented
by the monastery and a contest arose in

Consequence that subsisted many years, ¹⁸⁷⁷
occasionally fuming into bitter invective and
personal insults between the contending parties.
At length an inquisition held at Exeter
in the ninth year of Henry V put a period
to the dispute by acknowledging and
establishing the right of the prior in the
premises and decreeing that no one should
ring bells in the precincts of Bath at day
time before the prior had rung his bells
nor at night time after his curfew had
been tolled" — Richard Harmer — The
History of Bath, p. 123.

852. Sep 29 1249 Windsor. To the Sheriff of
Devon. Contrabene to bring 4000 pounds
weight (quatuor milia) of tin in his
balivicks and carry it with all speed
to Westminster for delivery to the keeper

of the king's works for the king's great bell and other works. 1878

August 24 Woodstock. Computate to Richard de Tonle the king's baliff of Kenynton in the issues of that manor of the last year 106 85 2d for 100 quarters of barley imprested to the Abbot of Westminster and assigned of the king's gift in aid of the purchase of two great bells for Westminster's Abbey - Calendar of Liberate Rolls, Public Record Office.

853 In an article on The Sanctus Bell in The Tablet of Oct 15th 1938 Father Thurston S.J. states dogmatically that the use of low side windows in Churches was so the server could ring a handbell to call the attention of the people in the Churchyard to the elevation in the mass. His argument's do not seem to be very convincing.

854. In a letter to Church Bells of Feb. 4 1879
1871. Ellacombe says that in pre-reformation
times all the bells were rung from the floor
of the church and in presence of the Congregation
witness the holes for the ropes which may
be seen in the groined ceilings of many an
old tower "and there was another thing
which would have made it very
inconvenient for a ringer of those days to
climb up a narrow winding staircase
of a tower that he was vested in Camisia
which was put on him when he received
minor orders. After the Reformation the
ringers being no longer persons in minor
orders and church discipline relaxed,
the evil extended to the belfries just as
it affected the musical services of the
church when the ringers were expelled
from the chancels to galleries at the

west end set up for their own special accomodation. No wonder that all sorts of bad practices followed." I know of no evidence to support these statements and they appear to me to be merely unfounded Conjecture.

855. "The ringing of one of the Church bells as a sanctus bell is an additional ceremony and the Court will refuse to sanction by faculty alterations to enable one of the church bells to be used from the interior of the Church as a sanctus bell" - Halsbury's Laws of England, Vol XI p. 671.

856 In 1628 the following rule was passed at Newcastle-under-Lyme - June 10. It is agreed that Thomas Harrison the Church Clarke shall not suffer any peal to be rung upon pain of twelve pence without the Consent of the Mayor or his deputy for the time except to prayers and burials and that sparingly -

857. S. Michaels was not the only church that 1881
the devil visited about this time - " This year 1533
uppon fiveffte daye in Shrewsbury, the dyvylle
appeared in paint atkmonds churche there
when the preest was at hygh masse with
greate tempestie and darkness so that as he
pass'd through the churche he mountyd up
the steeple in the sayd churche tēringe
the wyers of the sayde clocke and put the
pynne of hys clawes uppon the 4th bell and
koocke one of the pyrnacles awaye with hym
and for the tyme stayed all the belles
in the churches within the sayde towne that
they could neither toll nor ryngge". From
an ancient manuscript transcribed in
The History and Antiquities of Shrewsbury
by T. Phillips, 1779, page 104.

858. J. R. D. Tyssen's name ought perhaps to
have been bracketed with these five The Church
Bells of Sussex which appeared in the
Sussex Archaeological Volume for 1864
was the first complete survey of any
County.

859. There is preserved at the Whitechapel Foundry 1882
a drawing of an inscription of a bell formerly
at Preston by Jeovil thus - + MISSUS EST
ANGELUS GABRIEL A DEO - A.D. Tysen - Church
Bells of Sussex p. 8.

860. Janaway apparently had worked for
Thomas Lester at Whitechapel for the latter
in the first draft of his will left him £50
but afterwards struck out the bequest.

861 It seems that John Saunders was, as we
might have expected, strongly opposed to the
changes in Church doctrine and ritual which
took place in the reign of Edward VI. He
did not keep his opinions to himself, with
unfortunate results, as the following shows -

" At Greenwich, the xxvij of May 1553

The Lord Treasurer

Mr Comptroller

The Lord Privie Seale

Mr Secretarie Petre.

The Lord Chamberlaine

" A letter to the Mayour of Reading, Thomas
Vachell, and William Edmondes, to cause
on John Saunders of that towne to be peti

in the Pillorie the next market day, with 1883
a paper on his head containing in great letters
these wordes - " For Lewde and Seditious
wordes, Touching the Kinges Majestie and
the State; and when he hath stode there
the hole market tyme to cause both his ears
to be cut off, and his body to be returned
to prison untill the Kinges Majesties further
pleasour shalbe signified unto them." -

Acts of the Privy Council.

" Sep. 13th 1553

" At this day forasmuch as John Saunders
one of the burghesses, for seditious, slanderous
and opprobrious words by him spoken
against the Kinges honorable Counsaile
by their Commandment was committed
to penyshement in the pillorie on the
market day and then to stonde all the
market tyme and then both his ears
cut off, and for other seditious, Lewde
and slanderous words by hym at
sundry tymes after that spoken to the
great perturbation and disquiet of his

honest neighbours, hit was therefore thought by the said Mayor and Burgesses, with one assent and consent, for causes aforesaid, the said day and yere, have expelled, discharged & clerely avoided the said Saunders from the said Hall & company for ever" - Reading Records.

862 " 1549. Commission to Henry Cornyphie, esquire, and Charles Chabson, gentleman, to sell lands in the Isle of Jersey, which came to the King by the Act of 1. Edward VI for dissolution of Chantries etc " " " " , also to sell Lead, bells, bell metal, ornaments " etc. - Acts of Privy Council

This would not refer to bells in the parish Churches.

863 In the churchwardens' accounts of Ludlow the clerks are sometimes styled "deacons".

864 Evidently there were two ringers named Edward Bartell. The Edward Bartell who rang many peals was buried at Whitechapel on July 20 1816. In the previous month Edward Bartell Junior, a College youth, rang Shore-ditch tenor to a peal of Treble B.B. Royal. It is doubtful which was the steeplekeeper at Spitalfields.

Index of Persons.

References in red ink are to illustrations

Allen -	556-825
Alsopp John	444.
Arnable Benjamin	443-498-518-520-561-581-624-637 691-778-855-945-1060-1073-1222 1333-1340-1417-1436-1536-1559
Arnold Edward	304
Arundel, Alp. Thos.	77-91.
Astburton, Willm.	105-1129.
Ashley Richard	1256.
Audley Sir Thomas	396-611-620
Bagley (bee founders)	211.
Bagley, James	282-742-1114-1147
Matthew	282-1803.
Bailey, Peter	1332.
Baldwin, Stanley	137.
Banister, Henry	1473.
William	1474.
Barber, Charles	1294
Barrowell, John	933-957
Barrett, Anthony	210-268-423-483-585-671-826-866.
James	210-268-385-482-556-614-624-643 816-826-849-873-1055-1266-1590.
Thomas	210-207-651-665-1168
Barrett, James	1294-1341.

Bastien -	1179
Bennett, Thomas	1155-1601
Benson, James	402
Bethel, Kingsby	367-1670.
Blakemore, Thos.	562.
Blakewell, Saml	690.
Blews (Cellfounders)	1367.
Bonaventure, Saint	87.
Bonomie S. Chas.	111.
Bosc, John	416.
Bradshaw, Peter	851
Brassey (Cellfounders)	209-207.
Brend (Cellfounders)	211.
Briant, John	598
Brissendon, John	237-764-786.
Bucew, Martin	160.
Buckley, Bp.	172.
Bullenden Thos.	438-499-905-436-726-1109-1266.
Burford Robert	500a.
Burt, Charles	1269.
Buller, James	1305.
Calixtus III, Pope	89.
Cambridge, Willm.	710-720-721.
Carden, Pi. Thos.	427.
Caroline, Queen	225-1235.
Carter, Mr.	841.
Joseph	210-385
William	210-1168-1530
Castleman, Rd.	850.

Callin, Robert	279-856-938-1056-1152-1196-1205- 1556-1591.
Callyn Edward	147.
Causton, John	710-721-728.
Casdon, William	940.
Cecil, Sir William	197-208-955.
Champemon Sir A.	167.
Chapman, Thos.	174.
Chapman, William	286-298-1066.
Charles I. King	1428.
Chechesler, John	167.
Chichele Alp. Hg.	78.
Clark, Joseph	1274.
Thomas	444.
Clifton John	1524.
Cockrill, S.P.	665
Collroke Robt	572.
Cole George	1155-1269
John	1269.
Coles, Chas. T.	441.
Coles, Sir Henry	76.
Collon John	105
Cordell Henry	672.
Copland, William	686.
Covey Thomas	849
Cooper John	1524
Cowley Henry	1436
Cosc, A.H.	1735
Cosc, John	603-1276-1321-1862.
Cromwell, Thomas	93.
Cranmer Stp. Thos.	166
Crepin Raeph	683

Crispe, Nicholas	1231
Crook, Thomas	1181
Crouch, Robert	443
Culham, William	1411
Culverden, Willm.	499-705-705-1108-1125
Cundell, John	709-723
John	672-691-1199
Dance, George	497-1116-1354-1365
Danyle	499.
Darby, John	231-936-972.
Michael	231-366-845. 936
Dawe, William	499-1140-1140.
De Foo Daniel	241.
Denmead John	1340.
Doddes, Robert	756-782
Donken, R.P.	1247
Donne, John	104-685-845-876
Ducker Laurence	682
Ducking John	700-716-717
Eastfield Sir Wm	672
Eayre Joseph	304-596
Edward the Confessor	881
Edward I King	71
VI.	
of Westminster	884-893
Edwards, Thomas	1295.
Eccleston Theodore	285-1195-1204-1270-1555.

Egelis, Abbot	110
Eldredge family	281
Bryan	281-423-1181-1266-1488
John	282-730
William	282-731-737-1247-1227
Elizabeth, Lucen	197-208-219-343-941
Ellacombe, H. T.	43-46-50.
Elsing William de	405
Ely, John	174
Finke, Sr Robert	478
Fitz-Gobert, Wm	681
Fletcher, Dean	214
Flicroff, Henry	1339
Foxe John	
Frazier John	509-1293
French, Richard	625.
Freshfield D. E.	56.
Frost A. G.	693.
Froude J. St.	164-187.
Fuller Thomas	354-1145
Gadsden, Richd.	238-469-526-551-556.
Gardiner, Thomas	1086
William	1086-1591
Gargrave Thomas	147.
Garland -	294.
Gatty, D. Alfred	43.
Gears, Francis	1536.

Gibbs, James	257-265-994-1329
Gibson, Jesse	835.
Gillett & Johnson	690-1141-1259.
Gold James	508
Goozee Charles	573-1048
Gouche -	136.
Graye Miles	211-357
Greenwood, Thos.	402.
Gregory IX, Pope	87
Grey, Thomas	109
Gross, George, Senr.	510-1074-1118-1162-1192-1293.
George, junr.	369-1118-1320.
Gruff, Alice	193.
John of	193.
Gwynn, Nell.	991-1834
Hackett John	413
Haley, Henry	340-1321-1391-1862.
Hamey D. Baldwin	1128.
Hannington Wm.	1556.
Hartcliff D. John	1433.
Harridance, Thos.	495
Harrison, John	291-1188.
Harys Thos.	1109.
Hatherell Philip	283-358.
Hawkesmoor Nicholas	265-737-908-1315-1329-1378-1462.
Hayes Thomas	154.
Heath, George	1190.

- Henry III, King 881
- Henry VIII, King 125-896-950-1006.
- Herts, John 1166.
- Hodson, John 230-238-271-358-527-550-553-659-688-810-836-842.
- Christopher 231-232-593-688.
- Hobby William 504
- Holmes, Robert 1268-1436.
- Hooper, Bp John 1727-1734.
- Holl, John 562-858-946-1056.
- Hudnot, Edward 1203-1858
- John 1203.
- Hutt, William 230.

- Abbott, William 1283
- Islep, Abbot John 882-902-950

- James, Sr Bartholomew 570
- John 990-1462.
- Janaway Thomas 296-1129-1191-1489-1556.
- Jerram, J. R. 1732.
- John XII, Pope 87.
- Jones, Giles 915.
- Imigo 345-404-621
- William 601-1293-1489.
- Jordan, Henry 499-499

- Keble, Henry 675.
- Kimpton, Laurence 867.
- Kingston, St Anthony 153.

Kirkpatrick John 106

Kitto, John V. 56

Knight, Ellis 211-277-593-1114-1134-1266-1337

Henry 277.

John 277

Samuel 277-283-856-937-1087-1152.

Langham John 442.

Lamb, William 592

Laing David 573

Lancaster, Ed. Esq 400

Land, Alp Klem 212-344-622

Laughton, William 207-386-401-414-422-443-491

496-507-625-771-867-906-1139

1216-1283-1360-1363-1381-1415-

1424-1445-1457-1503-1511-1586.

Lawson, Lord 173

Leslie, Thomas 285-498-561-622-689-938-910-
1316-1556-1601

Leslie & Packer 1268-1468.

Lewis, F. G. 1306.

L'Estrange, John. 44.

Litchales, H. Y. 56

Louis King of France 90.

Lulham, Edward 1292.

Lutis, H. C. 43.

Lyzard Henry 1557

William 692-1557.

Macclesfield, Earl of	104
Mainwaring, P.	562-581-1090
Marlton, James	602-693-1383
Martin -	103
Mary I Queen	192-434
Queen of Scots	223-386-495-525-532-941-954 961-1037-1532-1768.
Mason, Elisha	851-853.
Mears, C & G.	1073-1089-1259.
Thomas I.	279-298-856-1089-1102-1139-1320
Thomas II	299-1102-1129-1135
William	298-1259.
& Plainbank	626-690-911-1089
Meakins George	576a-581-600-946-1074
Mellon John	108.
Mobbs Robert	691
Monte Joseph	1268.
Moore Matthew	132.
Mot Robert	205-206-237-412-423-524-533 658-756-761-784-871-904-935- 975-987-1030-1266-1487-1761.
Muggridge Saml	692.
Munford Richd	506.
Newton Saml.	283-1305
Nichols John	55-56
Noonan, John	1342.
North Thomas	44.

Northumberland D. of 156

1903

Norton, James 173.

Olewer, Charles 921-1832

Osborn, Ed. John 669-808-1390

Thomas 295-304-508

Oack, Thomas 285-498-597-938

Oack & Chapman 1259-1268

Oaget, Sir William 166.

Oaris, Matthew 884

Oartick, Robert Geo. 576a-1331-1369

Oartidge Sir Miles 354

Oatricks Robert 295-508-597-1221

John 296.

Oeckham, Sir Edm. 180

Oeelo John 283-404

Oembroke, Earl of 178.

Oepys, Samuel 242-364-825

Oetrie Sir M. 172

Sir Wm 1666

Oetit James 150

Ohelps, Richard 269-348-349-415-430-559-

636-689-776-792-909-1266

1339-1379-1428-1462-1502-

1511-1536-1863.

Oilgrim Philip 602-692.

Oate, Robert 1269.

Pleyseri John	146.
Romer, Sir John	699-700-709-721
Rope Daniel	1248
Rouliney Sir John	359
Rovey, John	602-1067-1074-1269
Rowell J. P.	1206.
Rusew, Charles	582-1385
Edmund	1407
Rye, William	693-1343.
Rahere Prior	433.
Raven, D. J. J.	44-110-112-233.
Read, Peter	107
Reeves, John	1118-1162-1340.
Revel, William	499.
Rich, Sir R.	434a.
Rogers Edward	943.
Rudhall Abraham	272-272-278-516-573-995-1060 1187-1851.
Abraham J.	272
Abel	
Mrs.	1197
Rus, William	748-771
Russell John Lord	156-164
Mrs.	704-709-723-727.
Sachs, Christopher	206
Saunders John	904-1109-1849. 1883.

Scott, Sir Gilbert	1296.	1905
Shakespeare Wm.	102-108	
Sharp John	1558-1591	
Shasdon, Nicholas	92-1734	
Shelton, Sir John	198.	
Simon P. of Nantes	88	
Simonis Simon	883	
Simpson Canon	1309	
Skellon William	1184	
William	1087-1184-1221	
Smith John E	55.	
William	701-723-725-726-928-949	
William	411	
Soane Sir John	1605	
Somerset Duke of	145-166-169-170-220-933-1047	
	1137-1739-1743-1781-1832.	
Spelman, Sir Hy.	125-158.	
Spicer Richard	625-691	
Stahschmidt J.C.L.	45-54-499.	
Stedman, Fabian	244-422.	
Stephen, Sir	420	
Stevenson, R.L.	183-1746.	
Stockdale, Michael	943-961-977	
Stow, John	71-340-420.	
Sturpe John	72-169.	
Swain, Thomas	280.	
Tash, Sir John	358.	

Taylor John	304
John & Co	304-349-350
Robert	304
Tennyson Lord	109
Trenell, John	416-691-1380-1512
Trevor, Valentine	203-935
Tulsoe Lu Henry	556-1690
Turner Robert	237-472-524-527-803-1179
Samuel	238-1817
Tregono John	141
Twyne Samuel	362
Tysen J. R. D.	44-45-329
Underwood Wm.	625-1332
Urban H Pope	1721.
Walker, Hugh	987-1025-1034
William	1270-1559-1592.
Wallis, H. B.	45
Waterlow, A. J.	56
Wamer Jacob	299
John	299-597-835
John & Sons	303-1056-1115-1174-1297-1317
	1469.
Wamer -	377.
Walworth, Wm	802.
Webster Edward	841
Wells Christopher	604-1417a

Hedlake, H. F.	55	1907
Hedon, Peter de	1108-1305	
Herkworth Prior	1082	
Heylett John	283-866	
Heatley -	1379-1860	
Heliacres, Frans.	1405	
Whitmore William	230-1247.	
Whittington, Rd.	805-1801.	
Whitwell John	748-771.	
Wightman, Philip	271-282-348-349-450-594-614-812 899-1337-1424-1554.	
Williams	271-486-594-659-1173-1337	
Wiltes John	225	
Williams, George	869	
Williams, Wm.	1360	
Williamson, Dame	688-695	
Withers, Sir Francis	801-1399	
Withins, Francis	801.	
Wood, Anthony a	233	
Francis	1116	
Matthew	1119-1391-1862	
Samuel		
Simon	375	
Worster James	1234-1294-1561	
Wren, Bishop	215	
Wren Sir Christopher	250-347-357-376-378-391-404-413-426 429-430-432-450-478-482-485-515- 554-555-572-585-591a-614-635-642- 650-659-671-674-676-678-715-732-741 774-809-812-814-816-817-822-828-832 866-871-872-906-177*	
Wright Laurence	203-758-783-988-1038-1221-1251-1402.	

Hymenobryon Reck. 393-397-499-902
type 845.

1908

Index of Churches.

1909

The principal reference is given first.

The page references in red ink are for the illustrations.

Acton, S. Mary	1114- 1114 -283-323-1112.
Ashford, S. Matthew	323-1112.
Ashby-de-la-Zouch	
Aston	288.
Bangor Cathedral	172.
Barnes, S. Mary	329.
Bath Abbey	272.
Battersea, S. Mary	1485-1485-219-297-330
Beeches	286.
Beckenham, S. George	337.
Beddington, S. Mary	330.
Bedfont, S. Mary	323-1112.
Bermondsey, S. James	1505-1505-299-1321
S. Mary Magdalen	1501-1501-330.
Bethnal Green, S. Matthew.	1116- 1116 -323.
Birmingham, S. Martin	286
Bloomsbury, S. George	267.
Bodmin Priory	141.
Bow (Stratford) S. Mary	1423-286-323.

Brentford, S. George	323 - 1125.
S. Lawrence	1125 - 323 - 1108 - 1112.
Bristol, S. Mary Redcliff	68.
Bromley, S. Peter & S. Paul	337.
Bury S. Ed. S. James	296.
S. Mary	270.
Camberwell S. George	1517 - 306
S. Giles	1510 - 1510 - 331.
Cambridge, S. Mary	270.
Canterbury Cathedral	278 - 287 - 298 - 1788
Causbrook	288.
Carshalton All Saints	331.
Caterham	331
Cheddington	121.
Chelsea, All Saints	1127 - 1127 - 105 - 296 - 323
S. Lukes	1132 - 323
Chiswick, S. Nicholas	1134 - 323 - 1112.
Cirencester, S. John's	272.
Clapham, Holy Trinity	321.
Clapton S. Matthew	323.
Clerkenwell, S. John	1136 - 1743
S. James	1136 - 1136 - 323.
Coddenham	285
Coventry, Holy Trinity	1783
S. Michael	68 - 259 - 288
Cowley, S. Lawrence	1108.
Cranford, S. Dunstan	1145 - 324 - 1112.
Crayford, S. Paulinus	337.

Crediton	148.
Croydon, S. John	305-331-1522.
Croyland Abbey	110.
Dalston, S. Mark	303-324.
Debenham	286
Deptford, S. John	1459.
S. Nicholas	1456-337.
Doering	331
Dover, S. Mary	278
Trayton West, S. Martin	324-1112
Dunstable	288.
Ealing, S. Mary	1146-1146-1156-279-282-324
Christ Church	324.-1764
S. Stephen	324.-1764
East Dereham	286.
Edgware, S. Margaret	297-324.
Edmonton, All Saints	1162-324
Enfield S. Andrew	1173-324-1112
S. Mary Magdalen	303-324-1174
Erith, S. John Baptist	286-337.
Exeter Cathedral	
S. Sidwells	288.
Fellham, S. Catherine	324
S. Dunstan	324
Finchley S. Mary	1177-1177-324.
S. Paul	1108-1112.

Frien Barnet	324
Fulham, All Saints	1178-1178-219-232-273-278 281-291-324
St. Dionis.	376-567
Greenford, Holy Cross	324-1108-1112
Greenwich, S. Alphage	1461-1461-338.
Guildford Holy Trinity	286.
Hackney, S. John	1216-1216-1218-295-325
S. John of Jerusalem	1225a-325.
Hadley	324
Hammersmith, S. Paul.	1229-1229-103-222-325.
Hampstead S. John	1245-1245-325
S. Stephen	305-325.
Hampston	325.
Hanwell, S. Mary	325
Hanworth, S. George	325
Harefield, S. Mary	325-1112.
Harlington, S. Peter & S. Paul	325
Harmondsworth, S. Mary.	325-1112
Haringay (Hornsey)	325-1112
Harrow, S. Mary	1246-1246-325-1112.
Harrow Weald, All Saints	325.
Hayes, S. Mary	325
Hendon, S. Mary	325-1112
Heston, S. Leonard	326.
Highgate, S. Ann	326

Hillingdon, S. Andrew	303-326.	1913
S. John.	1250-1250-326	
Homerton S. Paul	326-387	
Hornchurch	288	
Hornsey, S. Mary	1265-326	
Horsham	286	
Hounslow, S. Paul	303	
Ickenham	1112	
Ipswich, S. Lawrence	113-436.	
Ipswich, All Saints	1267-1267-286-326-1865.	
Islington, S. Mary	1282-1282-288-326	
S. Mary Magdalen	303-326.	
Kendal	288	
Kensington, S. Mary Abbots	1289-1289-296-303-326	
Kilburn, S. Augustines	326	
Kings Lynn	286	
Kingsbury, S. Andrew	1305-326-1108-1113	
(new church)	1305-326.	
Kingston-on-Thames	332.	
Knutsford Place, S.	1317.	
Laleham, All Saints	326	
Lambeth, S. John		
(Waterloo Road)	1523-1523-306	
S. Mary.	1529-1529-270-326-332.-	
	1719	

Lewisham, S. Mary	1468-1468-288-338.
Lichfield Cathedral	214
Limehouse, S. Anne	1315.
Littleton S. Mary, Mag ^{dn} .	113-326
<u>London, City of</u>	
S. Paul's Cathedral	340-340-344-346-67-72-136 140-188-227-247-256-270-305-312
All Hallows the Great	356-356-211-283-312
All Hallows the Less	359-312-356
All Hallows, Barking	360-366-367-372-75-188-236 312.
All Hallows, Bread St.	373-373-312-1720
All Hallows, Lombard St	377-377-170-312-565
All Hallows, London Wall	382-382-312
All Hallows, Staining	384-384-387-211-312.
Charterhouse	319
Christ Ch. Newgate St.	388-388-140-259-312
Holy Trinity Inny, Aldgate	392-67-139-319-499-619- 1400-1418
Holy Trinity the Less	399-313
Holy Trinity, Minories	400-313
S. Albans, Wood Street	403-403-261-283-313
S. Alphage London Wall	405-405-313.
S. Andrew, Holborn	412-412-206-228-255- 313
S. Andrew Hubbard	418-313
S. Andrew, Undershaft.	419-419-69-206-281-313
S. Andrew Wardrobe	425-425-313.

City of London (continued)

1915

St Ann & St. Agnes	428-428-227-313
St. Antholin	430-430-313.
St. Augustine's, Old Change	432-432-313
St. Augustine's, Papey	313
St. Augustine's Priory	67.
St. Bartholomew-the-Great	433 -433-113-188-313
St. Bartholomew-the-Less	442-442-188-313
St. Bartholomew, Exchange	445-445-56-188-221-313
St. Bartholomew Priory	433-67-140-189-192-319
St. Benet, Fink.	478-478-314
St. Benet Gracechurch	480-480-144-314
St. Benet, Pauls Wharf	314-485-485
St. Benet, Sherehog	487-314
St. Boldolph, Aldersgate	489-489-314
St. Boldolph, Aldgate	493-493-188-206-224- 286-314-402.
St. Boldolph, Bellinggate	502-314
St. Boldolph, Bishopsgate	503-503-254-295-314
St. Bride, Fleet Street.	513-513-75-188-228-259- 264-273-278-314.
St. Christopher, Stocks.	522 -523-56-206-314
St. Clement, Eastcheap	554-554-314
St. Dionis, Backchurch	555-555-270-314-378
St. Dunstan, East	570-570-273-314
St. Dunstan, West	578-578-314
St. Edmund, N. & M.	584-584-314
St. Ethelburga	586-586-189-314
St. Faith	589-187-247-355-1787

City of London (continued).

1916

St Ewin	588-315-389
St Gabriel, Fenchurch	590-315.
St George, Boldolph Lane	591-591-315
St Giles Cripplegate	592-592-69-75-189-211- 271-277-288-300-304-315 1651.
St Gregory by St Pauls	608-315
St Helens	609-609-109-315
St James Dukes Place	611-611-315
St James Garlickhithe	613-613-188-315
St John Evangelist	615-315.
St John Wallbrook	616-315.
St John Zachery	617-315
St Johns Priory	120-319-377.
St Katherine Coleman	618-618-315
St Katherine, Cree Church	619-619-67-286-315
St Katherine by the Tower	319.
St. Lawrence, Jewry	623-623-264-268-315
St. Lawrence, Pountney	627-315
St. Lawrence, Eastcheap	629-315-483
St Leonard, Foster Lane	631-315
St Magnus the Martyr	633-633-270-316
St Margaret, Fish St Hill	641-316
St Margaret Louthbury	642-642-56-219-316
St Margaret, Moyses	648-316
St Margaret Pattens	649-649-260-316.
St Martin le Grand	652-68-71-74-140-188- 189-237-319-1717.

City of London (continued)

1917

- St. Martin, Ludgate 657-657-206-216.
St. Martin, Orgar 660-316
St. Martin, Ostrich 662-662-316
St. Martin, Pomery 667-316.
St. Martin, Vintry 668-316.
St. Mary, Abchurch 670-670-316
St. Mary, Aldermanbury 672-672-316
St. Mary, Aldermary 675-675-261-316.
St. Mary, Axe. 678-316.
St. Mary, Bothaw 679-316.
St. Mary-le-Bow Frontispiece Vol. V. - 681-681-75-
105-189-228-259-264-270-286-
316-1718.
St. Mary Colechurch 697-317
St. Mary at Hill 699-699-715-55-221-317
St. Mary, Mountnaw 729-317
St. Mary, Somerset, 732-732-282-317.
St. Mary, Staining 733-317.
St. Mary Woolchurch Lane 734-317
St. Mary Woolnoth 735-735-317
St. Mary Mag^{dn}. G. Fish St. 738-738-317
St. Mary Mag^{dn}. Milk St. 740-317.
St. Matthew, Friday St. 741-741-283-317
St. Michael, Bassishaw 742-742-317
St. Michael ad Veldum 744-317
St. Michael Cornhill 746-746-773-795-57-189
206-278-237-261-264-
269-317.
St. Michael Crooked Lane 800-800-317.

City of London (Continued)

1918

St. Michael, Paternoster Royal	805-805-188-317
St. Michael, Queenhithe	811-811-318
St. Michael, Wood Street	813-813-318
St. Mildred, Bread Street	815-815-318
St. Mildred, Toultry	817-817-318
St. Nicholas, Steens	820-318
St. Nicholas, Cole Abbey	821-821-318
St. Nicholas, Clave	823-318
St. Nicholas, Shambles	824-389
St. Clave, Hart Street	825-825-318
St. Clave Old Jewry	828-828-318
St. Clave, Silver Street	829-318
St. Pancras, Popen Lane	830-318
St. Peter, Cornhill	831-831-318
St. Peter, Parva	833-318
St. Peter-le-Poov	834-834-188-302-318-
St. Peter ad Vincula	836-836-318
St. Peter Westchepe	837-319
St. Sepulchre, Snow Hill	Frontispiece Vol VI - 838-838 140-189-228-232-278-299- 319.
St. Stephen, Coleman St	863-863-140-284-319-398
St. Stephen, Wallbrook.	871-871-206-319
St. Surthiv, London Stone	872-872-319
St. Thomas, Acon.	74-319-667
St. Thomas, Apostle.	874-319.
St. Vedast	875-875-188-232-319.

Poplar, All Saints	1320-299-306-327-1866.
Ch. Ch. Cubitt Town	327-1321.
Preston	
Putney, St Mary	333-1588.
Ravenstonedale	1805
Reading, St Lawrence	277-1719
Richmond, St Mary	1589-1589-333
Rochester Cathedral	213
Rotherhithe, St Mary	1600-1600-285-334
Ruislip, St Martin	327
St Albans Abbey	148-282
St. Georges-in-the-East	1329-1329-266-285-327
St. Giles-in-the-Fields	1336-1336-1337-1334-211
	267-277-327
St. Ives	1763
St. Lukes; Old Street	1354
St. Mary-le-Bone	1355-1355-1356-327
St. Pancras-in-the-Fields	1357-1357-327
Euston Road	1358-1358-303-327
Salisbury Cathedral	258
Seven Oaks	286
Shadwell St Paul	1359-1359-306-327
Shadwell, St. H.	1721
Shepperton, St Nicholas	327
Shoreditch, St Leonard	1362-1362-1363-267-285
	328.

Leaford	1769
Southgate, Christ Ch.	328-1113
<u>Southwark Borough of</u>	
Christ Church	1055-1055-269-322
St George the Martyr	1059-1059-229-273-278-322
St John Horsleydown	1066-1066-322
St Margaret	1078
St Mary, Magdalen	1078
St Giles	1072-1072-191-239-322-334
St Saviour	1076-1076-140-191-278-279-322-334-1838.
St Thomas	322.
<u>Spalding</u>	
Hilaryfields, Christ Church	1377-1377-266-271-328
Haines, St Mary	270-328
St Peter	328.
Hanmore	1113
Hanswell St Mary	328
Hepney St Dunstan	1398-1398-1400-139-299-328-398.
Hampford Hill St Ann	328.
Hoke Newington St Mary	328
Honham Chapel	285
Hretham, St Leonard	335
Hunbury, St Mary	328
Lutton, St Nicholas	335
Hatford-Ce-Bow, St Mary	1423-286-323.
Teddington, St Mary	328-1113
Tooting, St Nicholas	335.

Tottenham, All Saints 1424-1424-272-328-1113
 Twickenham, S. Mary 1426-1426-328-1109-1113
 Twyford West 1442-191-328.

Uxbridge, S. Margaret 328
 Walsworth, S. Peter 1606-1606
 Wandswoth, All Saints 335

Westminster, City of

The Abbey 881-881-141-192-206-266
 270-320-771

St. Ann, Soho. 320
 St. Barnabas, Finsbury 1048, 320
 St. Clement Danes 918-918-271-320-1321
 St. Gabriel, Finsbury 1049-320.
 St. George, Hanover Sq. 267-320
 St. James, Piccadilly 320
 St. John, Milton Rd 320
 St. John the Evangelist 320
 St. Margaret 925-925-55-69-219-220-
 221-229-278-320-925-
 1656-1744-1832

St. Martin in the Fields ~~1047-1047~~-984-984-56-
 206-227-257-266-273-278
 320-1655

St. Mary, Strand. 1047-1047-265-320-879.
 St. Paul's Covent Garden 320
 St. Peter Eaton Square 320
 St. Stephens Rochester Row 1057-320
 Savoy Chapel 920-920-147-320.

Westminster City of. (Continued)

1923

Lincoln's Inn Chapel	320
Whitechapel, S. Mary	1443-1443-286.
Willesden, S. Mary	1454-1454-835
Wimbleton	336
Windsor	235-1778
Woolwich, S. Mary Mag ^{da}	1472-1472-338.
Wrescham	272
Wye	288
Wymondham	1623-1629.
Wynchcombe	1626.
York Minster	287-848-1816.

General Index.

1924

Abbeys, Dissolution of	125
Ancient bells in Middlesex	1108-1112
Angelus, The	86-1721
Antiquarian books on bells	43.
Aldgate Bellfounders	499.
Archaeology, Bell	48
Ave Bell	91-1841
Baldric	115-115-490-1732.
Barley Mow, The	519.
"Baynard Castle"	839-854
Bells. Rung for visits of kings etc (see also churchwardens' accounts)	77-220-1724-1726. 1751.
number of in churches	110.
destruction of at Reformation	124.
Bell-hanging	114-236-706-768-786
inscriptions	52-210-297-424-436
founding	501-1729. 1779-1865. 178
ringing at weddings	80-1612-1806
as a spoil	202-264-944-1409 1432-1611-1615
metal, Export of forbidden	131-148-1750-1787- 1807
ropes	118.
wheels	120-120-449-1747-1810
Bow bell	76-107-687-1730.

Ferial bells	752-1835	1926
Fines for non-ringing of bells	220-525-711-951-1206	
Fine The Great Fire of London	1428-1535-1712-1719-1806	
Founders' stamps	244-364	
	206-207-230-272-456-	
	499-705-1140-1151.	
Gabriel Bells	100.	
"George" peal	1192.	
Great Paul	351	
Guilds. Medieval g. of ringers	885.	
Guilds, Suppression of	143.	
Gudgones	122.	
Hampson Court. Ancient bells at	1108	
Horseshoe bell	752	
Inventories Edwardian (see also under various churches)	54-168-176-186-329	
	1745-1746-1749.	
Jesus scepter	353.	
London in old times	61	
churches before the Fire	67	
number of bells in	187-227-312	
London Scholars, Society of	517-850.	
Market bell	-1726	
Mass bell	985	
Stalls for ropes	1534	

Morning & evening bell (see also Curfew)	99-1129	1927
Norwich	64.	
Obits	571-719.	
Ordon bell	91-1728	
Parish Accounts, (see also churchwardens accounts)	55-114	
Payments for ringing (see also Churchwardens accounts)	218-448.	
Parc Boards (see also under various Churches)	370-416-1642-1794	
Plague, The	240-826	
Priest's bell	85-1725	
Proclamation against pulling down of bells	194.	
Radding bell	94.	
Purgatory Doctrine of	95. 1732.	
"Rus", St. Michaels Fenos	754-905.	
Ringers' supper	991-1199	
Sacring bell	83-83.1874.	
Saddlers, Guild of	653-886	
St. James's Society	923	
Sanctus bell	82-1699-1805.	
Saunce bell (see sanctus bell)		
Scotland, Bells of	183.	
Section's duties	865.	

Stamford. Guild of S. Katherine	653.	1928
Steeple of London	251.	
Steeplekeepers	446.	
Stoney	1174.	
Trinity Yachts, The	1458	
Trossing the Bells	121-986	
Tuning of Bells	113-273-290-701-762	
	1188-1306-1735-1783.	
	1851	
Whitechapel Foundry	205-268-285-298-	
	1531.	
Westminster Brethren Guild of	885.	
Clockiand	891.	