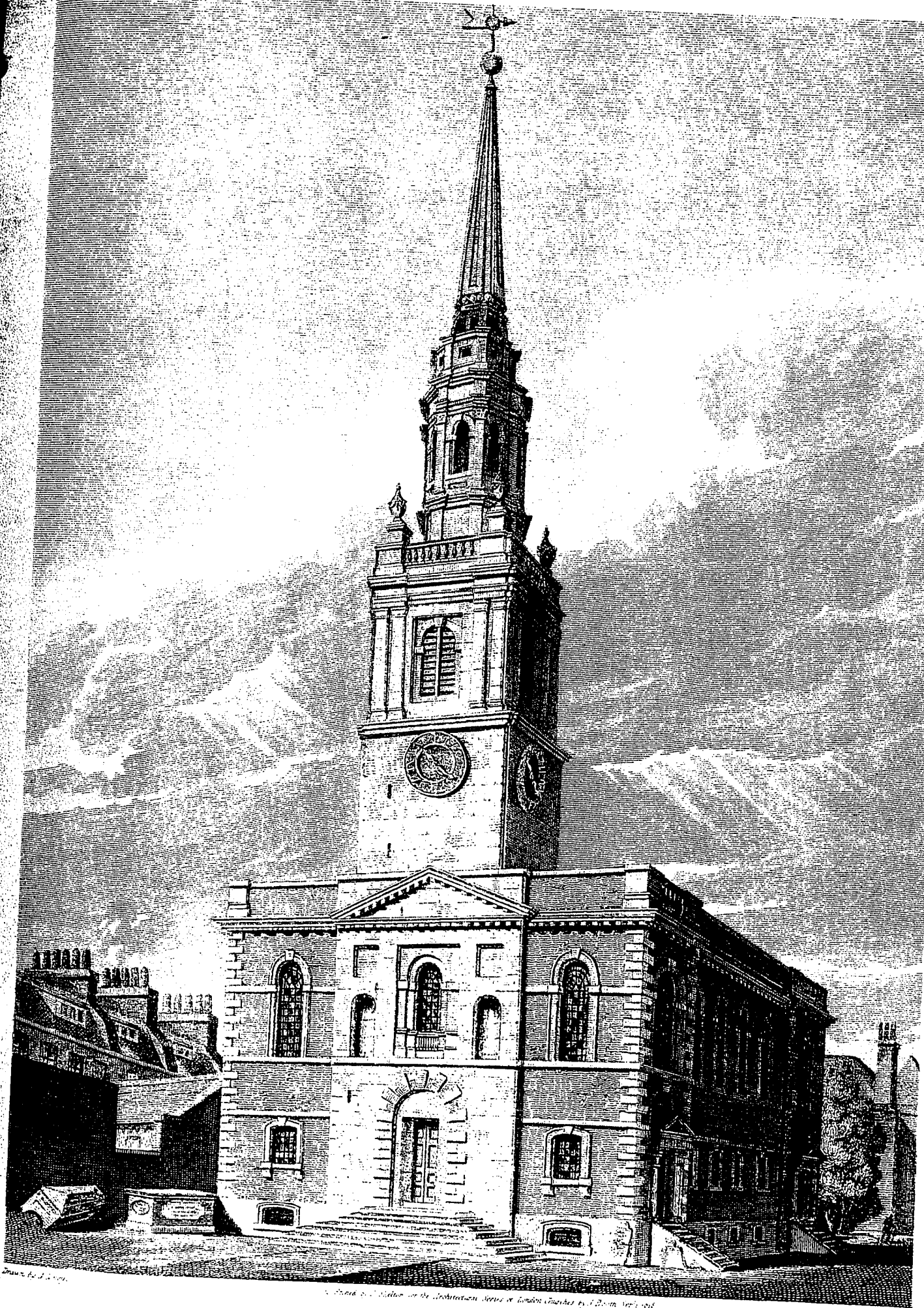


Change Ringing in the Provinces

Trollope, J. Armiger

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ST. DUNSTONS CHURCH, LONDON

The first peal of London Surprise being
in the City of Dublin was ^{ring} on Jan 31st 1925
at Christ Church Cathedral on
the original Octave cast by Rudhall,
of Gloucester this was composed by
the late G. Lindoff & conducted by
Irish Association E Jenkins

On Sat Feb 9th 1924 The longest peal
in Wales was rung at Rhyl
Flintshire 10,400 changes of Treble
Bob Major. composed by
Joseph W Parker and
conducted by R. Sperrung
N. Wales Association

The first Peal of Belgrave Surprise Major
was rung for the Chester Diocesan Guild
at the Church of St Mary within the walls
Chester on Sat April 24th 1926
composed by A. Craven and
conducted by E. Jenkins

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1931

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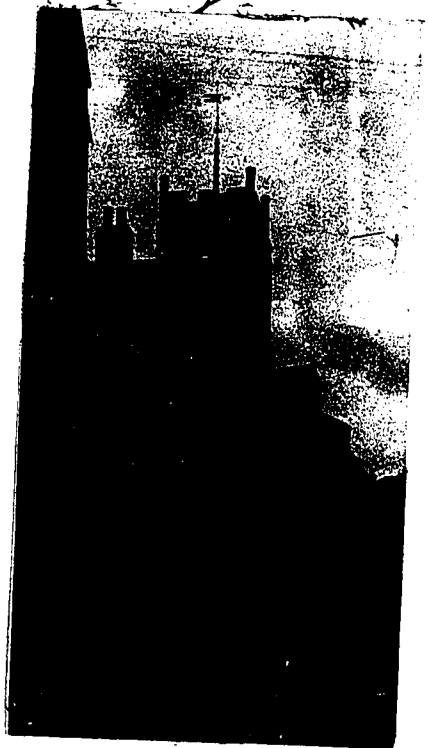
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THE AUTHOR, A.D. 1910.

A Self Portrait.

Appendix
^{to}
Chapter Fifteen.

Change Ringing in the Provinces
at the Close of the
Eighteenth Century.

Change Ringing in the Provinces at the End of the Eighteenth Century

As we get nearer to the close of the eighteenth century in our survey of bell ringers and bell ringing, we notice a very great advance both in peal ringing and method ringing among the men outside the metropolis. At Norwich there had all along been a company second to none, and now, in addition, we find bands at Birmingham, at Shrewsbury and other Midland towns, in the North and elsewhere who began to look as if they intended to challenge successfully the supremacy which the London societies had so long held in all matters connected with ringing; and indeed the time was coming when the real leadership of the Exercise, and the initiative in the improvement and development of ringing

was to pass from London. That time was 15
still in the future, and so great had been the
prestige which the College Youths, and to a
lesser extent, the Cumberlands, enjoyed, that
these two societies continued to hold a
nominal primacy among ringing companies
throughout the following century.

There had, of course, for long been many
good ringers outside the metropolis. Indeed
it may be said with truth that all through
both the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries
wherever in England there were bells there
there were ringers. This applies not only
to churches which possessed rings of six
and eight, but also to those that had but
three or five bells. Much of the ringing,
especially in the West, remained the same
as it had been from the earliest times,
the simple raising and falling and



11.200 BOB MAJOR on hand-bells.

April 26th, 1894.

C.E. BORRETT

J.A. TROLLOPE

G.P. BURTON.

J.E. BURTON

round ringing, but in many parts of the 16
Country change ringing was introduced early
and was practised both in towns and villages.
A number of peals too were rung during
the second quarter of the eighteenth century
and onwards. For the most part they were
Grandiose Triples, and in the majority of cases
we may be reasonably sure that Doleman's
false composition was rung. The J. D. & C. de
Campanalogia seems to have set the standard
and marked the limit of advance.

It is most likely that, taking the Country
as a whole, ringing was more popular and
there were more change ringers during the
eighteenth century than at any time down
to recent years, but outside Norwich there
was, with one exception, no provincial band
and no provincial ringer who can fairly be
said to have contributed in any marked
degree to the advancement of either the science

on the art of change ringing. The exception¹⁷
is James Barham, who by his energy and
indomitable perseverance did much for peal
ringing in Kent. He and his band also made
very considerable advances in method ringing
and in Kent Treble Bob they left a legacy to
the Exercise of the utmost value.^①

In his influence on the Exercise, in his
attitude towards ringing, and especially peal
ringing, and in his general character Barham
can fully be compared to William Dye. The
earlier man's range of activity was necessarily
far more restricted than that of the later,
but, making allowance for the difference in
circumstances, the records of the two are very
similar.

There were, of course, many other men whose
names are now forgotten, who in their own
bellies and in their own district, by their
devotion and energy did much to maintain
and hand down the art of change-ringing

18
but when look for those who by their
writing, their skill as composers, their leadership
and their example influenced the Exercise
and developed and improved change ringing
we find them almost entirely among the
London men. In the eighteenth century
the College Youths and one or two others
of the metropolitan Companies were really
the leaders of the Exercise.

This is very much what we might have
expected. The men of the great towns, like
London and Norwich where there were
many bells and many ringers, had
advantages which the men of the smaller
towns and villages did not possess. It
was possible with them to form leading
Companies by absorbing the best elements
of the lesser Companies, and they always
had the incentives of rivalries and

Competitions to spur them on to better things. 19

But brains, and skill, and energy are not the prerogatives of the men of the great cities, and some at least of the ringers of the small towns and villages were to show that they could equal any of the leading Companies when once they had overcome the handicap imposed on them by absence of communications and the slow diffusion of knowledge. We begin to notice this as the eighteenth century waned to its close. We notice it still more in the following century.

The Norwich Scholars still maintained their supremacy as the leading provincial Company, and they made full use of their splendid ring of twelve at Chancery

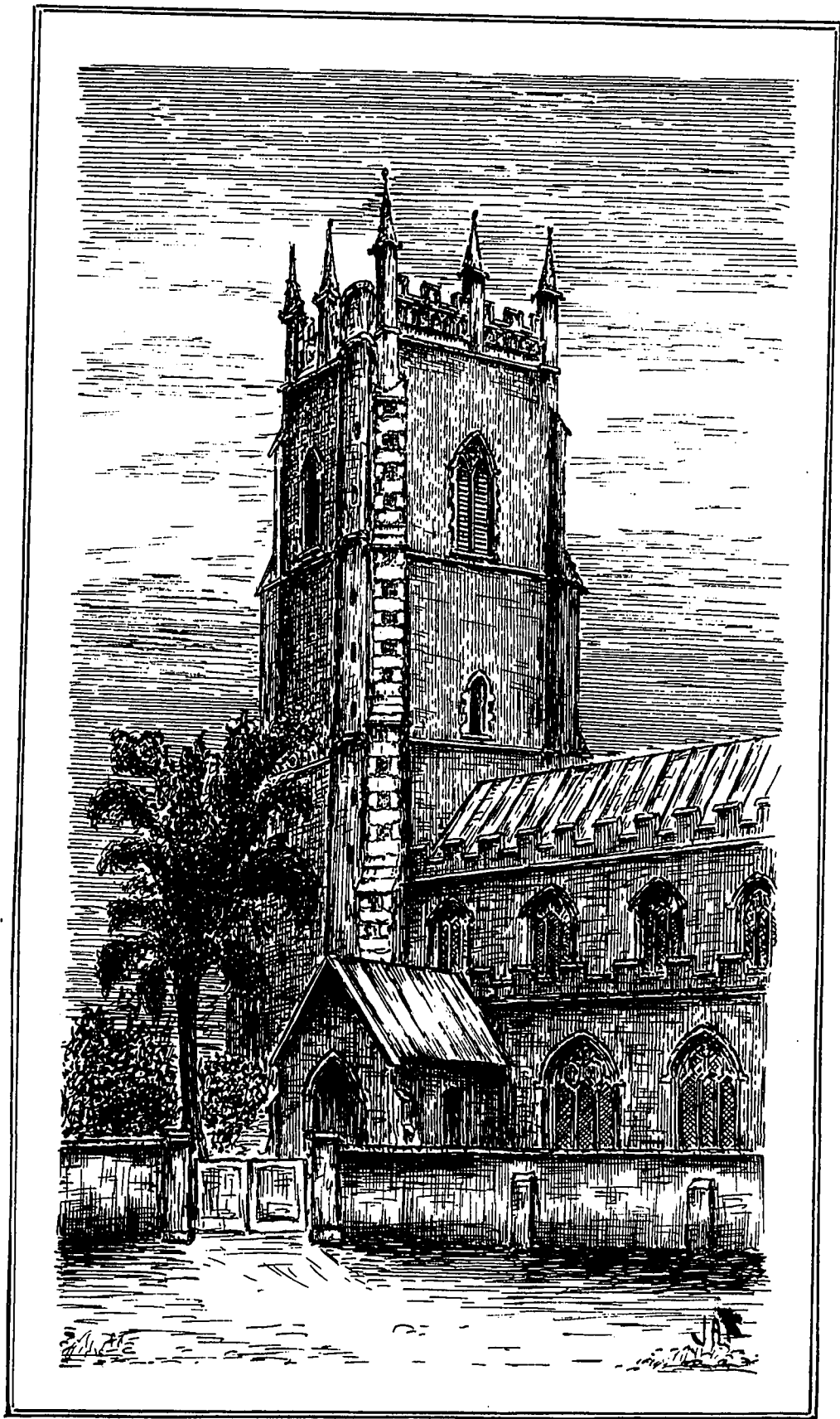


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but they never at any time in their history were active peal ringers, as the London men were, and after the long peal of Mascimus in 1778 they accomplished no performance of note until the following century.

In the belfries of the smaller towns and villages of Norfolk and Suffolk the standard of ringing was probably as high as anywhere in the country, but there too nothing was done which needs our present attention.

Just beyond the borders, however, in the Isle of Ely there was a band that deserves some notice. In the year 1788 Thomas Osborn of Downham Market supplied a ring of eight bells to the parish church of Soham in place of the old six bells, and a society of ringers called the Soham Youth was formed which soon attained to a



ST. ANDREWS, SOHAM.

high degree of efficiency. This in 21.
large measure was due to the members of
a family called Tebbit⁽⁶⁾, whose names
frequently appear on peal boards in the
belfry.

The first peal on the bells was 5120 changes
of Oxford Treble Bob Major, rung on the 25th
of October 1790. Five years later 5040 changes
of Double Norwich Court Bob Major were
rung, and on the 17th of February 1800, 5152
changes of Imperial the Third Major⁽⁷⁾.

These last two peals were notable performances
for the men of a small and remote country
village.

On November 20th 1809, eight members of the
Tebbit family rang a peal of Oxford Treble
Bob. The band consisted of three brothers -
Thomas, Robert, and Edward, with their
sons, one of whom Benjamin was only 15
years old.

In 1810 the ring was increased to ten bells
by John Briant of Heriford who also recessi

Osborn's two smallest bells. Robert 22
Tebbit at the time was churchwarden, and
his name appears on one of the bells.

Three peals were rung on the augmented
ring - 5040 changes of Excford Treble Bob
Royal in 1820, "in honour of the Queen's
acquittal; 5040 changes of Kent Treble Bob
Royal in 1821; and 5003 changes of Grandmere
Caters in 1830.

Three or more of the Tebbit family had
taken part in every one of these peals, but
when they gave up ringing the art very
quickly declined in the village, and for
very many years the bells were seldom
rung. ⁽²⁾

Throughout the eighteenth century the
Cambridge Youths continued to be an active
and leading society. ⁽⁵⁷⁾ They owed much to
men like Charles Mason and Richard
Dawes but most of all later on to John
Bowlill the bookseller, who was not only

a skilful practical ringer, but through 23
his friendship with Dr. Mason he was able to
preserve the latter's manuscripts, and so
hand down to future generations a lot of
valuable information of early composition.
He was also, it will be remembered, one of
the publishers of the Clavis.⁽²⁹⁾

In 1770 the ring at Great St. Mary's was
augmented to twelve, and on December 24th
in that year the Cambridge Youths rang
5610 changes of Grandine Cinques, thus
being the first provincial band to score
a peal on twelve bells. On January 29th 1773
they rang 5220 P. N. Royal, on November 10th
1774 5130 Grandine Caters⁽⁸⁾, and on Monday
January 21st, 1788, "a fine and exquisite
peal consisting of 6600 changes P. N.
Mascimus in 5 hours and 5 minutes
without a false change."

This was the third peal of Mascimus
which up to that time had been

achieved outside London, the Norwich 24
Scholars scoring the first with their 6240
changes of Oxford Treble Bob in 1788.

Bowtell rang the tenor to the Cambridge
feal and the bobs were called by C. Day. ⁽³⁰⁾

Bowtell also rang the tenor to two other
long feals - 6000 of Oxford Treble Bob Royal
in 1790 and 7002 of Grandine Caters in
1791.

Another feal rung shortly afterwards was
the Hollis Original conducted by James
Parlett of Kensington, ⁽⁹⁾ as related in
Chapter Fifteen. ⁽³⁾

It may be that the standard of striking
at Cambridge was not very high or possibly
that it deteriorated after these performances,
for Samuel Lee, who had learnt his ringing
in the Midlands, wrote to Samuel Laurence
that "the ringers are very far inferior to
your Birmingham friends; they ring Bob
Royal, Treble Ten and Caters, but rather

in an inferior style." D. Lee also remarked on the order in which the ropes hung, which is still left handed. "It is curious that those bells are hung in such a manner that the positions of the ropes in the belfry is contrary to any I have ever seen, which appeared very awkward to me. The bells are finely toned, 10 in number the ringing generally was not good." (31)

At Oxford the large amount of paid ringing at the College Towers kept the art alive in some measure, but no member of the University seems to have joined the ringers, and after John Vickers' failure in 1742 (3) only two or three peals appear to have been rung by local men until the nineteenth century.

All these peals were Grandure Cairns which was practically the only method

rung in the City. One was at New in 26
1775⁽¹⁰⁾, and another at Magdalen in 1781.
According to a report in the Cambridge
Chronicle and Journal, in 1774 two men
from that town visited Oxford, and with
eight of the Oxford youths rang 5058 changes
at Magdalen. There is no record of this
performance in the Oxford Peal Book.

In the North, although the great days
of Yorkshire peal ringing did not dawn
until the nineteenth century, the Bands at
Sheffield and Leeds gave some foretaste
of future achievements. The former rang
Treble Bob Major in 1785, Cambridge Surprise
Major in 1787, and Grandiose Caters in 1799.
The Leeds men rang Grandiose Caters in
1798⁽¹¹⁾ and Kent Treble Bob Royal in 1800.
This last was conducted by Joseph Fellos
who for many years was to be one of
the most prominent men in the County.

There was also a good band at Wakefield²⁷ who in 1788 rang a new Composed peal called Wakefield Delight consisting of 5040 changes in eight Courses, after which the same ringers "without setting a bell began another peal called Wakefield Surprise consisting of 5040 changes in twelve Courses", the whole performance including the raising and setting of the bells "taking seven hours and one minute." (6) (13)

In the far north, like outposts of the Excercise, were bands at Kendal and Newcastle, both of whom rang peals of Grand sire Triples, the one in 1796, the other (on Gateshead bells) in 1790. (12)

In the north Midlands there had been skilled bands both at Nottingham and at Leicester from quite early times. In the former town the Society of Northern Jouths were in existence in the reign of Charles II,

and appear to have been of good social 28
standing, possibly Nottingham men whose
connection with the Inns of Court took
them to London for a part of the year. ⁽¹³⁾

This society had long since lapsed,
and at the close of the eighteenth century
the leading company in the town was the
Sherwood youths, whose only connection
with the older body was that they recast
the five trebles which the others had given
to St. Peter's church.

The first peal by the Sherwood youths -
Grandiose Triples at St. Mary's - was in 1761
and from then until 1791 they rang about
eighteen peals consisting of Plain Bob Major
and Royal, Grandiose Triples and Caters,
Oxford Treble Bob Major and Royal, and
Double Bob Royal. Many of them were
at St. Mary's Nottingham, but the company
went peal ringing in several other towers
such as Gainsborough, Uppingham, Newark,

Mansfield, Grantham and Claythorpe. 29.

The most notable of these performance was 10,260 changes of Grand sire Caters rung at S. Champs on March 3rd 1778.

William Forney of Galby, a local squire, who was a lover of ringing, and whose name appears among the subscribers to Hollis's Broadsheet, had encouraged competition between the Nottingham

ringers and those of Leicester, by promising to give a set of Cup handbells to the first of the two bands to ring ten thousand changes of Grand sire Caters. The Leicester men were the first to succeed. They agreed

to go for the peal every Monday morning "and after a trial of several they completed their desire. Four times they rang eight thousand and once they rang nine thousand and then the man that rang the third

missed his pally and the peal was 30
lost. Another tryal took place on the 25th
day of February 1777 and 5000 Changes was
rung in the morning, and in the afternoon
of the same day, they compleated the great
peal of 10,080 Grandfire Changers in the
Tittoms in seven hours and twelve minutes (14)

How many times the Nottingham men
started for their peal we do not know, (33)
but they did not succeed until a year after
their rivals. For they gave each of the Companies
a set of handbells, which still exist (15)

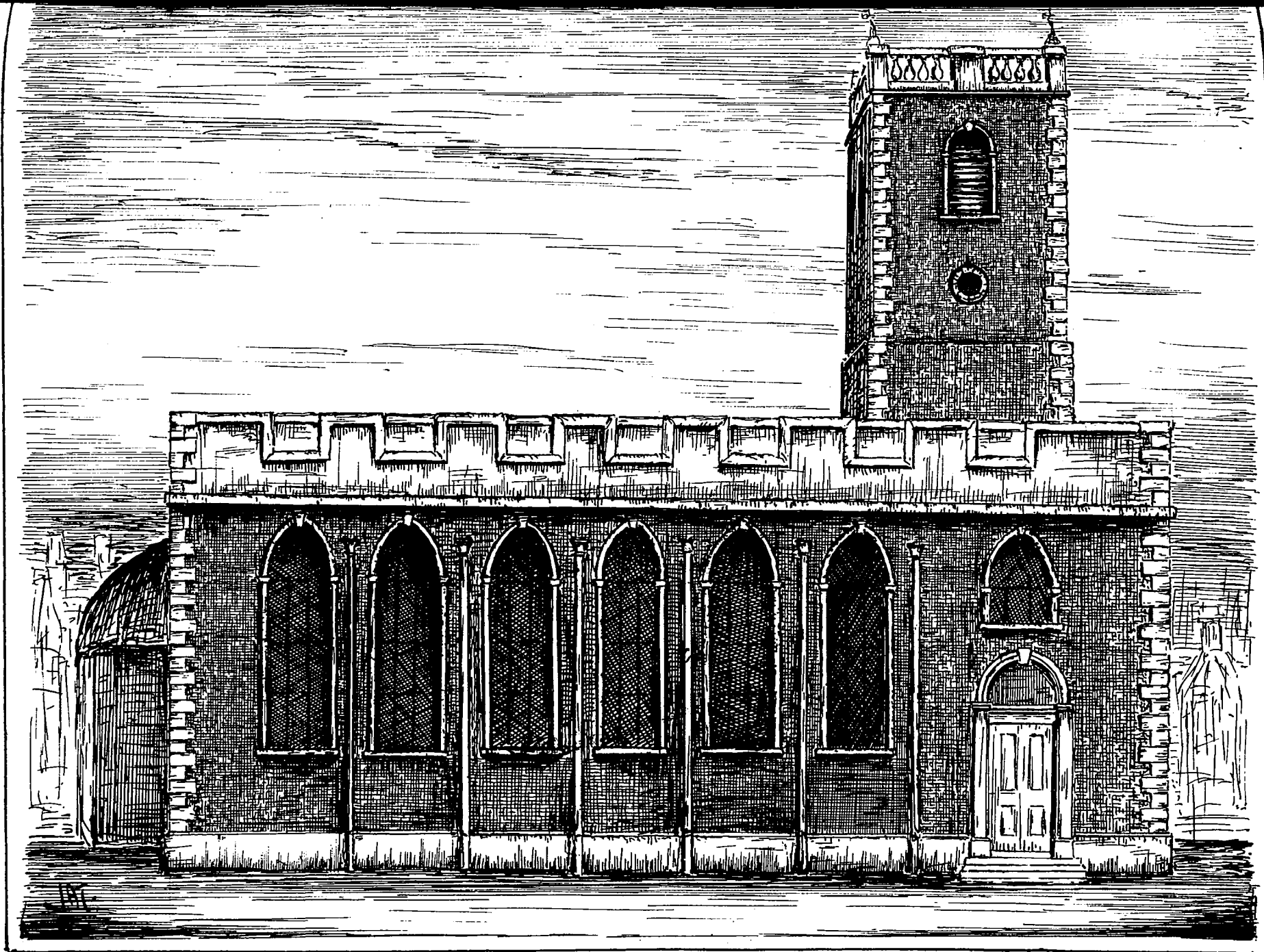
The bells were not the only reward that the
Leicester men received, for on the day after
the peal a procession was made through
the principal streets of the town and the
sum of over thirty-three pounds collected. (11)

The leading man among the Sherwood
Youths was William Double Brosie, the
attorney, whom I have already referred to

in connection with the visit of the College youths to Yorkshire in 1788.⁽¹⁶⁾ He left behind him some manuscripts which still exist, and are a valuable source of information on early ringing matters.⁽¹⁷⁾ The prosperity of the Thewood youths seems to have coincided with his ringing career.

Birmingham in the eighteenth century possessed three churches with rings of bells - St. Martin's, the old parish church, the chapel of St. John's, Deritend, and the new parish church of St. Philip's.

St. Martin's was of ancient foundation, though the church had been rebuilt and altered several times. In 1552 it possessed "iiiij belles wth a clock and a chyme." In 1682 these were increased to a ring of six with a tenor of 18 cwt,⁽¹⁹⁾ and later two pebbles were added. In 1758 Lester and Pack of Whitechapel supplied a ring of ten with a tenor of 36 cwt and in 1772 Pack and Chapman added two more to make up the full twelve.⁽²⁰⁾



ST JOHN'S CHAPEL, DERITEND.

St. John Terent, the chapel of ease, 32
had been founded as far back as 1382, but
the church was rebuilt in 1735, the steeple
being added in 1762.⁽²¹⁾ The eight bells were
cast in 1776 by Robert Wells of Aldbourne.⁽²²⁾

St. Philip's was a new parish, and the church
was erected between 1711 and 1715. The design
is said to have been largely copied from St.
Paul's Cathedral. Joseph Smith, of Edgbaston,
a local founder, supplied, first one or two
bells, and then in 1727 a full octave.⁽²³⁾ This
was replaced in 1750 by a ring of ten with
a tenor 29 cwt. by Thomas Lester.⁽²⁴⁾ William
Hutton, in his History of Birmingham,
says that "St. Martin's the mother church,
having then only eight, could not bear to
be outnumbered by a junior though of
superior elegance, and ordered twelve into
her own steeple."⁽²⁵⁾

At the neighbouring parish of Aston there
were bells, and in the late eighteenth
century and since the Belfry has played an
important part in the history of the

Birmingham Exercise

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When the inventory of the goods and ornaments of the church was made in the year 1552 there were in the steeple "V Bells, oon of them broken"; and as late as 1760 this number had not been increased. In 1775 Pack and Chapman supplied a full octave and in 1814 two trebles were added.

No account of any early ringing in Birmingham has survived, but we can hardly doubt that the town was one of the first in the provinces in which changes were practised. The present St Martin's Guild, following the statement in its peal book, dates its foundation from the year 1755 when the first recorded peal was accomplished; but though that may have been a time of more active life, it is unlikely that it was other than one of those revivals in spirit and activity which periodically happen in the history of ringing companies, usually as the result of the influx of new members or the inspiration of new leadership. There does

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not appear to have been a formal society with a well developed social side, such as were the Society of College Youths and the Union Society of Threwsbury, but it is pretty certain that at least from the closing years of the seventeenth century St. Martins possessed a company of ringers, and that an unbroken continuity has existed from the early days of change ringing until the present time. The statement in the peal book has very little historical value or authority. There had been a change ringing band when the old octave hung in St. Martins's steeple and quite possibly peals had been rung by them. Joshua Neale who took part in several later peals was 39 years old when the new ring was erected. He lived until 1812 when he was in his ninety-third year, and used to say that he himself had rung changes on the old bells. ⁽²⁶⁾

The first recorded peal in the town was 5040 changes of Bob Major at St. Philip's on September 16th 1755. Three men of the name

of Thompson (John, Joseph, and William), who probably were brothers, rang the front three bells; John Archer rang the fourth; Abraham Fleicher the fifth; Samuel Brooke the sixth; Humphrey Peck the seventh; and Andrew Yeake the tenor with William Smith to help him. No conductor is mentioned, but most likely Yeake called the bells.

From that time onwards there followed during the century a steady succession of performances. But the accounts of many of them are lost, for it was not until 1822 that an official peal book was kept by the society, and the older records had to be collected from written or oral information preserved here and there by private individuals.

Birmingham possesses but one eighteenth century peal board in all her bellies; whether there once were others which have since been destroyed I am unable to say.

Three years after the Bob Major at St. Philips the earliest known peal at St. Martin's

was rung. The method was Grand sire
 Caters and six of the earlier band took part
 John and William Thompson, John Archer,
 Abraham Fletcher, Humphrey Teak, and
 Andrew Teak. Joseph Neale rang the pible
 and Thomas Hadley the fifth. Hadley was
 one of the subscribers to the Clavis where he is
 described as an "esquire", which shows that
 socially he was in a better position than the
 rest of the company. Samuel Brooke was also
 among the subscribers to the Clavis.

The Grand sire Caters was composed and
 called by Andrew Teake who thus takes his
 place as the first in the long and distinguished
 line of Birmingham Composers and Conductors.

Sometime after this Teake left Birmingham
 and his connection with the St. Martin's Goutho
 came to an end. He took part in and probably
 called a peal of Grand sire Triples at Reddington
 in 1765, and afterwards went to live at
 Shipnal where he did good work as the

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first Conductor of the Albion Society, a company which achieved some distinction as a peal ringing band.

During the ten years which followed the Grandire Caters in 1758 no peal is known to have been rung in Birmingham, but it is difficult to believe that the time was a blank. All the members of the band continued to be active ringers and the St Martin's youths were steadily gaining the reputation of being the leading provincial company next to the Norwich Scholars. A good deal of interest in change ringing was taken in the town which led in 1772 to the ring at St Martin's being increased to twelve.

On August 29th 1768, 6210 changes of Grandire Caters were rung in 4 hours and 26 minutes. The band included Joseph Heale, Joseph and William Thompson, Samuel Brooke, Thomas Hadley, Abraham Fleicher, Humphrey Teck ~~and~~ John Archer and John Smith, all of whom had taken part in one or both of the

earlier performances. Two new names appear, Thineas Smith and Daniel Veisey, both of whom, and especially Smith were to be leading members of the society in the coming years.

John Archer had succeeded Andrew Peake as bob caller, and like him he called his own composition. The figures are lost and there must be a doubt whether at the time there was sufficient knowledge of proof to insure the truth of either peal.

As soon as the five trebles were added to St Martin's the company began to practise Grandeur Cinques and on June 3rd 1773 they rang 5324 changes, the third peal in the method achieved outside London, and the second by a provincial band. Five of the older members took part, Veisey, Brooke, Hadley, and John and Thineas Smith. Thomas Midlam, who rang the eleventh, was for some years the society's leading heavy bell man. Two men were needed for the tenor, James

Nock and John Miles. Both were afterwards active members of the Company and Miles called several peals.

John Archer was not in the band and his place as bob caller was taken by Phineas Smith, who for the next ten years was the principal conductor in the society. He too called his own composition. What it was like we have no means of knowing, but we may assume that it was on the lines of the peals of Caters then rung, in long courses with the big bells in the pitturns throughout.

Having rung Cinqes, the band would naturally next turn their attention to Mascimus, but the following peal on the bells was actually one of Bob Royal

on November 5th which

probably was a paid ringing day. Seven of the other band took part and Joseph Heale and John Archer stood in. Smith called from the eighth and Midlam rang the tenor single handed.

Meanwhile two peals of Grandnie Caters had been scored at St. Philip's, one of 5040 changes on August 17th, the other of 6246

changes on October 23rd. Smith called both ⁴⁰
from the seventh, Robert Teck, as usual, rang
the treble, John Miles the sixth, James Nock
the ninth, and Joseph Heale the eighth. Joseph
Littlewood, Richard Newman, and William
Kendall were also in both bands. Samuel
Brook rang the fourth to the six-thousand,
and in both feals there were two men to
the tenor.

One more feal was rung at St. Martin's
before the year closed. It was one of Grandmere
Triples and as the time taken was only two
hours and fifty-five minutes, evidently it
was on the front or middle eight. Thineas
Smith called from the second, a pretty
sure indication that the composition was
Hollis' Ten-part. We know from the Clavis
that it was "usual in most parts of the
kingdom for the bob caller to ring the
observation and call by the position of his
own bell", and it was that book which
popularised the plan of calling by the bobs
before. ⁽²⁸⁾

For nearly three years after these feals

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We have no record of any performances in Birmingham. No doubt some unsuccessful attempts were made for *Mascimus*, and no doubt there was a good deal of activity among the younger and more energetic members. It was the installation of the new rings at Aston in 1775, and St. John's, Deritend, in 1776 which gave a great stimulus to peal ringing in the district. At Aston a local band was formed, but the belfry was open to the St. Martin's Youths for peal ringing, and at Deritend the younger members had opportunities which were free from the restrictions imposed by the weights of metal and vested interests of the older men at St. Martin's and St. Philip's.

What seems to have been the first peal at Aston was one of Grand sire Triples rung on July 15th 1776. Thineas Smith called *Hollis Ten-part* from the second, and the band was made up from the regular St. Martin's Company — Robert Teck, John Archer, Samuel Veasey, John Miles, Joseph Neale, Thomas

Middleam, and James Nock.

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A fortnight later the first peal was rung at Scitend - 5040 changes of Bob Major. The band included three or four of the older men, - Littlewood, Neal, Archer, and Middleam, - as well as one or two new and interesting names. Stephen Hill who rang the sixth was a Kidderminster man who earned some amount of distinction by the adaptation of Hollis' Ten part peal of Grand sire Triples which contains ⁽⁸²⁾ only one single and runs to 5012 changes.

The tenor was rung by James Dovey of Bourbridge. Apart from the peals he rang nothing, I believe, is known of Dovey, but since he was able to travel about the country in pursuit of change ringing, and since he was invited to join the College Youths in their visit to Shrewsbury, it is evident that he was a man of some means and standing, perhaps a farmer or small country gentleman. It may be no more than a coincidence that the rector of Birmingham

in the year that the ten bells were installed was Richard Dovy, but it is at least possible that he and James Dovy were relatives and that it formed a link between the latter and St. Martin's belfry.

The peal at Deritend was conducted by John Miles, who now took his place as one of the Birmingham bob callers. He also conducted the next peal at Deritend, one of Grand sire Triples in the following September. It too was Holt's ten-part called from the second. John Archer, William Thompson, Phineas Smith, Richard Newman, Joseph Neale, James Nock, and Thomas Haring made up the band.

The first peal of Bob Maximus at St. Martin's was rung on October 25th 1779. It was the first in the method accomplished outside London, but the Norwich Scholars a little more than a year before had rung their 6240 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Maximus at Mancroft. The band

Consisted of Joseph Neale, Erasmus 44
Wilson, Richard Newman, Joseph Littlewood
Stephen Hill, Thomas Hadley, Philip Heath,
John Bristow, Daniel Veisey, Samuel
Green, Phineas Smith, James Dovey and
John Miles, the last two ringing the tenor
between them. Philip Heath was a
Shrewsbury man and a member of the
Union Society. ⁽³²⁾ The peal was composed
and conducted by Phineas Smith.

The next recorded performance by the
St. Martin's Youths was 5220 changes of
Coxford Treble Bob Royal at St. Michael's,
Coventry, on May 20th 1780, apparently the
first peal on the bells which had been cast
in 1774 by Pack and Chapman. Smith
again conducted, James Hock rang the
tenor, and the band was made up of the
regular members of St. Martin's company
including Stephen Hill. Two and a
half years later on October 7th 1782 the
first peal of Treble Bob Royal was rung
at St. Martin's by a band made up largely

from the same men. Samuel Brooke ⁴⁵
rang the fourth. He was the last of the
band who took part in the Bob Major in
1755 to stand in a peal

John Miles called Bob Major at Bewdley
in 1782 and Thineas Smith the same method
at King's Norton in 1783, and after that
neither seems to have had any ambition
to conduct peals though both remained
active ringers. The next performance at
St Martins was by a band of young men
none of whom seems to have been a member
of the regular company, but more than
one of them were to be active peal ringers
in the future. The peal was Hollis Ten
part and was conducted by John Black
from the second. ⁽⁸³⁾ Apparently it was the
only occasion on which he called a peal.
Charles Shuter rang the seventh. Soon
afterwards he took Thineas Smith's place
as the leading conductor in Birmingham.
The rest of the band was made up of Williams

William Martin, William Bennett, John 46.
Makenzie, Edward Harcourt and William
Cotton. Martin kept an account of the peals
he had taken part in, and as Osborn was
able to make a copy of it several records
have been preserved which otherwise would
have been lost. A man named William
Cotton joined the Society of Cumberland
Youths on August 7th 1786. He was probably
the same as the Birmingham ringer, but
there is no proof.

This performance was the beginning of a
period of active peal ringing, and the next
year, 1786, was an eventful one in the history
of the Birmingham Exercise. On February
12th Charles Shuter called his first peal, one
of Grandire Triples, at King's Norton, and
about the same time Samuel Lawrence
became a frequent visitor to Birmingham.

The band which had been formed at
Shipnal with Andrew Teake as conductor
contained several excellent ringers, but by
far the most energetic and enthusiastic

among them was Lawrence. He was born ⁴⁷ at Shipnal in 1762, and was a farmer by trade. His family probably were the owners of a prosperous business, and though he himself worked at the anvil, he had both the means and the leisure to spend visiting the bellies of the neighbouring towns and villages in pursuit of change ringing to which he was passionately devoted. It was natural that he should journey to Birmingham as often as he could, and both at St. Martin's and at Aston he was so frequent and so welcome a visitor that he was looked upon almost as one of the local band. It was at Aston on September 24th 1784 that he called a peal for the first time, one of Oxford Treble Bob Major. On October 1st 1786 he called at the same church 6016 changes in the same method with a band that included William Martin, William Bennett, John Mackenzie, John Black, and Charles Shuter, and on October 8th when the St.

St. Martin's Youths rang the first peal at 48
Solihull he called 5184 Changes of Bob Major

It was at this time that the College
Youths paid the visit to Birmingham
which I have referred to in my fiveelfth
chapter. Some of the visitors belonged to
the ancient Society of College Youths, and
some of them to the younger branch which
had been formed in 1757, and this visit
was part of an attempt to re-unite the
two sections into one company.

The London men arrived in Birmingham
towards the end of October, and on the
24th, twelve of them started at St. Martin's
for a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major.
It was a first class band made up of
some of the best ringers who have ever
belonged to the Society of College Youths,
and including John Povey, who probably
called the Cobs, John Reeves, William
Lyford, and Samuel Muggerridge the

tenor man.

They rang for two hours when the tenor clapper broke and so the peal was lost. Then the St Martin's men, to show what they could do, went to Aston and rang 5120 changes of Gocford Treble Bob Major.

Laurence rang the tenor and conducted, Phineas Smith the seventh, John Miles the sixth, Daniel Vesey the fifth, William Newman the third, Thomas Hadley the second and William Kendall the treble.

The fourth was rung by a man called John Cox who does not appear to have taken part in any other peals.

Nesci day the damage at St Martin's was put right and the College youths made another attempt for the peal. Outside listening was a young member of the Aston Company, ^{William Kendall by name} and in after years he used to talk of the ringing and say how excellent it was. All went well for nearly three hours and a half, and a peal

seemed certain when Stuggendge set 50
the penon and went and sat down, saying
that he was tired and would ring no
more. He had been opposed to the
fraternisation with the ancient society
and did not like ringing with its
members, so some of the others in the band
thought he had spoiled the deal purposely
and a heated altercation ensued, during
which William Jones, who had been
outside listening, came into the belfry.
He had been a prime mover in the
scheme for joining the two companies,
and when he heard what had happened,
in his anger and excitement he pulled
the feeble rope so hard that the bell was
thrown over, smashing the stay, and
ceasing itself, no one paying any attention
to the flying rope. Thus the Birmingham

visit instead of being the means of 57
healing the thirty year old schism in
the College Youths proved a decisive factor
in the break up and final disappearance
of the ancient society. ⁽³⁴⁾

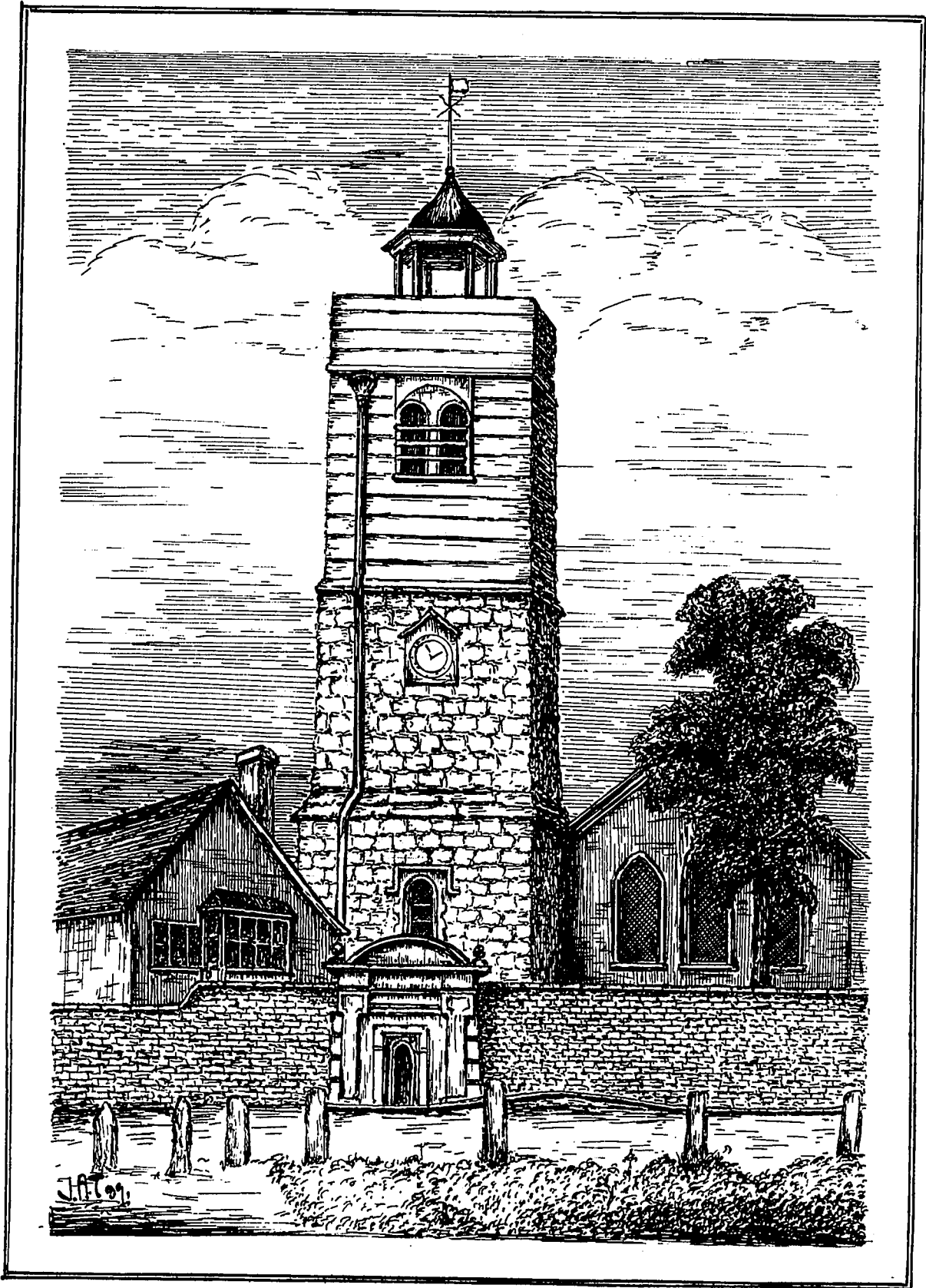
In supporting the visit to Birmingham
William Jones had another motive besides
the reunion of the two Companies. The
Clavis, on which he and John Reeves had
been working for several years, was now
nearly ready, and he was anxious to get
as much support for it as possible. He
could not hope to obtain methods and
Compositions from Birmingham as he
had done the year before from Norwich,
but he could look for subscribers and
there he was successful. Several Birmingham
men subscribed to the book including John
Cosc, Thomas Hadley, Thomas Midlam, and
Theineas Smith. There were also a Mr Francis

a Mr. Parsons, and a Mr. Slater, which ⁽¹²⁾ 52.
may be a misprint for Charles Shuter. Samuel
Brooke took as many as six copies, and
James Dovey, Samuel Lawrence and James
Hock, who by this time was living at
Shrewsbury, were also among the subscribers.
The book received a good deal of support
from other towns in the Midlands, notably
Shrewsbury and Wenlock.

A further result of the College Youth's
visit was that Samuel Lawrence went
to London for a while and lived at
Chelsea. We can hardly doubt that his
reason for so doing was to obtain greater
opportunities for practising change ringing.
He had heard the College Youth at St.
Martin's and he could see how much more
skilful they were than the local band. His
ambition was to be one of them and, as
we have seen, he was successful in his
ambition. Before he went up to London

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He stood in four more feals with the St. Martin's Youths. On November 26th he rang the tenor and called 6128 changes of Bob Major at Scitend, the next day 6590 changes of Grand sire Calers were rung at St. Martins, and a week after that 8027 changes. Charles Shuter called both feals of Calers from the ninth, Laurence rang the seventh, and the rest of the band was made up of William Martin, John Mackenzie, William Cotton, Joseph Benton, Edward Harcourt, John Black, and William Bennett. Two men were needed at the tenor in the six-thousand, and three in the eight-thousand, which seems to show that Samuel Mugggeridge had some justification in saying that he could not complete the feal of Mascimus single handed. None of the senior members of the St. Martin's Youths stood in the two long feals of Calers, and that may be the reason they are not recorded in the society's feal book. (35)

Just before the close of the year the same



men (except that James Hock took 54
the place of Joseph Benton) went to Warwick
and rang the first peal on the ten bells there.
The method was Grand sire Calers, and the
bobs were called by John Mackenzie.

During the next six years no peals are
known to have been rung at St. Martin's,
but in 1787 Thuler rang the tenor and called
two peals of Bob Major at St. Philip's, and John
Mackenzie called one of 6074 changes at
Aston; and on February, 16th, 1789, an excellent
performance was accomplished at Aston where
14,224 changes of Bob Major were rung in 8
hours and 45 minutes. Thuler conducted
from the tenor and the band was made up
of William Martin, William Brooke, John
Mackenzie, John Haycock, John Black, William
Cotton, and William Bennett.

The band, no doubt, thought they had rung
a record length, but actually it had been
exceeded twice in previous years, once in 1737
when Thilemon Manwaring turned West

Ham tenor in fo 15.120 changes of Bob 55
Major, and again, more recently, on January
4th 1784, at Oldham where 12,480 changes
had been rung, composed and Concluded
by Thomas Kay. It is likely that the
Birmingham men were influenced by the
lately published Clavis and did not believe
the West Ham peal had been accomplished,
and it is probable that they knew nothing
of the Oldham performance. There was however
a tradition that they intended to ring 15.120
changes and that Thuter found his task at
the tenor rather more than he could manage
and so shortened the peal ⁽⁸⁴⁾. This he could
easily do, for, though it is said to have been
his own composition, we may reasonably
suppose he was calling an ordinary three-part
5040, adding three Bobs with the tenor in 5th
to each course. He could omit so far the
tenors in the last four courses.

The peal is a rather striking confirmation
of Jasper Snowdon's theory that there is

(or at any rate was) a tendency to ring ⁵⁶
to ring long peals at a quicker rate than
short ones. ⁽³⁸⁾ The time taken was 8 hours and
45 minutes which is 27.09 changes a minute.
A little more than a year before Stutter had
rung the tenor to a six-thousand, also of
Bob Major, when the rate was 25.01 a
minute. The rate was almost the same when
other men were at the tenor. Laurence rang
the bell to a six-thousand of Treble Bob at
25.28 changes a minute, Miles to a five-
thousand at 25.47, and Midlam to a five-
thousand of Bob Major at 25.50. When the
next fifteen thousand was rung on the bells
the rate was 26.90. ⁽⁵⁷⁾

There had been a local company at
Aston apparently from soon after the bells
were opened, and towards the end of the
century under the leadership of Joshua
Short they became an active peal ringing
band. Short who was born in 1765 was
a farmer of Hutton, a hamlet two or three

miles to the north east of Aston, and ⁵⁷
he must have been a very powerful and
energetic man. One of the Company was
John Noonan, a shoemaker who afterwards
found his way up to London where he
joined the Junior Cumberland's Society
and became a leading ringer, Composer,
and Conductor. Whether he rang any peals
before he left Birmingham we do not know
for the records of almost all the peals rung
by the Aston men have perished. We
know that they scored many of Bob Major ⁽³⁶⁾
and on July 30th 1792 one of Grandson Major
7552 changes. ⁽³⁷⁾ They determined to beat
the long length the St Martin's Youths
had rung in their tower, and on October 15th
they made the attempt. ⁽³⁷⁾ After they had
rung fifteen thousand changes Joshua
Shore, who was calling from the tenor,
turned to the ringer of the seventh, William
Hassall, and asked him if he was willing

to go on for a twenty-thousand, but 58
Hassall's hands were getting sore and he
thought enough had been done, so the bells
were brought round at 15,360 changes.

It was an excellent performance. It
remained the longest length in any method
until 1868, when the College youths rang
15,840 changes of Kent Treble Bob at St.
Matthew's, Bethnal Green, and the longest
length of Bob Major until June 3rd 1933,
when the Hertford County Association rang
18,144 changes at Bennington. Aston tenor
weighed 21 cwt; Bethnal Green tenor weighed
14 cwt; and Bennington tenor weighs 13 cwt.

Meanwhile Samuel Lawrence had
returned to the Midlands from Chelsea.
However great might have been the
attraction of London ringing, he had family
and financial interests in Shipnal that
could not be neglected. During his
association with the College youths he had
taken part in the first peal of Hedman

Cinques, and when he returned home 59
he introduced the method to his Birmingham
friends, with the result that on October 25
1790, the first peal of Stedman Caters outside
London was rung at St. Philip's. Charles
Shuter conducted from the treble, and the
other ropes were taken by William Martin,
Joseph Littlewood, William Bennett, William
Cotton, Daniel Vasey, Alexander Saunders
Theinias Smith, Samuel Lawrence, and
Robert Farmer.

What composition he called we do not
know⁽⁵⁵⁾, but probably it was one of the two
in the Clavis⁽³⁹⁾, the number of changes, 5292,
being easily obtained by using one more G
set of three Cobs involving the seventh.

This was the beginning of the long
association of the St. Martin's youths with
Stedman. The Norwich Scholars had first
extended and practised the method, but its
popularity among the more skilful bands
during the nineteenth century and since
was due to the London men in the first

instance, and then, and in even greater degree, to the ringers and composers of Birmingham.

The failure of the College Youths in 1786 had left the first peal of Treble Twelve at St. Martin's still to be rung. This was accomplished on April 8th 1793 when Charles Thuler rang the tenor single handed and called 6000 changes with a band consisting of William Martin, Thomas Wilson, William Newman, Joseph Littlewood, Daniel Vesey, William Bennett, William Cotton, John Miles, Robert Farmer, Alexander Saunders, and Thomas Siddam. They were all members of the regular St. Martin's company and had no help from outside ringers such as James Dovey, Samuel Laurence and Philip Heath, as was the case with the Plain Bob Maximus, the Hedman Cairns, and others of their most notable performances.

It was Thuler's last peal and the last peal in the eighteenth century that

The St. Martin's men rang as a company. ⁶¹

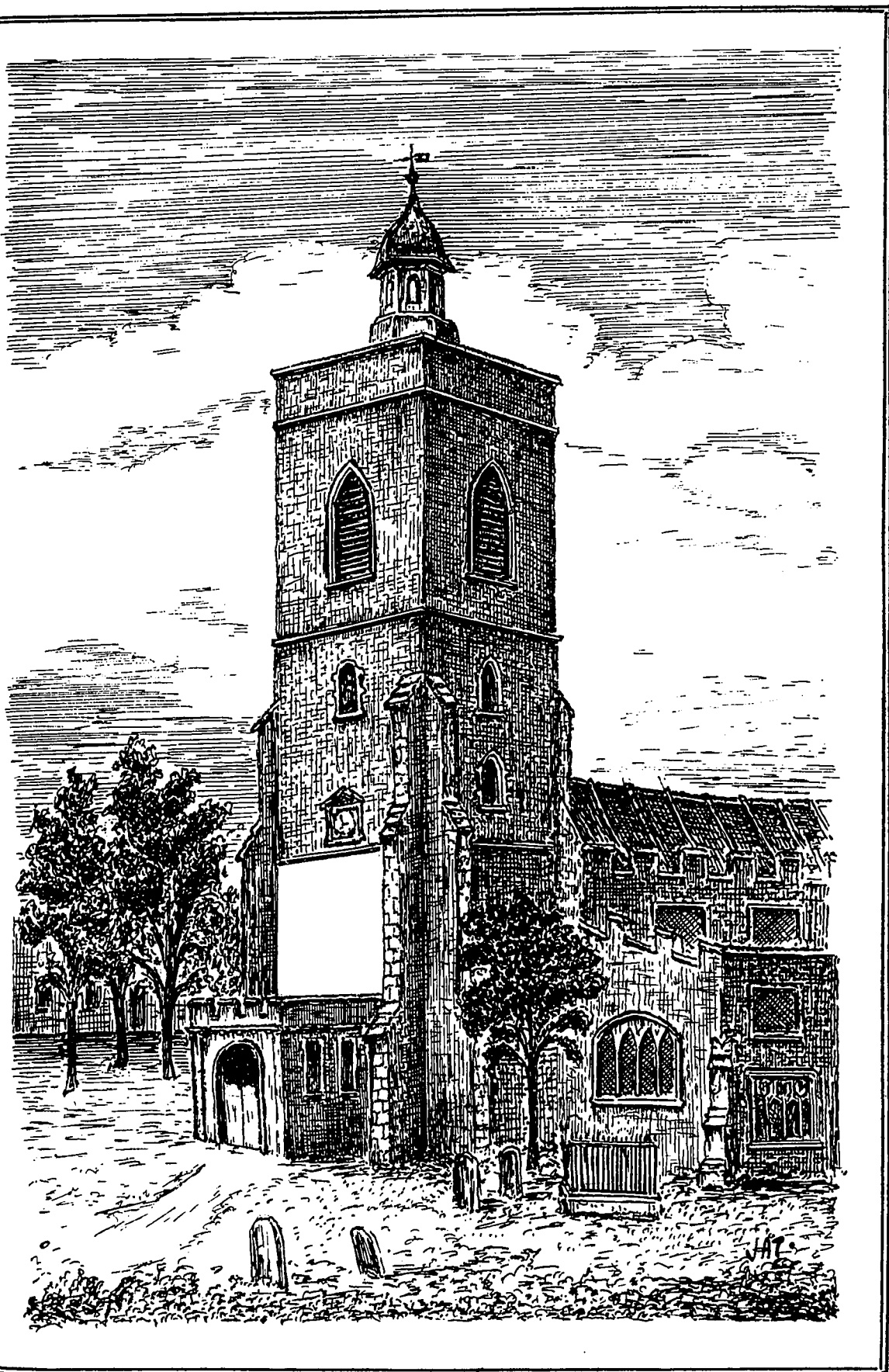
In the following year some of the younger members with one or two new men rang 8000 changes of Grandure Major at St. John's Deritend. Giles Fielding called the Cobs and the second was rung by Benjamin Ingh who afterwards during a long life was one of the most prominent and best known of the Birmingham ringers.

In 1798 John Miles reappeared as a Conductor and called a peal of Oxford Treble Bob at Aston; and in the very last year of the century we get the first notice of a man who afterwards earned a certain amount of fame as ringer, composer, and Conductor. Joseph Riley was a native of Burton-on-Trent and an upholsterer by trade ⁽⁴⁰⁾. He seems to have been of rather a roving disposition, and at different times lived in several different towns. In 1800 he was at Birmingham, and on March 2 he called at Aston Hollis' Original from

the pebble. In the following September 62
he went with a band of the St. Martin's Juniors
to his native town and repeated the
performance at the parish church of St.
Modwen there.

Joseph Riley was thus the fifth man
to call the Original and ring at the same
time. William Discon called it once or twice
at Horwich in 1752; Charles Baron called
it at Laffron Walden in 1753 and again
in 1754; James Bartlett called it at St
Giles-in-the-Fields in 1791, and several times
afterwards; and the elder George Gross
called it at Watford in 1798.

Not only in Birmingham itself but
also in the neighbouring towns and villages
there were during the closing years of the century
considerable ringing activity and a number
of good bands; and as there was a fair
amount of intercourse between them they
reacted on each other and by emulation and
to a certain extent by cooperation did much
to encourage peal ringing



ST. DUNSTON'S, STEPNEY, IN 1792.

At Stourbridge was a company called
 the Chapel Youths from the fact that St Thomas's
 church was originally a chapel of ease to the
 ancient parish church of Oldswinford. These
 men on October 12th ¹⁷⁷⁵ rang at Walsall "single
 handed the first true peal of 5040 Bob Majors
 in 3 hours and 10 minutes to the General
 Satisfaction of the Inhabitants." The bells,
 a new ring by Rudhall, had just been opened
 by several bands from Birmingham and
 elsewhere. (41)

Two years earlier on November 8th 1773, the
 society rang at their home tower a quarter
 peal of Bob Majors 10,080 changes in six hours
 twenty minutes. Samuel Green conducted
 and James Dovey rang the tenor. Dovey
 evidently was the leading man in the Company
 and he called 6608 changes of Bob Major in
 1774 and 5088 changes of Treble Bob in 1778.

The Chapel Youths probably had other
 performances to their credit. Their records
 survived until recent times and are said
 to be still in existence. But the book has

been lost sight of. (44)

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The most notable man among the Stourbridge ringers besides Dovey was Thomas Edwards the earliest of the long list of famous composers who have arisen in the Birmingham district. He was the first man to produce a feat of Stedman Triples which we know to have been true. It was rung at St. Mary Abbots, by the Kensington men who also rang a feat of Grandine Triples ^{by him} which had a call - bob, single or double - at every lead. The 6608 of Bob Major called by Dovey in 1774 was obviously the essent of the method with the tenors together and without bobs. Such a feat could then only have been produced by an exceptionally clever man. It may have been John Reeves's, but until the Clavis was published in 1788 there is no reason to think that his compositions were known outside London, and it is more likely to have been the work of Edwards. He does not appear to have stood himself in any feats, and

we look in vain for his name among 65
the local records. The Hedman Triples is
said to have been composed in the year 1792. (43)

At Walsall there was a company called
the Union Society, and in 1788 they rang
6000 changes of Bob Major conducted by
Joseph Slater who called other peals for them.

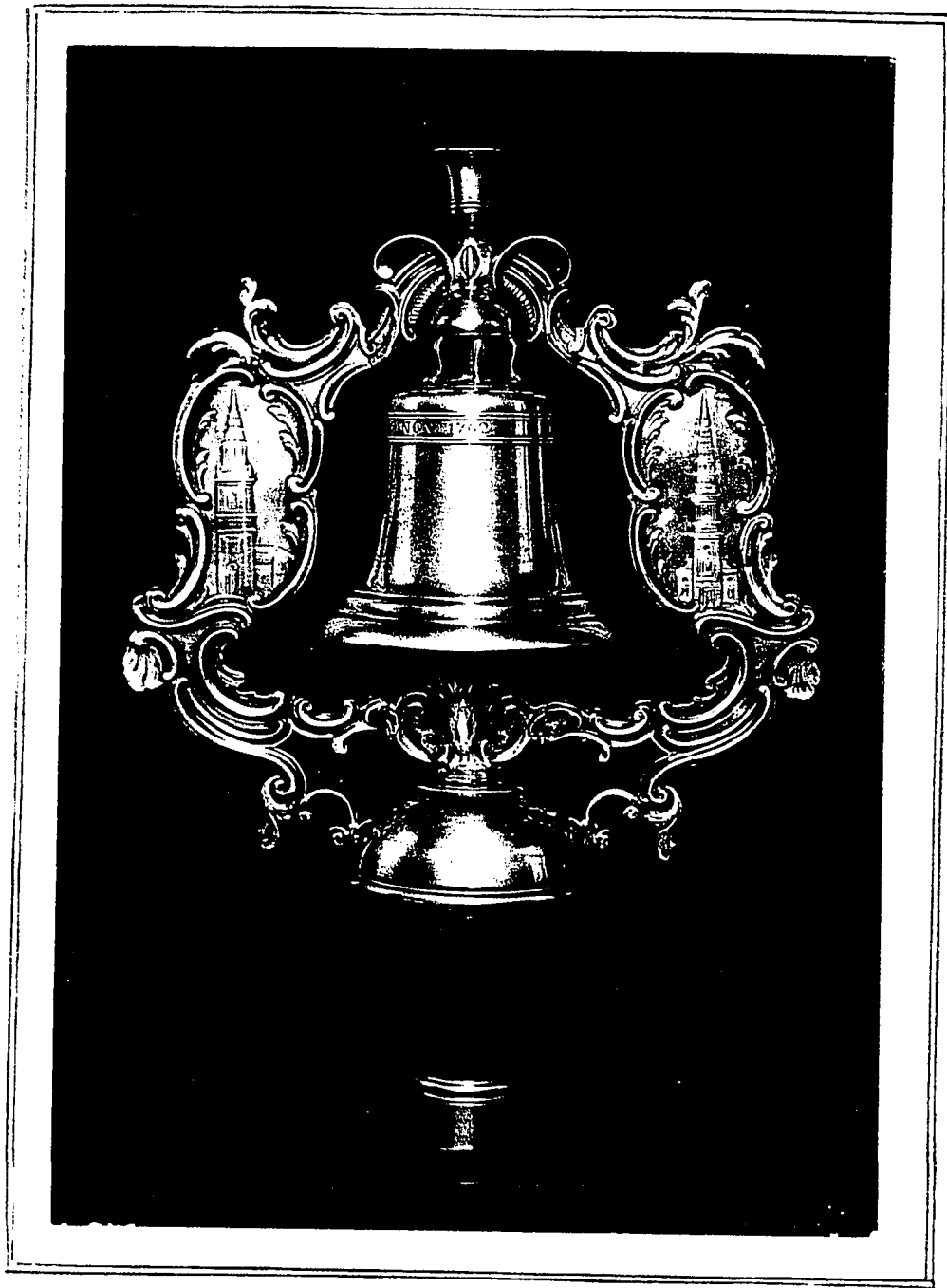
Worcester possessed a band skilful
enough to ring at All Saints on November
24th 1774, 1326 Grandire Colours. A rather
curious incident in connection with this
peal was related by the Worcester Journal
which stated that "a certain person concerned
in the peal dreamed the preceding night
that the Tenor Clapper fell out as the Bells
came round, which really happened, to the
great surprise of the Company, the person
having declared it before they went into
the Tower." (44)

At Oswestry was the Anacreontic
Society, a body very similar in character
to the Union Society of Shrewsbury. Founded

probably as a ringing Company by 66
leading townsmen (it included three or
four clergymen and three or four army
officers), it existed very largely as an
ordinary social club, a "band of Jolly
Fellows who met together at the George
Inn, and used to discuss the topics of the
day without reference to the Greek poet whose
name they adopted" ⁽⁴⁶⁾

The society rang at least one peal - Holli-
ten part of Grand sire Triples on March 3rd
1785 conducted by Robert Patter. The seventh
was rung by Baldwin Lloyd, a clergyman
who possibly was a brother or relative of
Robert Lloyd of Shrewsbury, who was an
honorary member of the club, as also were
Richard Cross, and several of the Shrewsbury
men, as well as Samuel Lawrence and
others from the surrounding district,
some of them no doubt ringers.

As early as May 3rd 1731 "y^e Inhabitants
of y^e Town" had rung at Oswestry "the
whole Scale of Triples."



COLLEGE YOUTHS' BEADLES' STAFF.

I have already told the story of the 67
Union Society of Shrewsbury down to the
opening of the twelve bells and the visit of
the College Youths in 1798. It was then at
the height of its prosperity, and was an
outstanding example of that combination of
social club and ringing company which was
so distinctive a feature of the best part of the
Exercise in the eighteenth century. Much of
its success in peal ringing was due to
Richard Cross who for several years was its
leader and principal bob caller.

The College Youths had rung the first
peal on the new bells at St Chad's and the
local men set themselves the task of surpassing
it. This they did on November 25th 1799, when
they accomplished 6006 changes of Grandine
Cinques in 4 hours and 27 minutes. Cross
called from the second, Richard Widding
the schoolmaster of High Ercall, rang the
sixth, Thomas Groves was at the seventh,
and Robert Lloyd at the eleventh. William

Bull, who rang the third, was, next to 68
Cross, the leading conductor in the company.
John Perrett rang the tenor single handed. (109)

Two months later the band, again with
Cross as bob-caller rang 5000 changes of
Oxford Treble Bob Royal, when Richard
Wilding turned the tenor in without help.

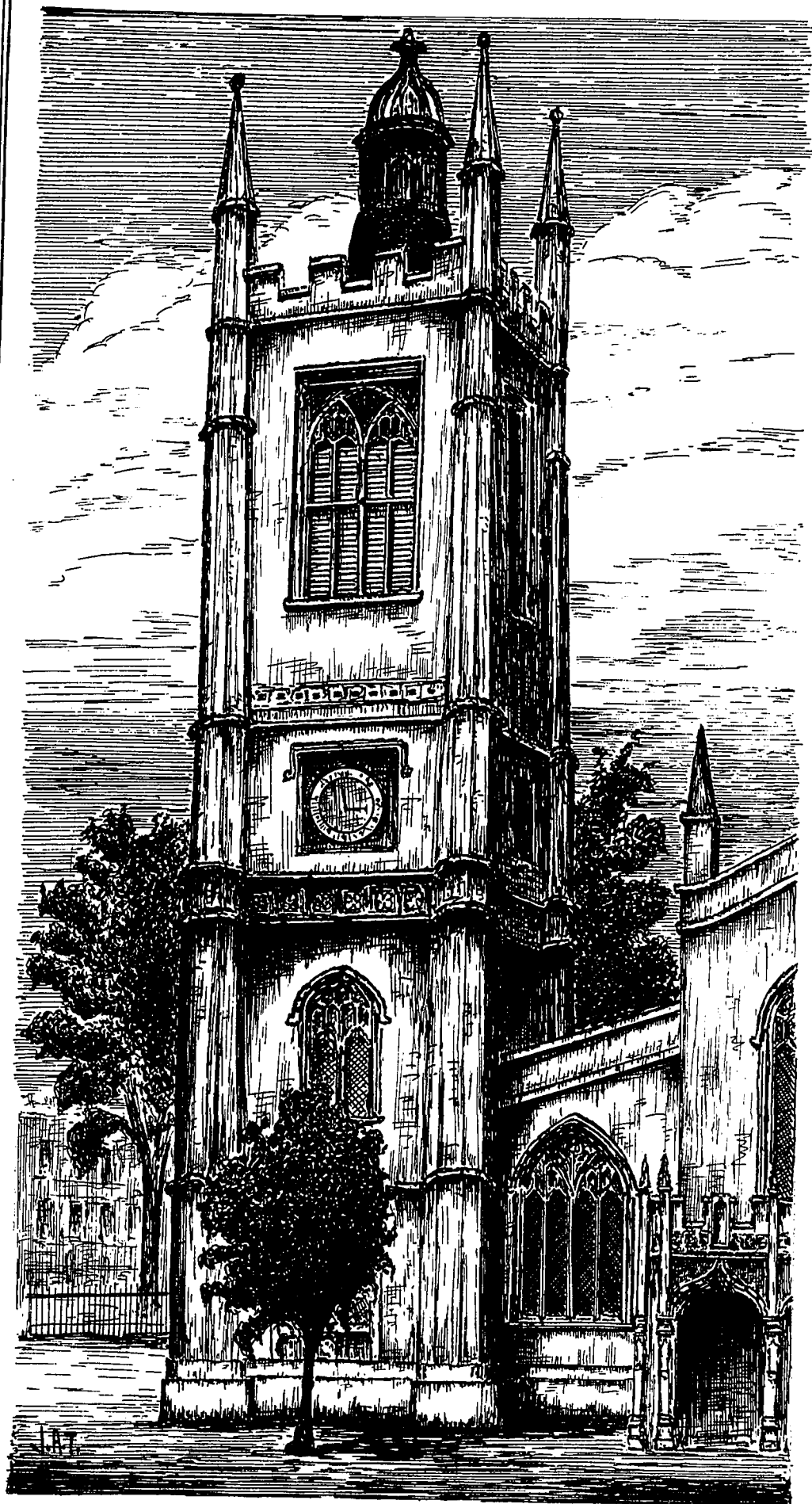
In 1803 a band belonging to the Union
Society, and made up partly by Shrewsbury
men and partly by some of their outside
members, went to Wrescham, and on June 27
rang the first peal of Caters in Wales. Richard
Cross called from the treble, and the other
ringers were Samuel Lee, James Hartshorn,
James Dovey, Robert Rawlings, James Lee,
Thomas Hill, Joseph Riley, and Samuel
Lawrence.

Samuel Lee was the most distinguished
man who was a member of the Union
Society and one of the most remarkable
men who have ever been members of the
Exercise. He was born in the year 1783
of poor parents, at Longnor, eight miles

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Shrewsbury and received his only
education at the charity school in that
village. At the age of twelve he was
apprenticed to a Shrewsbury Carpenter
and he worked at that trade until he
was twenty five years old and was married.
Then a fire broke out in a house he was
repairing which destroyed his chest of books
and with them, as he said afterwards, all
his views and hopes were destroyed. He
was now "cast on the world without a
friend, a shilling, or even means of subsistence"
During these years he had developed an
extraordinary love and aptitude for classical
and oriental languages. He learnt first
Latin, then Greek and Hebrew and followed
them up with Chaldee, Syriac, Arabic,
Persian and Hindustani, - a marvellous
record for a man entirely self taught
who had to buy his books with the little
he could save out of his wages of a few
shillings a week. He could only do so

by buying one book at a time and ⁷⁰
selling it, when he had read it, to find
part of the money to buy a new one.

The fire which destroyed his tools was
really the turning point in his life. In
his extremity he could think of no other
means of earning a living than to apply
for a schoolmaster's job, and through the
influence of Archdeacon Corbett he was
appointed a teacher in Bowlder's Foundation
School in Shrewsbury. ⁽⁴⁷⁾ After a time the
Church Missionary Society, in order to make
use of his gifts of languages, sent him to
Cambridge, where he was entered at Queen's
College in 1813. He graduated B.A. in 1815
and afterwards took holy orders. He became
Professor of Arabic in 1823. and Regius Professor
of Hebrew in 1831; and in 1833 the University
conferred on him the degree of Doctor of
Divinity, at which time he was said to
have been master of eighteen languages.



He held one or two benefices at times 71
in the Church, including a canonry in
Drisild Cathedral. He died on December
16th 1852 at Parley in Hertfordshire, of
which village he was rector.

Samuel Lee was still only a journeyman
carpenter when he learned to ring. His love
of the art was a deep and genuine one, and
so long as he remained in Shrewsbury he
was an active, though relatively unimportant,
member of the Union Society with whom he
took part in four peals, all of them Grandire
Caters. James Lee, who rang the eighth
at Mescham, was his half brother.

On Monday December 6th 1802, 5058
changes of Grandire Caters were rung at
St. Chad's "forming a selection of the most
harmonious changes, with 5, 2, 4, 6 behind
the 9th in regular succession, being
the first time 5000 ever rung on those
bells in the method." (48) It was composed

and conducted by William Bull⁽¹²⁾, who 72
six years later on Tuesday, April 5th 1808
called 10.097 changes in the same method
"which if surpassed by future practitioners
will stand as a memorial that their
predecessors were not deficient in skill
and perseverance." ⁽⁴⁹⁾ Surpassed it never has
been on St Chad's bells nor in the method
on any other bells of the same weight. The
tenor however was rung double handed.
Samuel Lee rang the sixth, Richard Cross
the eighth, and Richard Wilding the tenth.

In the following year Cross called a
peal of Oxford Treble P.B. at Dolgelly in
Merionethshire, where a new ring of eight
had been supplied by Mears of Whitechapel.
On September 25th John Hints called a
peal of Grandine Triples and the Treble
P.B. was rung on the following day.

About this time the Union Society
proposed to add two trebles to the octave

at St. Mary's, Shrewsbury. They could 73
not however raise the full amount and the
balance was made up by the parishioners.
The bells were opened on September 2nd 1811,
when a peal of Grand sire Galois, 5219 changes,
was rung by a band consisting of George
Gem, Edward Roberts, George Roberts, Samuel
Lee, Robert Rawlings, Charles Ravenscroft,
William Bull, James Lee, Robert Lloyd,
and William Eledge. William Bull called
the Cobs and Richard Cross stood out of
the band, but on the next day he took
part in a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal
with a picked band made up from several
companies. Stephen Hill rang the treble,
James Dovey the eighth, and Samuel
Lawrence the tenor. Samuel Moss from
Ashion-under-Lyne was at the ninth, and
the middle bells were rung by men from
Sheffield - Henry Grayson, William Hudson
Joseph Grayson, William Booth, and
Samuel Shire. Booth conducted. He

was then in his fifty-eight year, ⁷⁴
a Culler by trade and the leading man
in the Sheffield company which was
taking a leading position among peal
ringing bands. He was the grandfather
of Charles Henry, and Thomas Hattersley
who became so well known at the end of
the nineteenth century. Booth probably
called his own composition, for he had
some merits as a composer of Treble B⁵¹
Royal; and so had William Hudson,
then a young man twenty years old.
Hudson is today best known in
connection with the sixty course ends
of Hedman Triples.

The year after St. Mary's bells were
increased to ten a new octave was hung
at St. Alkmund's and the opening peal
was 5280 changes of Oxford Treble B⁵¹
composed and conducted by Charles

Ravenscroft. ⁽⁵⁶⁾ ⁽⁷³⁾ James Lee rang the third, 75
and William Bull the fourth.

In 1813 Richard Cross called Treble Bob
Royal at St. Mary's and Treble Bob Maximus
at St. Chad's, Samuel Lawrence ringing the
tenor on both occasions. These seem to have
been the last peals in which Cross took
part. The blight which had fallen on
the Exercise all over the country had badly
affected the Union Society and its palmy
days were over. About this time it was
dissolved and re-founded on less exclusive
lines. Other changes were made in 1823 and
subsequently "the respectable members of the
Society gave it up, and bell ringing in
Shrewsbury fell into the hands of a low lot
whose only motives for ringing were the
money and the ale its practice brought
them" ⁽⁵²⁾

Two letters (to which I have already
made reference) from Samuel Lee to Samuel
Lawrence afford incidental evidence of the

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decay of change ringing both in
Shropshire and in Cambridge, as well as
throwing a very pleasing light on the characters
of both the writer and the recipient of the
letters. On November 29th 1817. Lee
acknowledging a letter from Lawrence and
"the present which followed it", refers to some
controversy in which the other had been
engaged with some ringers, and which had
obviously taken a very rancorous turn.
Unfortunately there is no clue to what it
is about. Lee then goes on "your
Conversation and papers revived in, a
small degree my former love for the
Exercise, inasmuch that I was tempted
to ascend the bell-tower of Cambridge and
to ring a bell in a short touch of Bob
Royal. I found I had not quite forgotten
it. But whether these bells went extremely
ill, or whether my want of practice was
the cause, I know not, but my arms
fell so excessively strained that I could

scarcely do anything for a short while ??
after."

Four years later Lawrence sent Lee the broadsheet which had been printed to advertise the long peals of Treble Twelve and Piedman Cinques rung at St Martin's Birmingham, and Lee, replying, says -

"Accept my best thanks for your kind letter with your notices of the truly Herculean tasks in which you have lately borne a part. I suppose with you that it will stand for some time an untouched dish ⁽⁵³⁾, perhaps for ever. I had no idea Birmingham could boast so good a set of change ringers." He extends a welcome to Lawrence should he be able to visit Cambridge. "You will find a good peal of bells here. The ringers are very far inferior to your Birmingham friends. They ring 3 or Royal, Treble Ten, and Calers, but rather in an inferior style."

That was in 1821 when John Bowtell, 78. Charles Day, John Sanders, Peter Spenceley, and the other men who had put the Cambridge Youths among the leading peal ringing companies were either dead or had long since retired, and only the dregs of a fine band were left.

It was the same tale in Shrewsbury "When you see your Salop friends, write D. Lee, "pray remember me to them. I saw them in the summer. Change-ringing seems to have deserted Salop entirely."

James Lee had become mentally deranged. He suffered from delusions, and was confined in a home. "I am sorry to say my brother remains as usual, nor is there any hope of his being otherwise."

D. Lee asks Lawrence when you see Mr. Riley or Mr. Dovey "to remember me respectfully to them" "Mr. Dovey I find is as much interested as ever in the science and I am apprehensive your zeal does

by no means abate." (54)

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The existence of the Union Society of Shrewsbury seems to have come to an end with the retirement of Richard Cross. For some time it had been on the down grade and its final ending appears to have been abrupt. It was not merged into the very different class of men who thenceforth did what ringing was done in Shrewsbury. Some relics of it survived until the closing years of the nineteenth century. At Mr. P. Cross probably a descendant of Richard Cross had in his possession an upright silver drinking cup which had formed one of a set presented to the society by one of the members. Another was in the possession of a Mr. T. Morgan, who also had a set of thirteen handbells. (74) Morgan's father was the last survivor of the Society.

I have carried the story of the Union Society a long way beyond the chronological limit set for this chapter because the society, in everything except time, belongs entirely to the eighteenth century. It was a worthy representative of a phase in the Exercise which in its time gave many good results, but which served its purpose and passed away. The Union Society of Shrewsbury left behind it a name and directly nothing else.

The Albion Society of Shifnal had a long and not undistinguished existence which it owed in no small degree to Samuel Lawrence. Andrew Yeake called the first peal, one of Grandmere Triples, in 1774, and between then and 1845 there was a steady succession of performances, none of them of any particular interest until towards the end when peals of Treble Bob and Steadman Triples were achieved. In 1785 10080 changes of Bob Major were rung, and in the next year 6608 of the same method. Lawrence rang the tenor to the first and the fifth

is the other. Teake called the first four or five peals by the society and then gave way to Thomas Clemson. Clemson with Laurence and two others of the society, John Nock, and John Debney, in 1785 rang 1008 changes of Bob Major on handbells, double handed, each man being in a different part of the house, out of each others' sight, but of course not out of each others' hearing. Freak ringing of this sort is of very little interest in the general story of the Exercise, but in this case it is evidence of the development of handbell ringing, though as yet no peal had been accomplished.

In 1786 the Albion Society rang the first known peal on the bells of Saint Peter's Wolverhampton, one of Bob Major composed and conducted by Samuel Laurence. In the same steeple on April 21st 1794 the Aston Band rang 6080 changes of Grandeur Major conducted by Joshua Short.

In our survey of ringers and ringing 82
during several centuries we have discovered -
I will not say a solution to the problem
set by the rise and development of so peculiarly
incongruous and illogical a combination
of ecclesiastical ritual and secular sport
as is presented by the ringing Exercise - but,
at any rate, a reasonable explanation of
how such a thing came about so far as
understanding and explanation are possible
of a process which took place so gradually
and with so little deliberate intentions
on the part of those who were engaged in it.
Given the use of ringing (as distinct from
chiming and knolling) in the service of
the Church; and given the character of
Englishmen and especially of young Englishmen
in the fifteenth century it was natural
enough that what was done ostensibly
as part of the church ritual should have
appealed to the ringers as something to be

done for its own sake and because they ⁸³
liked doing it. That has been the spirit
in which ringers have rung the bells all
down the ages, and still is. The secularisation
of the art and its divorce from the service
of the Church, which is so noticeable in the
seventeenth and eighteenth centuries
and which was regarded as such a scandal
by the reformers of the nineteenth century,
was not due to any change in the attitude
of the ringers themselves from what it had
been in pre-reformation times. It was due
to the fierce opposition of the puritans to
anything which in their eyes savoured
of the "paganism of popery", an opposition which
effectually prevented ringers from devoting
their art to the service of religion, and
so threw them back on purely secular
motives. Thus the life of the Exercise
from the earliest times until today has

87+

been a consistent whole. It is not the ringers, but outside and Church opinion that has altered, and more than once. Equally inevitable and logical has been the rise and development of change ringing from the raising and falling and round ringing of early days.

But when we try to examine the causes that led to advance at one time and decline or stagnation at another, and especially when we enquire why the art generally flourished in one part of the country and in another scarcely made any headway through the centuries we are faced with a problem that seems insoluble. So far as individual towns or individual bands are concerned, the personal factor enters largely into the matter, and the personal factor is incalculable. But when we are dealing with wide

districts or prolonged periods of time 85
the influence of the individual is levelled
down by the Law of averages. A Garton
or an Arncliffe may account for the
ascendancy of the Norwich Scholars or
the College Youths at a particular time
but we must look for other reasons why
in the Eastern Counties and the Home
Counties, change ringing flourished so
much more than in the West and in
many other parts of the country. For the
seventeenth century the influence of the
ringers at the Universities and the Inns
of Court was probably the decisive factor,
and, as I pointed out just now, the men
of the large towns had advantages not
enjoyed by the men of the villages and
small towns.

But when all that has been said, there
seems no reason why in the development
of change ringing the West should have

lagged so far behind the East. There 86
were as many bells in Devon and Cornwall
as in Norfolk and Suffolk, the people
thought as highly of them, and ringing
was as popular there as elsewhere. We
have seen that in Edward VIth's reign
the Council issued an order confiscating
the bells of the two counties, ⁽⁵⁸⁾ but leaving
the matter largely to the discretion of
Lord Russell, the army commander; and
that in fact the bells were not taken
down. The reason seems to be that the
bells held so large a place in the
popular affection that their confiscation
would have provoked an outbreak. All
through the following ages that affection
was not diminished and to day there
is no part of the Country where the bells
are more highly valued than in Devon

and Cornwall. In the last quarter of 87
the nineteenth century ringing died out in
a very large proportion of the Norfolk villages.
But the bells of the far west were never silent.

Yet for all these things change ringing
never took root in the West. Fifty years
ago the men of Devon and Cornwall were
ringing in exactly the same way, and
handling their bells in exactly the same
style as their forefathers had done in
the sixteenth century. There was raising,
round ringing, and ceasing, done, according
to general report, with a very high precision
of striking. The bells were seldom rung up
to a set full and, though stays and
sliders had been in many cases fitted,
they were really, not needed. Even Honey
the degraded form of the old Plain Changes
was slow to appear in the West, and the
devoted attempts of such men as Colonel
Troyle, H. T. Ellacombe and Mailland

Kelly to introduce elementary change 88
ringing had a very partial and qualified
success.

We are inclined to attribute this to the
Conservatism of the people and the remoteness
of the district. But they do not afford an
adequate explanation. The Norfolk villages
in the eighteenth Century were just as
remote as the Devon villages of the nineteenth
Century, and the inhabitants no more
intelligent. Perhaps we may find the
real reason in racial characteristics;
the Celtic people of the West may have
derived far more aesthetic pleasure from
the actual sound of the bells than did
the more prosaic men of the East, who
needed the stimulus of change ringing to
keep their interests from flagging.

Very different from the conditions
in Devon and Cornwall were those in
the great and wealthy city of Bristol.

That town with its many churches and scores of bells we should have expected to be one of the earliest and most important centres of the art. Actually it was not so. The "pleasure" ringing of the early seventeenth century, to which the existence of the Society of St Stephen's, bears witness, did not develop into change ringing as it did in London and Norwich; or at any rate so far as it did develop, did so slowly. Some change ringing there was in the 18th century, but only two peals are known to have been rung in the city before the year 1800, one of Oxford Treble Bob Major at St Mary-le-Port in 1782; the other of Grand sire Triples at All Saints in 1791. We must not, of course, assume that there were no others.

In 1783 a band of the Bristol Society rang a peal of Grand sire Triples at Almondsbury when the bobs were called

by Charles Purser. What he was 90
doing at the time in Gloucestershire we
have no means of knowing. Earlier in
the year, ^{he} had rung the pebble to the peal
of Cambridge Surprise at St Giles in the
Fields, and for eight years after that
his name does not appear in any performance
by a London company. Little likely he
lived for a time in Bristol and that
would account for his not being among
the subscribers to the Clavis.

The ringer of the sixth at Almondsbury
was William Williams. The name is a
rather common one, but it is reasonable
to conclude that he was a young man
deeply fond of ringing who, like two
other provincial ringers about this same
time, went up to London in search of
greater opportunities of practising the
art, and, like them, joined the Junior
Society of Cumberlands. Williams

like John Hoonan and William Shipway⁹¹ made his influence felt in the London Exercise.

At Bath there had been a change ringing band as early as the middle of the Century, and in 54 James Allion took part with them in a peal of Union Triples. In Shipway's time there was, he says, in the city, "a respectable and able band," who could ring Treble Bob Royal, but his praise is distinctly qualified for he adds "the Art did not improve so rapidly as he wished."

Much the same thing could probably have been said with truth about most of the belfries in the district but there was one striking exception. Nowhere throughout England is there a town or village where change ringing has been cultivated more assiduously over such a long period of years than at Painswick

At no other place except Appleton 92
have so many long lengths been scored.

As early as 1731 the whole peal of Triples was rung twice within the year, and the performance was repeated in 1733. In 1734 8064 changes of Grand sire Caters were rung followed by 10,080 changes, and in 1737, the same year that the Norwich Scholars accomplished their peal of 12,600 changes, the Gainswick Youths rang 12,006.

After 1737 there is a long break in the records, and it is not until the early years of the nineteenth century that the list of known peals begins again, but it is not at all likely that the interval was a blank and the local interest in change ringing was stimulated by competition with the band at the neighbouring tower at Stroud, where in 1722 one of the very earliest recorded peals of Grand sire Triples was rung.

At Cirencester where the third ring of twelve bells in England had been completed in 1722 ringing was popular among the better

class townsmen during the eighteenth 93
century but they accomplished no feats. We
may perhaps assume that there existed a
society similar to the Anacreontic Society
of Opvestry and the Union Society of
Shrewsbury but that the presence of any
leader of the type of Richard Cross or Samuel
Laurence was lacking. Samuel Blackwell
the Member of Parliament for the town, was
a great patron of ringing and it was by his
invitation that the College youths rang the
first peal on the twelve bells. No doubt
he did much for change ringing in the
district, but patronage alone will not make
a good band.

C. H. Lusk speaks of "records of remarkable
performances preserved in many Wiltshire
belfries as at Aldbourne, ⁽⁸⁵⁾ ⁽³⁹⁾ Bradford,
Trowbridge, &c." which from the context, we
may assume to have been rung in the
eighteenth century, but all accounts of
them seem now to have disappeared.

My object in this chapter is to make a ⁹⁴ general survey of the stage to which the development of the art of change ringing had reached in the provinces at the close of the eighteenth century, and except for so far as it is necessary for that purpose I do not intend to give details of the peals rung in the various belfries throughout the country. But something must be said about the activities of the bands that existed in the Home Counties and the environs of London, for they did to a greater or less extent influence London ringing and were influenced by it.

Before the year 1751 there had been a heavy ring of six bells at Horsham the tenor of which is said to have weighed 36 cwt. ⁽⁶¹⁾ In 1752 they were recast by Lester and Tack into a ring of eight, and for several years there was an excellent band of ringers in the parish. They

Consisted of good class founsmen, 95
prominent among them being members
of the family of Lyniot. In old Camberwell
Church there was a Brass to the memory
of "Henry Lyniot, borne at Horsham in
Sussex who deceased 20 of November 1600."
In 1633 William Lyniot was paid $iiij^{e} xv s$
 $iiij^{e}$ for carrying Horsham tenor to and
from Cherisey to be recast; and the
family seem to have been leading and
prosperous tradesmen of the town.

The first peal in the steeple was one
of Grandure Triples rung on April 11th
1766 by local men and conducted by
Thomas Bristolow. Thomas Lyniot rang
the second, Anthony Lyniot rang the
fifth, and Thomas Aldridge the tenor

On May 2nd 1775 the Horsham Society
rang 5040 changes of Union Triples at
Polney, the first in the method in Sussex.
Bristolow again conducted and Thomas

1828 John Allen called a "John Paul"
of G.T.

Lintott rang the sixth. The latter 96
was now beginning to take the leading
part in the band. On February 28th 1775
he joined the Society of Cumberland Joints
before ringing the pebble to a peal of 1306
Major at Whitechapel and from that time
he was an active member of the Society.

In the next year the London men paid
a visit to Horsham and rang 5152 Change
of 1306 Major, the first peal in the method
on the bells. George Gross conducted, the
elder Samuel Suggerridge rang the tenor
and Samuel and Francis Wood were at
the fifth and sixth. Thomas Lintott
rang the second, William Tyler, another
local man rang the treble, and James
Welson of Cuckfield, and Samuel Beecham
of Bolney rang the third and fourth. The
peal book specially notes that the ropes
were hand twisted with woolded pallies.

On Sunday, May 17th 1777 a band of



AD. 1907

Cumberland Youths made up from 97⁽⁶⁶⁾
Horsham and the surrounding villages
rang what was claimed to be the first
peal of B♭ Triples ever accomplished
in the County of Sussex. Lintott conducted
from the fifth. On August 27 he paid
another visit to London and rang the
second to 5152 changes of B♭ Major at
Whitechapel. On Sunday November 16th
a band of Cumberland Youths, all of
whom were inhabitants of Horsham
rang at the parish church "a peal of
Backward Grandeur Triples", being the
first ever rung reversed in this method
by any men in the Kingdom. The
composition was by John Hollis, and the
lobs were called by Thomas Lintott.
Bristol rang the seventh.

Exactly what was rung is doubtful.
It may have been Reverse Grandeur
Triples, or it may have been simply

Hollis Ten-part with the calling 98
of the second half rung before that of the
first half. Perhaps the former is the
more likely, but when in 1782 George
Gross called at Hackney "5040 Grand sire
Triples Reversed" the performance was
claimed in the Cumberland's peal
book as the first in the method. The
Horsham peal was booked as Backward
Grand sire Triples and no claim was
made for it. Christopher Wells had
called the Ten-part reversed in 1769 at
Stepney.

On the East day of the year 1777 the
Horsham band went to Brighton, and
with Lintott again as Conductor, rang
the first peal, one of Grand sire Triples,
on the bells in St. Nicholas' steeple

In the following June George Gross
with Edward and Benjamin Simmonds
paid a visit to the Horsham band

and spent a busy week end peal 99
ringing. On the Sunday they rang 5264
changes of Bob Major at Bodney, and
then went on to Brighton where next
day they first repeated the 5264 and
then rang another peal of 6160 changes
in the same method. The three visitors
and four of the Sussex men (Thomas Jones,
John Wheatley, Thomas Lintoll and James
Wilson) rang in all three peals. George
Gross conducted.

On July 15th the Horsham Company with
James Wilson of Cuckfield rang what
seems to have been the first peal at St.
John's Southover, Lewis. The method was
Grandsire Triples and Thomas Lintoll
conducted. A month later he called
5264 changes of Bob Major at Dorking
with a mixed band which included
Edward and Benjamin Simmonds, and
Samuel Suggsidge. The composition

apparently was the same as Gross had 100
called at Bolney and Brighton.

On November 5th Lintott called the peal
again, this time with his own band, and in
his own power and four days later he further
imitated Gross by calling the 6160.

The 5264 consisted of forty-seven courses
and it is difficult to see what specially
attractive there can have been in such a
number; but evidently there was something
for Lintott again called it at Epsom, two
days after Christmas Day ⁽⁶²⁾. The band was a
mixed one and included the two Crothers
Limmonds. Two days after that George
Gross met the band at Croydon and
called his in-course extent of Bob Major
with the pinors together. The figures of
this and of the other composition are lost.

On February 15th 1779 a band composed
entirely of Horsham men rang a peal of
Bob Triples at the parish church, and on
May 24th some of them helped to make

up a band that rang 11.088 changes 101
of Bb Major in six hours and fifty minutes
at St. Nicholas Brighton. George Gross
rang the treble and conducted, Thomas Jones
and Thomas Lintott, of Horsham rang the
second and third, Joseph Welland who
came from Cheddingley, rang the fourth
Edward Simmonds, the fifth, John Whealley
of Epsom the sixth, James Wilson of Uckfield
the seventh, and Benjamin Simmonds
the tenor.

In 1781 Lintott called a peal of Bb
Triples at Horsham, and soon after that
the Horsham men seem to have dropped
their close connection with the Society of
Cumberland Youths. They rang the first
peal on Uckfield bells in 1785, all of them
being Horsham men except James Wilson
who rang the tenor. All the band were
old members of the Cumberlands' society
but the performance was not entered in
the peal book.

What seems to have been Thomas Lintott's

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Last peal as conductor was one of
Grandsire Triples on September 12th 1792 at
Leatherhead where the bells had just been
opened and where a fortnight earlier the
College youths had rung the first peal in
the tower. Anthony Lintott who rang
the second to the Grandsire apparently
was one of Thomas Lintott's sons and the
nephew of the Anthony who had taken
part in the peal of 1766. In 1794 the
younger Anthony called Hollis Ten-part
at Horsham, his father and brother
Thomas Lintott, junior, ringing the third
and fifth. Thomas Jones rang the sixth,
and Thomas Bristow the seventh.

When in 1798 Charles Barber and James
Barrett visited Horsham and the latter
called Hollis Original, Anthony Lintott
rang the seventh and another member of
the family, James, was at the third.
Thomas Jones rang the pebble and a visitor
from Halifax, William Bottomley rang

the sixth. This was practically the end of the Horsham Society as an active peal ringing company. One peal was rung in 1810, another in 1818 and on October 10th 1821, 5040 changes of Grandure Triples. The band was made up of George Jones, Thomas Lintott, James Whybrow, Isaac Aldridge, Thomas Jones, William Gakes, Thomas Lintott, junior, and John Vaughan. It was fifty-five years since the first peal had been rung in the steeple and so obviously these men were the sons and grandsons of the men of the same name who took part in the earlier performance. The Thomas Lintott who rang the second was the son, and the Thomas Lintott who rang the seventh the grandson of the man who had done so much to make the Horsham company one of the best of the provincial bands. ⁽⁶³⁾

After 1821 enthusiasm for the art of change ringing declined in Horsham

and like in so many more places at the same time virtually came to an end. 104

Very similar in character and achievement to the Horsham Society was the Society of Bromley Youths. In May 1773 the bells of the parish church were recast and augmented to eight, and "a set of youths joined in articles to learn to ring." They made such progress that on September 22nd of the following year they rang a half-quarter peal of Bob Major which is 5000 & 40 changes. These youths were young men whose ages varied from eighteen to twenty-six. Three of the band were carpenters, two were shoemakers, and one each a bricklayer, a breeches-maker, and a gardener. Two brothers named Chapman (John and William) who were carpenters and whose ages were then eighteen and twenty-three became the mainstays of the society. The tenor was rung to the

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feal and the bobs were called by William Cook, a shoemaker. He had taken part in the first feal on the bells one of Oxford Treble Bob Major rung in June 1773 by James Barham and his band. Most likely Cook was one of the Leeds men who accepted an invitation to settle in Bromley and become the instructor and Captain of the newly formed local company.

During the closing years of the eighteenth century the Bromley youths rang many feals in the then standard Major methods including three or four six-thousands. On February 15th 1783 at their home tower they accomplished 12,672 changes of Bob Major. William Chapman conducted from the tenor, John Chapman rang the seventh and James Barnard whose name had been absent for twelve months from the records of the London

societies, rang the sixth.

William Chapman and his brothers joined the Cumberlands and rang five peals with them, William calling Oxford Treble Bob Major at Lewisham in 1786, and Bob Major in 1787. This was after George Gross had left the company and before John Reeves had rejoined.

On March 19th, 1789 the Bromley Youths rang Reeves's peal of Real Double Bob Major 5520 changes, "which is the full extent of changes that can be obtained in this method with the tenors together", and the first peal of Real Double with two Bobs in a lead rung in England. Charles Yurser had called 5184 changes at St Dunstan's-in-the-West for the College Youths on March 12th 1778; and six days later John Reeves called 5264 changes at St. Giles-in-the-Fields for the London Youths. Both peals however were false.

William Chapman continued to be an active ringer for many years, and when

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he died in 1817 he had taken part
in more than sixty peals, a great number
for those days. At his interment the
bells were rung muffled and on the
Wednesday following, January 15th, a
muffled peal of Grandsire Triples was
rung to his memory by the Bromley Youths
conducted by John Allen. This was the
first recorded muffled five-thousand
ever accomplished. ⁽⁶⁵⁾ In 1828 Allen called
a "name" peal of Grandsire Triples with a
band of Johns.

Edward and Benjamin Simmonds
whose names frequently appear in the records
both of the College Youths and the Cumbrians
were Leatherhead men and keen and
active ringers. Edward removed to
Ipsington where he set up in business
as a carpenter and bell hanger. Benjamin
remained at home and for several years
was the leader of a good band and

a Conductor who called several peals
 at his parish church including 6400
 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Major in
 1795, 5520 changes of Real Double Bob in
 1798, 5200 changes of London Court Bob
 in 1801, 10,080 Oxford Treble Bob in 1808
 and 5120 in the same method in 1816.

In their young days in the year 1766 he
 and his brother took part in the first
 peal at Epsom parish church - one of
 Grand sire Triples and in 1802 he called
 6720 changes of Treble Bob Major there.

In the year 1782 the Society of Trinity
 youths was formed at Deptford. The
 members were men employed at the
 Deptford naval dockyard who took
 their title from Trinity House the
 Corporation which has control of British
 shipping. The Society's first peal was
 one of Grand sire Triples, rung on

February 18th 1782 at St. Nicholas' Church 109

John Day called the Cobs and for several years he was the principal conductor in the company, calling in all thirteen peals. At different times several of the well known metropolitan ringers stood in the society's performances. Among them were John Hents, John Noonan, and Allen Grant.

The peals rung by the Trinity Youths during the eighteenth century included the first on the ten bells at St. Peter's, St. Albans, (5130 changes of Grandsire Caters on June 16th 1788), another peal of Grandsire Caters at Maidstone in 1793, 7001 changes of Grandsire Caters at Greenwich on January 16th 1799, 6400 changes of Excford Treble Bob Major at St. Nicholas Deptford on March 24th, 1789, and 6080 changes in the same method at Lewisham on October 29th 1793.

The Society continued to enjoy an active existence for several years in the nineteenth century and virtually lapsed shortly



A.D. 1925.



A.D. 1909.

A Superlative Achievement in the Art of Ringing.

BIRMINGHAM, APRIL 17, 1820.

THE Society of St. Martin's Youths having for some time contemplated a Peal of Changes on 12 Bells, which should exceed in number any Peal ever rung in the United Kingdom, appointed Monday the 17th inst. for the attempt; and although there were very high odds (say 100 to 1) against any Band ringing a *plain* Peal at the first onset, yet by an anxious attention to, and a superior possession of, this great science, they succeeded in completing the Herculean task in 5 hours and 8 minutes. The Peal comprised 7200 Changes of new Treble Bob Maximus; and what eminently combines to enrich this performance is, that it was rung at the first attempt, was the first Peal of new Treble Bob Maximus ever performed, and the greatest number of Changes ever rung on 12 Bells.

Another generation may rise up to eclipse this, but the present will in all probability suffer it to remain a **STANDING DISH UNTOUCHED.**

<i>The Band, as stationed.</i>		<i>The Peal.</i>
Mr. WM. BENNETT	<i>Treble.</i>	52364
JAMES JARVIS	<i>Second.</i>	24365
WM. HASSALL	<i>Third.</i>	23645
THOMAS WORRALL	<i>Fourth.</i>	32546
ALEX. SANDERS	<i>Fifth.</i>	45236
HENRY COOPER	<i>Sixth.</i>	34562
SAMUEL LAWRENCE	<i>Seventh.</i>	42563
JOSEPH GRAYSON	<i>Eighth.</i>	45623
JOSEPH RILEY	<i>Ninth.</i>	54326
THOMAS CHAPMAN.....	<i>Tenth.</i>	23456
WILLIAM MARSH.....	<i>Eleventh.</i>	
THOS. THURSTANS	<i>Tenor (and Conductor).</i>	
		Leads 150
		48
		<hr/> 7200 <hr/>

** Mr. JAMES DOVEY, of Stourbridge, and many other Auditors, expressed their high approbation of the above performance.

The first considerable Peal of Treble Bob Maximus, and which created much emulation in the Exercise, was performed at Norwich, by St. Peter's Company, in the year 1778, comprising 6240 Changes. The next by the College Youths, London, in the year 1784, being 7008 Changes: 18 years afterwards, viz. in 1802, the Cumberland Youths rung two Leads more than the preceding Peal, making theirs 7104 Changes: 18 years subsequently to this, viz. in 1820, the St. Martin's Youths, Birmingham, exceeded this latter Peal by two Leads, making their Peal 7200 Changes.

CHANGE RINGING EXTRAORDINARY.

ON THE NINTH OF APRIL, 1830,

Mr. ELIJAH ROBERTS, of the Company of St. Martin's Youths, Birmingham, accurately rung, as an opening peal, on a fine-toned new set of Musical Hand Bells, a complete peal of TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, with the Kent variation, comprising 7536 changes, in four hours and fifty-one minutes, conducted by Mr. Joseph Powell, in the presence of Messrs. Henry Cooper, Thomas Cole, Thomas Worrall, James Howell, James Jarvis, and Charles Thurstans, who were auditors of this distinguished performance, and Members of the aforesaid Society.

ON THE 30TH OF JUNE, 1833,

Was rung, by Mr. ELIJAH ROBERTS, of the St. Martin's Company, Birmingham, on a Musical set of Hand Bells, fixed in a frame, and remained so for the whole of the performance, a complete Peal of that admired system, STEADMAN'S CINQUES, comprising 5016 changes, composed by himself, conducted by Mr. Henry Cooper, and was accurately rung in a most masterly style in three hours and twenty-four minutes, which can be confirmed by the united testimony of Messrs. Thomas Worrall, Joseph Powell, John Hopkins, and James Jarvis, of the above named Company; James Allen, of the Cumberland Youths, London; I. J. B. Lates, Oxford; and Daniel Woods, of the Norwich Scholars; and by many other Change Ringers, who met on that interesting occasion.

before 1850. ⁽⁶⁷⁾

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On New Years Day, 1786 a peal of Grandine Triples was rung at St. Georges Gravesend which is interesting as the first appearance of William Eversfield, who conducted from the second. He was then a youth eighteen years old. Three others of the band were aged nineteen. For some years we hear nothing more of these Gravesend men but on April 4th 1806 they formed the Society of Union Youths for the parishes of Gravesend Northfleet, Southfleet and Swanscombe. On April 7th they rang 6000 changes of Bob Major and three of the young ringers of 1786 took part.

William Eversfield was by trade a sail maker ⁽⁶⁸⁾ and he also is said to have at one time been a revenue officer. ⁽⁶⁹⁾ He was a man of some standing, and during a long life held a prominent position in the Exercise

In the towns and villages of the Home Counties to the north of London there was a number of good bands and some

amount of activity in peal ringing. At ¹¹¹
Aspenden where lived William Freeman, the
man who gave the two pebles to Magdalen
College, Oxford there was a local band,
formed no doubt under his patronage, who
in 1764 were able to ring a peal of Triples,
and at the neighbouring village of Braughing
was a still more energetic band who also
were helped and encouraged by Freeman.

The Braughing men rang the first peal
on the bells, one of Triples in 1745. In 1778
they formed ambitions to score a peal of record
length. On April 23rd they rang 10,080 changes
of B.B. Major, and on the following May 10th
they succeeded in ringing 12,240 changes.

For a village band it was an excellent
performance though it did ^{not} approach the
Eastern Scholars 15,120 at West Ham in 17
either in number of changes or weight of
metal. The peal was composed and called
by James Walker. What the composition was
like we have no means of knowing and there
is no great assurance that it was a fine one.

At St. Alban's where on St. Peter's bells 112.
Benjamin Annable had called a peal of
Bob Major for the College Youths as far
back as 1729. There was a society who rang
5040 changes of Bob Major at the Abbey
in 1765, and Hollis' ten-part peal of
Grandsire Triples at St. Peter's in 1767. The
bobs were called by William Kentish.

Sufficient interest in change ringing
was taken in the town to enable the
octave at St. Peter's to be augmented to
ten in 1787 by the addition of two bells
cast by John Briant of Hertford; but
the peals of Caters and Royal rung on
them were by the Trinity Youths, the
College Youths and the Cumberlands;
and the next recorded performance by
a local band was 5040 changes of
Grandsire Triples ^{in 180} conducted by William
Agglinton who had rung the tenor in 1767
Very nearly the same band repeated the

performance four months later at
Hailfield

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The St Alban's Company called themselves the St Alban's College Youths. They were not however a branch of the London society they merely borrowed its name, as did also the Hailfield ringers who called themselves the Hailfield College Youths. One peal is recorded as having been rung by them, Plain Bob Triples in 1790.

A third company in the district to call themselves after the leading London society was the Hertford College Youths, a company which has received far more attention from writers on the history of ringing than its real importance deserves. It is usually represented as a branch of the London Society of College Youths enjoying the patronage of the Marquis of Salisbury, Lord Bacre, and many others of the Country gentlemen.

In reality it was an average example ¹¹⁴
of a style of ringing society which was fairly
common in the second half of the eighteenth
century, and of which the Union Society of
Shrewsbury was the outstanding instance.
It was composed of a number of townsmen
who met together for the purposes of change
ringing and social intercourse, and, as
was usual with such bodies, once a year
it held its annual feast. What chiefly
differentiated the Heriford College youths
from other societies was that with them the
feast very soon became the most important
thing and quite overshadowed the ringing
in the steeple and the regular social
gatherings in the tavern. For reasons
which we cannot know now, the feast
attracted a number of men who were
socially much superior to the ringers, and
had little or no knowledge of or interest

in charge ringing. To them the society ¹¹⁵
was for all intents and purposes a dining
club, but it was from them, and by them,
and not from the ringers, that the Master
and Stewards were elected; and the duties
of these officers were exercised not in the
belly or in the meeting room, but at the
feast. The only officer whose duties really
were concerned with the ordinary life of
the society was the Warner.

The tendency to magnify the importance
of the annual feast at the expense of the
other activities is noticeable to some extent
in other societies at this time. It was
especially so in the case of the St Stephen's
Guild of Bristol which in time became
nothing else but a dining club. A similar
thing might have happened at Shrewsbury
but there it was held in check not only
by the popularity of the weekly social meetings

cut also by the genuine enthusiasm 116
for change ringing among the members
whose influence really counted in the society

It was no unusual thing for the annual
dinners of some of the provincial societies
to be attended by some of the prominent
townsmen or country gentlemen, but as
a rule they attended as guests. At Hertford
they took control supplied and appointed
the officers and managed the whole affair.

The society was founded in 1767 but the
first of the annual feasts did not take
place until 28 June, 1770 when Henry
Dunster, Esq. was Master. From that time
onward the dinner was held every year
until 1808, after which it lapsed.

The list of Masters includes Lord Fairford
three Members of Parliament, several aldermen
and other prominent townsmen but no one
who was a ringer. ⁽⁸⁶⁾ The Marquis of Salisbury
attended on one occasion but he never

occupied the chair. He however took ¹¹⁷
an interest in bells and ringing. In 1786
he had the six bells at Hatfield recast
and made into a heavy ring of eight.
The College youths were invited to ring
the first peal, and, as it was June and
the weather hot, they had to make
several attempts before they succeeded.
During the three days they stayed at
Hatfield they were the guests of the Marquis
who on one of the days presided at dinner
at the Salisbury Arms. The peal they
rang was 5280 Changes of Oxford Treble
Bob and the band consisted of Winstanley
Richardson, Robert Tye Dorkin, John
Tovey, James Sarquitt, William Lyford
James Worster, Joseph Holdsworth, and
Samuel Muggridge. Tovey conducted.

Lord Salisbury showed his interest
in ringing by sending each year, a fat
luck to the Hertford College youths for
their feast. ⁽¹⁵⁾

The Hallfield feast no doubt, supplied¹¹⁸ one of the links between the London College Youths and the Hertford ringers. It became the custom for several of them to attend the feast and some occasionally acted as stewards. Among the stewards were James Jarquitt (1778), Thomas Bleakmore (1782), William Lyford (1789), Joseph Monk (1790), Joseph Holdsworth (1791), Thomas Fifield (1792), George Webb (1794), John Lyford (1795), William Wilson (1799), John Buckingham (1800), and Charles Barber 1804. Two bell founders, John Briant of Hertford and Thomas Sears of Whitechapel also held the office of steward. Other London ringers who attended at different times included Robert Bly, Thomas Heap, John Cadman, Paul Webb, Robert Suggsidge, Edward Bartell, Benjamin Simmonds, William Seake, and John Hints.

If we leave the annual dinner out of account the Society of Hertford College

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Youths gives us a very good picture of an average prosperous provincial ringing Company of the second half of the eighteenth Century. There had been a good band of ringers in the town as early as 1724 and on December 22 in that year, a month before Annable and the College Youths rang their first peal, they completed "the whole peal of Triples". Then there followed more than forty years in which, so far as we can tell, no five-thousands were accomplished, though doubtless all along the bells were regularly rung.

On September 5th 1767 fourteen men met together and signed a roll constituting a new society. They were not all young men most of them were already skilled ringers and probably most of them had been ringing together in the town for some years past. Perhaps the recent peal of Grand sire Triples at St. Alban's had stirred them to emulation.

The first man to sign the roll was Isaac Spencer, and among the others were his son, John Hocomb, Thomas and William North, William Randall, John Hanley, Thomas Theric, and William Johnson who was appointed warner. These men were the backbone of the Company for some years.

Two months after the society was founded on November 5th they rang at All Saints their first peal one of Bob Major, and a month later on December 3rd they rang another in the same method containing 7056 changes. No conductor is mentioned for these peals.

The next year was a blank so far as peal ringing was concerned but on January 25th 1769 they succeeded in ringing 5120 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Major. Thomas North called the Cobs and he appears to have been the leading man in the Company.

After that no peals were rung for three

years, but in the meanwhile the 121
Company was joined by Robert Silversides
and he appears to have put new life into
the band. On January 25th he called
5040 Changes of Bob Major the first peal
on the pease bells at St Andrew's, and
in the following March another peal
in the same method "on the occasion
of Henry Dunslov, Esq. one of their then
present stewards being sworn an alderman
of the Borough of Hertford."

Silversides called three more peals, Bob
Major and Treble Bob at All Saints in
1782, and Bob Major at St Andrew's in
1784. The latter contained 6160 changes
and was composed by Thomas North.
If, as is probable, it was a five-part
peal with eleven courses in each part,
it must (if true) have been either
Reever's or Shipway's composition, or
a variation by reversal or beginning
at a different course end. (79)

On April 21st 1783 Thomas Blakemore ¹²²
called 6176 changes of Treble Bob at St Andrews
and on the last day of 1788 William Randall
called 5040 changes of Bob Major in the
same steeple. This was the last five-thousand
by the Society whose peal ringing career
was neither very long nor very remarkable.

Of these performances Thomas North and
William Randall took part in nine, John
Hocomb and Robert Severides took part
in five, William North and John Hanley
each in four, Isaac Spencer and his son
Isaac in three, and Thomas Theris in
two. John Briant rang the tenor to the
peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major in 1782.
In the same year, 1782, one of the Spencers
took part in a peal of Bob Triples at
Hitchin. It is said (on the peal board)
to have been rung by the ringers of that
town, so the inference is that he had left
Hertford.

The records, including the minute books of the Society of Herford College youths are excellent and they supply many details of the ordinary life of the company. ⁽⁷⁶⁾ To all intents and purposes the "steple ringers", (that is those members who were interested in change ringing and not merely in the annual dinner) were a separate organization. The Master and the four Stewards who were elected at the dinner had "under their guidance" the management of the annual feast. The steple ringers elected a warden to manage their business. They met on every Thursday evening at 6.0 o'clock from Michaelmas to Lady Day, and at 7.0 o'clock from Lady Day to Michaelmas. An absence was fined twopence unless he had the excuse of sickness.

New members were elected at a specially called meeting. Voting was by ballot and

only by those who had rung over 124
a thousand changes and had been
specially summoned for the purpose.
Evidently the Company, although like
other similar societies its Constitution
was democratic in form, was governed
by a close oligarchy. This thing was one
of the weaknesses of these eighteenth century
societies and probably one of the most potent
causes of their ultimate failure. The life
of the society was concentrated too much
in the hands of two or three men, and
when they failed, whether it was by
waning interest, or disagreement, or death,
the society failed. It was also both
a cause and a result of the exclusive
spirit which was so common at the time.

This exclusive spirit was fully shared
by the Hertford College youths. They visited
and were visited by the St. Albans College

Youths, and of course they felt
honoured by the notice taken of them by
the members of the famous London society;
but with members of any other band in
the town of Hertford they would have
nothing to do as a company, nor would
they allow their members as individuals
When in 1768 it was brought to their
notice that Edward Baker had rung
several times at St. Andrew's steeple for
hire it was resolved at a meeting that
he should be expelled, and he was expelled
accordingly. It was not, as might seem
at first sight to be the case, that they
had any objection to paid ringing.
What they objected to was the assistance
given to a rival band. It may be that
they would have liked to add the
emoluments that accrued at St. Andrew's
church to those they already enjoyed

at All Saints.

There the society controlled the fund raising and appointed a treasurer to deal with the money. All the fees were to be paid to him and he was to retain them in his custody and share them out according to rule on the first club night after Christmas Day and on the feast day. All forfeits were to be paid at the same time.

A rule like that was bound sooner or later to cause some dissatisfaction and friction so a proviso was added that any member could if he chose receive his benefits and pay his liabilities at any time.

The treasurer's job does not appear to have been a popular one for a rule had to be made that any member who was appointed and refused to serve

should be fined five shillings.

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The disputes and quarrels which were so common in the old singing societies were not absent from the Herford College youths. William Johnson the first warner died in 1770 and Isaac Spencer was appointed in his stead, but very shortly afterwards trouble arose between him and other members. It began apparently in connection with his son, who got his father to announce that he would not attend any more meetings, and the company might strike his name off the roll; which they did. But the matter did not end there, and the upshot was that at a meeting on July 15th in All Saints Chelfrey "it was unanimously resolved that Isaac Spencer, senior, having at divers times illiberally reflected upon several members of the Society, be expelled the

same." And expelled he was.

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William Hillier was appointed to the vacant office. He had become a member of the society on March 1st 1769 after having rung one thousand changes in All Saints Steeple. Hillier did not fare very much better than his predecessor. After a time there was disagreement and friction between him and some others of the company which led to a violent scene in All Saints Chantry. The next night a meeting was held at the World's End where it was unanimously resolved that he should "be suspended from executing the office of Warner or Beadle to the society for having ill treated and abused several members thereof." The Landlord of the World's End was Thomas North; it is stated that a majority of the members were present, and that the vote was unanimous. It looks suspiciously like

a packed meeting privately summoned ¹²⁹
by Hillier's opponents. However he thought
it best to humble himself and submit;
so at a specially convened meeting, after
he had publicly expressed contrition, he
was reinstated with the warning that if
in future he should refuse to obey the
reasonable regulations of the majority of
the members or behave to them in an
unbecoming manner, he would be immediately
discharged and expelled, and if after such
expulsion any member proposed his
re-election that member would himself be
expelled.

Such a resolution is pretty good evidence
of the existence of a clique headed we may
be sure by Thomas North, who intended to
keep the control of the society in their
own hands, but any attempt to restrict
the future action of the society or of its
members was bound to cause opposition

and to fail. An appeal was made to the more or less nominal members of the society who were not "steeple" ringers and at a specially called meeting, at which the stewards and the handbell ringers were present, the resolution was expunged.

This is the only reference there is to the handbell ringers. Who they were and what they did we do not know. Certainly they were not change ringers, and there seems to be no evidence that the art of tune ringing had been practised so early as the eighteenth century. It is possible that they were probationers who were beginning to learn change ringing single handed on handbells.

Spencer and Hillier were not the only members who came into conflict with the dominant clique. On February 21st 1769 William Wilds, one of the original members, was expelled for divers reasons, and at

different times during the same year ¹³¹
three other original members - Robert
Tollard, John Hanley, and Thomas Themic
ordered their names to be struck off the
list. Hanley attended a meeting
specially to tell the others he was going
to resign, and, we may be pretty sure, he
gave them a piece of his mind. All these
men, as well as the elder Spencer, were
sooner or later reinstated. These quarrels
give us a quite sufficient reason for
the blank years in the seal records.

In 1771 largely through the action
of the Heriford College youths the two
pieces at All Saints were recast by
Yack and Chapman. The total bill came
to £24.7.10. made up of the founders'
charges which amounted to £16.19.3;
18s. 3d for carriage; 13s. 4d for repairing
damage done in taking down the bells;
and £5.17.0 for the faculty.

To meet the bill, £16 was subscribed 132
by twenty-two members of the society, and
£8.8.9 by other persons.

At the annual Christmas meeting
of the "sleeple" ringers held on January 8
1789 it was unanimously agreed that
one half of the money received for ringing
should be put aside until it amounted
to twenty pounds and that it should
then be used to start a fund for
providing two extra bells to All Saints
to make a ring of ten. Accordingly
on May 28th 1791 Matthew England paid
John Briant the bell founder "Twenty
Pounds on Acc. for the two new Trebles
of All Sts being the noble subscription
of the Society," and received his receipt.
When the bells were cast the second was
inscribed: Raised by voluntary subscription
by Hereford College Youths. An: Dom: 1791.
All the bells were destroyed in a fire

which burnt the church down in 1891. 133

In 1791 the brief career of the Hereford College youths as a peal ringing band, had already come to an end, and the first five-thousand on the new ten at All Saints was not accomplished until June 9th, 1794, when the Cumberlands with George Gross as conductor, scored 5111 changes of Grandeur Cairns. More than a year later, on August 15th the London College youths rang 5160 changes of Oxford Treble Bb Royal. They claimed it as the first peal ever rang on the ten bells; but whether this was a denial of the Cumberlands' claim or only referred to the first peal of Royal, we cannot say. Thomas Blakemore was the conductor and James Barquet stood in the band. He had been out of active peal ringing for more than ten years, but he was a frequent visitor

to the Hertford Company, not only ¹³²
on the feast day but at pinging meetings.

The Hertford College youths showed their patriotism and public spirit when in the year 1798 they made a voluntary contribution to the cost of the war with France. At a meeting at the Black Swan on March 20th with Thomas North in the chair ten guineas were subscribed by sixteen members who included James Darquii and John Briant. The money was paid into the Bank of England by Matthew England the treasurer and an acknowledgement received in due course. We who are living in very similar times (1940) have no temptation to smile at the disparity between the amount and the cause for which it was subscribed. (80)

The case of the annual dinners was

held in 1808, and before that time 135
the society as a ringing Company had
much declined. Soon afterwards it
came to an end, but on Easter Monday
1829 an attempt was made to resuscitate
it: and twenty six men signed the roll
as members. Among them was Edward
John Osborn, who had already rung his
only peal, one of Grand sire Triples at St
Andrew's. The attempt failed, and
Osborn, who shortly afterwards left
Hertford for London, wrote legibly
"It is no longer itself. Friendship gone
Pleasure crashed. Science lost. All gone
for ever."

Of all the Hertford ringers, the two
who did most for bells and ringing
were Osborn and John Briant, and
neither attained any distinction as a
ringer. Briant is said to have been
born in 1749 at the Suffolk village of

Exening, near Newmarket. Very little is known of his early life, but about the year 1780 he came to Hertford and set up as a clockmaker and bell founder under the patronage of the Earl of Salisbury. Between 1781 and 1824 he cast about 422 bells for 185 churches and other buildings situated in 17 Counties as widely scattered as Kent Devonshire, Shropshire and Lincolnshire. Four of his bells also went to Ireland. His complete rings included six of eight bells and fifteen of six. The octaves were, St. Andrew's Hertford, Hatfield, Adderbury in Oxfordshire, St. Ebb's, Oxford, Saffron Walden, Waltham Abbey, Haddenham in Buckinghamshire and St. Alkmund's, Shrewsbury. The old tenor at St. Michaels, Coventry, was his and the pebbles at St. Giles Cripplegate.

Brian's wife Mary was the daughter of John and Mary Hanley and the sister of John Hanley the ringier. The Hanleys were natives of Hertford and the name occurs many times in the All Saints registers. John Hanley is said to have been a glazier by trade.

John Briant died on February 27th 1829 in his 81st year. He had retired in 1825 and sold his bell founding business to Thomas Sears of Whitechapel. But his circumstances became so straitened that he was offered and accepted shelter in the Marlborough almshouses at St Alban's. He enjoyed a very high reputation for goodness and integrity of character. Henry Symondson who was employed by him as a tuner said that no man took so

much pains and trouble in turning 138
out superior bells in perfect tune and of
times he would rather lose by a job rather
than have the reflection that he had sent
out a bad bell. (77)

A survey of ringers and ringing throughout
the country during the last quarter of the
eighteenth century shows that the Exercise
and the art were then in a very prosperous
and flourishing condition. Everywhere
the bells were rung regularly and in
many places there were skilled and
enthusiastic bands. The development
of method ringing and peal ringing
which fifty years earlier had begun in
London and Norwich had spread to
many parts of the country and peals
in the then standard methods were
comparatively frequent occurrences. The
ringers belonged to much the same class

of men as today from the Exercise. Societies like the Union Society of Shrewsbury the Horsham Society or the Herford College youths consisted of tradesmen and skilled artisans, and even where the standard was not quite so high or so exclusive as in those bodies generally the ringers would be included among what were then called "respectable" persons. No doubt at the social meetings there was a good deal of conviviality and drunkenness, but such things attracted no particular attention at the time; and no doubt there were many black sheep in the fold, but ringers as a whole had not yet gained the bad reputation they received during much of the next century.

The chief weakness in the Exercise

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was the narrow and exclusive spirit
which could look no further than the
immediate interests of the handful of
men who formed a particular company
and did not recognise that the welfare
of the Exercise ultimately depended on
the cooperation of all its members with
each other and with the people in authority
in the Churches. A heavy price had to
be paid in the long run for this short-
sightedness.

The Cambridge Youths

The following was written to take the place of
the account on pages 22 & 25.

Throughout the eighteenth century, from
the time of its foundation in 1724, the
Society of Cambridge Youths was an active
and flourishing company. It consisted
mainly of tradesmen of the town, with a
number of professional men, and a few
University men. The most prominent member
was Dr. Charles Mason and the most
learned, Richard Dawes. Samuel Roe was
a parson. James Griffiths was Mayor of
Cambridge and John Hazzard and John
Robines members of the town Council. Humphrey
Argent was an organ builder, and James
Bennett, Joseph Crowther, John Hewitt, and
William Robson, musicians and singers
connected with the choirs of the Colleges and
parish churches. Richard York was an

attorney-at-law, and John Bouman
 a parish clerk. Others were gardeners,
 whitesmiths, leather cutters, ironmongers, and
 members of such like trades. One was a
 cook at Kings College, and another a baker
 at Trinity. Two or three were undergraduates.

After the Grand sire Triples in 1734 to which
 Dr. Meason rang the seventh⁽⁸⁸⁾, the Cambridge
 youths for some years had little ambition
 in peal ringing. In 1769 the tenor was broken
 and Charles Day and a Mr. Paris exerted
 themselves to collect money for its restoration
 with such success that not only was the
 bell recast in September, but in the following
 year two bells were added by Pack and
 Chapman to complete the full ring of twelve.

Cambridge was thus the third provincial
 town to possess a ring of twelve bells, and
 one of the other five, York Minster, was not
 suitable for change ringing and had
 already been replaced by a ring of ten.

Charles Day who had joined the society on May 31st 1750, and was a purveyor of fasses, and a man of position, ⁽⁸⁹⁾ now took the lead in the company. The band was already a skilful one, and not many months after the new bells were hung, they gained the honour of being the first provincial company to score a twelve bell peal, by ringing on Christmas Eve in the year 1770, 5610 Changes of Grand sire Cinques. Six days earlier D. Mason had passed away.

Charles Day rang the eleventh and called the Cobs. The other ringers were William Young, who was a farrier, John Laughion, the Yeoman Beadle of the University, John Sanders, an ironmonger, John Incarsole, William Robson, who was an organist, Joseph Gee, a bookbinder and stationer, Thomas Jones, a weaver, John Hinton, who is described as a gentleman, William Greaves a cabinet maker, Joseph Crowther, one of

The choristers at Trinity and St. John's ¹⁴⁴
Colleges, and Richard Wadnell, the Cook of
King's College. John Incarsole who rang
the fourth was a man totally blind, but
notwithstanding "was remarkable for his
extensive knowledge of the art of ringing
and other musical professions." (90)

It was two and a half years before the
next peal was rung at Great St. Mary's.
The method was Bob Royal and Charles
Day was again the Conductor, ringing the
tenor. All the band had taken part in
the previous peal, except the ringer of the
second, John Hazzard. He was an inn
keeper and a member of the Cambridge
Town Common Council. He became one of the
most prominent of the Cambridge fourths.

In the next year, 1774, on November 10th
the Society rang a peal of 5130 Grandfire
Quarters. Day did not ring in this, and
the bobs were called by William Young.
Daniel Green of Clare College, who apparently

was not a formal member of the society ^{145^r}
rang the eighth, John Banyard, an ironmonger
rang the tenor, and John Bowtell, the
bookseller, at the sixth, appears for the first
time as a peal ringer. He had joined the
society on October 21st 1773. Bowtell was
something more than a prosperous tradesman
and a skilful ringer. He had literary tastes
which led him to collect manuscripts which
he afterwards left to the library of Downing
College. They included D. Mason's papers
dealing with early compositions in change
ringing. John Bowtell was also a benefactor
to the town of Cambridge, and built one of
the wings of Addenbrooke's Hospital.

In the May of 1774 John Sanders and
John Hazzard paid a visit to Oxford and
took part with the local men in a peal of
Grandsire Caters at Magdalen College. In
the following month the same two with John
Incarsole and William Young went to Laffon

Walden and assisted the local company¹⁴⁶ in ringing a peal of Bob Major. The local men had rung Grand sire Triples on the previous day. Sanders in 1778 stood in a peal of Bob Major rung by the Norwich Scholars at St Michael's, Costary, in that city.

The next peal at St Mary's was 5040 changes of Bob Major on March 14th 1779. Sanders called this from the tenor, Widnell rang the treble, Laughton the third, Bowill the fifth, and Hazard the tenor. The other bells were rung by John Cooper who is described as a merchant, William Bland a leather cutter, and John Swan, "who was lineally descended from Sir William Swan, who was created a Baronet in 1666".

The best performance by the Cambridge Youths was on January 21st 1788, when they rang what they termed an exquisite peal of Bob Maximus consisting of 6600 changes in 5 hours and 5 minutes. The band was - Isaac Smith, a butcher, who

rang the pebble, William Bland, the ¹⁴⁷ second; John Laughton, the third, John Lawson, the baker at Trinity College, the fourth; James Coe, a turner, the fifth; Thomas Speers, who is termed an ingenious mathematician, the sixth; Thomas Jones the seventh; Paul Coude, a tailor, the eighth; Charles Day, the ninth; William Young, the tenth; John Hazzard, the eleventh; and John Bowtell rang the tenor. Charles Day conducted. The composition which contained twenty five courses, was almost certainly on the five-part plan and may well have been by Day himself. John Landers did not ring, and indeed he took part in no more peals. It is possible that his health had broken down, for he died on August 5th 1790, when he was about forty years old. His last peal was one of Bob Major, rung when, on May 14th 1781, the Cambridge youths went to Ely to open a new ring of eight bells which Arnold of St. Neots, had cast for St. Mary's church. The band consisted of Bowtell, Bland, Laughton, Coe, Swan,

Day, Hazard, and Sanders, who conducted.

The peal of Mascimus at Great St. Mary's still stands as the longest length in the method. It supplanted the 6336 rung by the old Society of London youths at St. Saviour's Southwark in 1758.⁽⁹¹⁾ It was the third peal of Mascimus achieved outside London; the Norwich Scholars had rung 6240 Oxford Treble Bob in 1778, and the Birmingham men 5280 Plain Bob in 1779.

The Cambridge peal was claimed to have been excellently well struck and without a false change. A reference to it in the peal book of the Union Society of Newport Isle of Wight⁽⁹²⁾ says that "the compass of the last 1000 changes was equal to the first, there being no variation of time, which is the grand scope of ringing."

Another man, Peter Spenceley, now came forward and took the lead. He was an engineer by trade and had joined the society in March 1783. With him as

conductor three peals were rung - 149
6000 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Royal in
1790, 7002 changes of Grandine Cater in
1791 and 5039 changes of the same method
in 1793. Day rang the sixth and Bowtell
the tenor for both the long peals. John
Hazzard rang in all three.

The last peal by the society in the eighteenth
century was on June 2nd 1797 when James
Barrett of Kensington called Hollis'
Original. ⁽⁹³⁾ Spenceley rang the seventh and
John Hazzard the tenor. After that
the art declined in Cambridge, though
of course the large amount of paid ringing
was sufficient to keep together a band
of some sort. Incarsole died in 1777, Young
in 1761, Laughton in 1804, Charles Day in
1806, Spenceley in 1807, Hazzard in 1807,
and Bowtell in 1813. They left no
successors of the same class as themselves
and when in 1821 Samuel Lee was writing
to Samuel Laurence to invite him to
visit Cambridge he says, "You will find

a good peal of bells here. The ringers are ¹⁵⁰
very far inferior to your Birmingham fiends
they ring Bob Royal, Treble Ten, and Caters
but rather in an inferior style. ⁽⁹⁴⁾ It is
significant that Lee speaks of the bells
as being ten in number. Evidently in his
time the full twelve were seldom or never
rung, nor have they often been since.

Peals rung by the Birmingham St Martin's Youths during the Eighteenth Century

1755	Sep. 16	5040	Bob Major	St. Philips	
1758	Nov 19	5040	Grandsire Caters	St. Martins	Andrew Geake
1768	Aug 29	6210	do	do	John Archer
1773	June 3	5324	Grandsire Cinques	do	Phineas Smith
	Aug 17	5040	Grandsire Caters	St. Philips	do.
	Oct. 23	6426	do	do	do.
	Nov. 5	5040	Bob Royal	St. Martins	do.
	Dec 22	5040	Grandsire Triples	do	do.
1776	July 15	5040	do	Aston	John Miles
	30	5040	Bob Major	Deritend	do
	Sep. 8	5040	Grandsire Triples	do	do
	Oct. 10	5040	Bob Major	Aston	Phineas Smith
1779	Oct 25	5280	Bob Mascimus	St. Martins	do
1780	May 20	5220	Oxford T. B. Royal	Coventry	do.

1782	Mar. 31	5040	Bob Major	Bewdley	John Miles
	Oct. 7	5040	Treble Bob Royal	St. Martin's	Thomas Smith
1783	May 4	5040	Bob Major	Kings Norton	do
1785	Oct. 9	5040	Gran. Triples	St. Martin's	J. Black
1786	Feb. 12	5040	do.	Kings Norton	Ch. Shuter
	Oct. 1	6016	Gr: F. B Major	Aston	Sam ^r Lawrence
	8	5184	Bob Major	Solihull	do.
	24	5120	Gr: F. B. Major	Aston	do.
	Nov. 26	6128	Bob Major	Deritend	do.
	27	6570	Gran: Caiers	St. Martin's	Ch. Shuter
	Dec. 5.	8027	do	do	do.
	28	5040	do	Warrwick	J. Mackenzie
1787	June 4	5040	Bob Major	St. Philips	Ch. Shuter
	Sep. 17	6074 ?	do	Aston	J. Mackenzie
	Oct 1	5248	do	St. Philips	Ch. Shuter
1789	Feb. 16	14.224	do	Aston	do.
	July 14	5056	Gr: F. B Major	St. Philips	do.

1790	Oct. 25	5292	Hedman Caters	St. Philips	Ch. Shuter
1793	Aug. 8	6000	Cx: T. B. Mascumus	St. Martin's	do
1794	Jan. 4	8000	Grandsire Major	Derilend	S. Fielding
1798	Jan. 8	5120	Cx: T. B. Major	Aston	J. Miles
1800	Mar. 2	5040	Grandsire Triples	do	Joseph Riley
	Sep. 8	5040	do	Burton on Trent	do.

Appendix

The Opening of the Bells of.

St. John's Church,

Horsleydown.

With an account of a Ringing Match
between the Society of College Youths and
the Society of Cumberland Youths, in the
year 1784.

Monday last being kept as the Anniversary of her Majesty's nativity, a grand opening of the new Peal of ten bells, erected at the parish Church of St. John, Horsleydown, took place, when a Society of gentlemen, who are lovers of the art of ringing, in honour to the occasion, gave ten gold faced hats and a dinner to be rung for by different ringers. About ten o'clock a set of *young gentlemen* ascended the steeple, in order to gratify a number of impatient hearers (who were by that time assembled) with a specimen of their *unparalleled* abilities in that art, and so proved in the end; for before they had reached 4000. changes, all those so lately described platoons, divisions, subdivisions, grand-divisions, &c. were again repeated with large additions, and greater energy than ever, so that they were obliged to quit the steeple through private doors in order to avoid that loud reception which was prepared for them by the auditors, and which they so justly deserved! After this the Society of Cumberland Youths ascended the steeple, and amidst the acclamations of upwards of 10,000 Spectators, rang the first peal compleat, consisting of 5,399 Grandfire Cators, in three hours and 58 minutes; but notwithstanding they had won the hats by a great majority of changes and fineness of striking, the before mentioned *young gentlemen*, contrary to all order, were admitted to a second trial, with a view, as it is supposed, to retrieve their lost honour, and "transmit to posterity a lasting testimony of their superior abilities and indefatigable perseverance;" but how great was the disappointment when this second attempt proved far inferior to the first, and became the object of contempt and ridicule! And although they had been worried by a considerable odds, yet, *fortunately* for them, they had chose for their umpire a squinting oyster man, who being so much insatiated with the glory of his post as to loose his best sense, viz. that of thinking and judging right; and who, it is believed, was hired for the occasion, gave it in favour of the *young gentlemen*, because they rang *College* *the* *last* and the gentlemen who gave the hats considering of the *superiority* of his judgment, the supposed *young gentlemen* were, contrary to merit and good conduct, crowned with the hats they had so egregiously lost, and admitted to partake of the dinners provided for the occasion. / *June 23. 1784.*

Cutting (original) from 18th Cent. Newspaper.

The Opening of St John's Bells, Horsleydown.

Through the kindness of Canon T. P. Stevens the editor of the Southwark Diocesan Gazette, I have come into possession of a cutting from an eighteenth century newspaper which gives a contemporary account of the opening of Horsleydown bells and also throws light on some of the things I have dealt with in my earlier chapters. There is nothing to indicate the name of the paper from which the cutting was taken, but the date of the issue, January 23rd 1784 is written in ink.

The bells were opened, it will be remembered on January 19th 1784, and on that day; first the Cumberlands rang a peal of 5399 changes of Grand sire Galers, and then the College Youths rang 5040 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Royal. Both performances are entered

in the respective peal books, and 157
until now the entries have supplied all
the information we have about the opening.

At the time there was a great deal
of competition and rivalry between the
three leading London societies. The "junior"
Society of College Youths by ringing 11,080
Changes of Treble Bob Royal had gained
the ten bell record. They also had held
the twelve bell record, but this had since
passed to the Cumberlands through the 6240
rung in 1778 by the Norwich members of
that society. Now both Companies were
getting ready to make an attempt on their
rivals' record. Two months after the
Horsleydown opening the College Youths, by
ringing 7008 Changes at Southwark,
secured the record for Maximus, and the
Cumberlands secured the record for Royal

by ringing their famous peal of 12000 changes at Thoreditch.

The third society, the ancient Society of College Youths had not joined in this long peal contest, but their peal of Cambridge Surprise Major at St. Giles-in-the-Fields had marked them out as an exceptionally clever band, and they were now vying with the junior Company for the honour of ringing the first peal of real Double Bob Maximus with two bells in a lead. The "junior" society rang 5160 changes at St. Brides, and two days later the others rang 6048 changes at Southwark.

We must bear in mind this keen rivalry when we read the account of what took place at Horsleydown, and here is what the contemporary newspaper says about it, -

"Monday East being kept as the

Anniversary of her Majesty's nativity, ¹⁵⁹
a grand opening of the new Peal of ten
bells, erected at the parish Church of
St. John, Horsleydown, took place, when
a Society of gentlemen, who are lovers
of the art of ringing, in honour of the
occasion, gave ten gold faced hats
and a dinner to be rung for by different
ringers. About ten o'clock a set of
Young gentlemen ascended the steeple,
in order to gratify a number of impatient
hearers (who were by that time assembled)
with a specimen of their unparalleled
abilities in that art, and so proved in
the end; for before they had reached
4,000 changes, all those so lately described
platoons, divisions, subdivisions, grand-
divisions &c were again repeated with
large additions, and greater energy

than ever, so that they were obliged to quit the steeple through private doors in order to avoid that loud reception which was prepared for them by the auditors and which they so justly deserved! After this the Society of Cumberlanders ascended the steeple and amidst the acclamations of upwards of 10,000 spectators, rang the first peal complete, consisting of 5,399 Grandsons Calors, in three hours and 58 minutes; but notwithstanding they had won the halo by a great majority of changes and fineness of striking, the before mentioned young gentlemen, contrary to all order, were admitted to a second trial, with a view, as it is supposed, to retrieve their lost honour and transmit to posterity a lasting testimony of their superior abilities and indefatigable perseverance; but how great was the disappointment when the second attempt proved far inferior to the first; and became

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The object of Contempt and ridicule!

And although they had been worsted by a considerable odds, yet, fortunately for them, they had chose for their umpire a squinting oyster man, who being so much inflated with the glory of his post as to loose his best sense, viz. that of thinking and judging right; and who, it is believed, was b-d for the occasion, gave it in favour of the select performers, because they rang College Horn-books; ⁽⁷⁸⁾ and the gentlemen who gave the hats Confiding in the superiority of his judgement, the supposed victors were, contrary to equity and good Conscience, crowned with the Laurels they had so egregiously lost, and admitted to partake of the dinner provided for the occasion.

If we can believe this account the College Youths, just attempted a feal,

and rang rather less than 4,000 changes, but failed so badly that they had to slink out of a private door to avoid the jeers of the assembled crowd. Then "amidst the acclamations of upwards of 10,000 spectators" the Cumberland Juniors rang their peal of Grand sire Caters. But notwithstanding that they had fairly won the match, the College Juniors were permitted to make a second attempt. In this they failed far worse than at first; nevertheless owing to the fact that the umpire was incompetent and had been bribed they were awarded the prize.

We cannot accept this as anything like a truthful account of what took place. Either the writer had a strong personal bias in favour of the Cumberlands, or else, as is most likely, the paragraph was inspired by that Company, who felt very sore at

losing the match and took their defeat very badly and in a most unsportsmanlike manner.

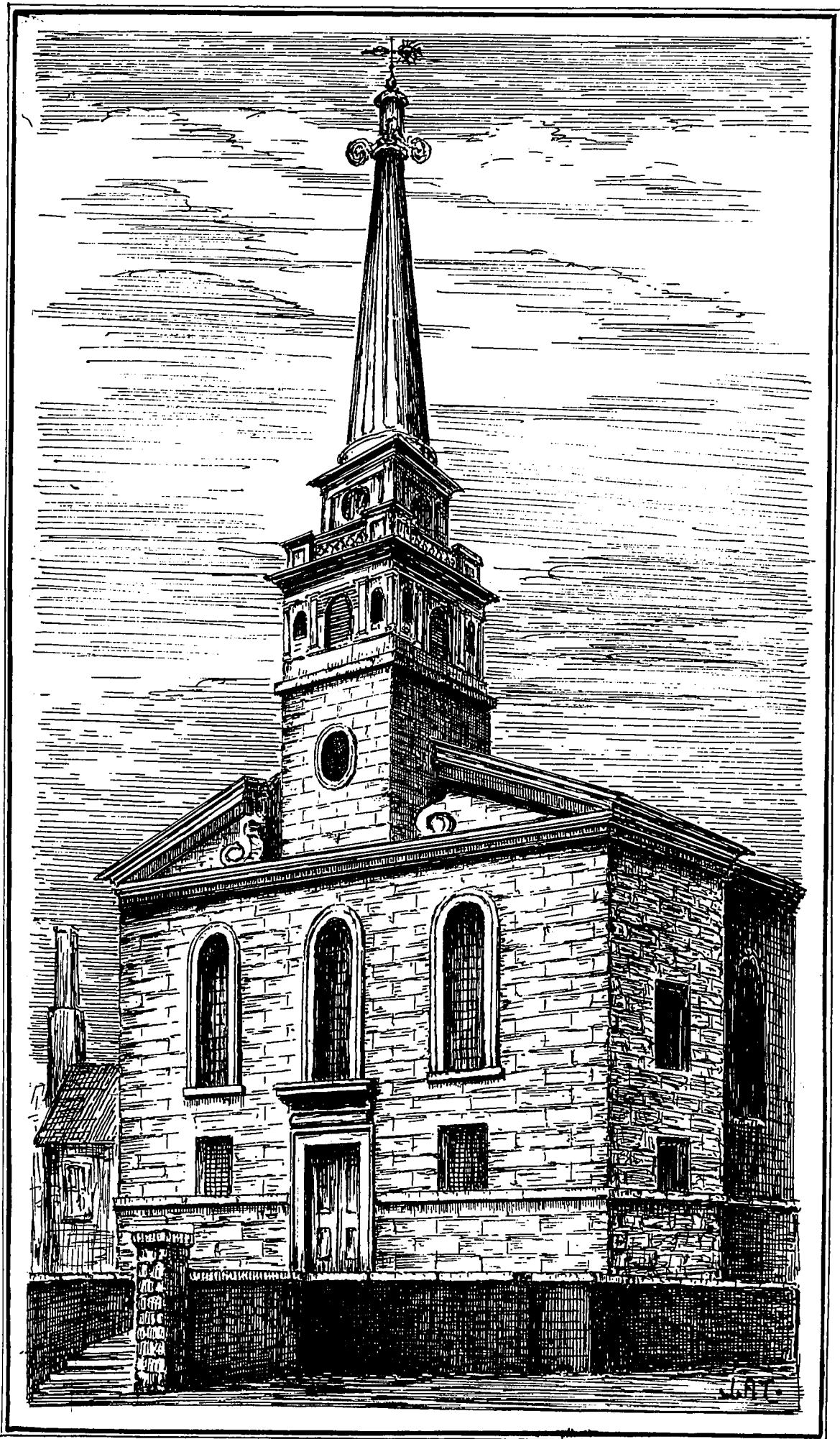
It is significant that while the Cumberlands are mentioned by name and the particulars of their performance are correctly given, their opponents are sarcastically referred to as young gentlemen and select performers, the method being, as College Horn Book, and the impression is given that they did not complete a feat.

Certainly, it was hardly fair, if, after the College youths had failed in their attempt, they were allowed a second trial, especially as they were awarded the prize; but the true explanation probably is that the first band belonged to the ancient Society of College youths and were distinct from the men who rang the Gosford Treble Bob Royal and won the match.

At any rate it would have been strange if the ancient society had not been among

the competitors; a year earlier when the 164
bells of St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate were opened
they were one of the three bands who scored
a peal, and now they were very active, and
included plenty of skilled ringers.

In his anxiety to belittle the Cumberlands' opponents, the writer of the newspaper report altogether overstates his case. However good a band of ringers may be they can never be certain of finishing any peal they may start, there is no disgrace in such a failure, and it is not in the least likely that the listeners outside would have jeered at them because they broke down. We cannot believe that even in the eighteenth century more than ten thousand people assembled to hear church bells rung, and in the presence of a much smaller crowd it would have been impossible for anyone to quit the steeple through private doors.



ST. JOHN'S, HORSLEYDOWN. A.D. 1800.

The band which rang the peal of Treble Bob which gained the prize, consisted of Winstanley Richardson, Joseph Holdsworth, George Scarbrooke, John Povey, who called the bobs, Joseph Monk, James Darquitt, James Horster, William Lyford, Edmund Sylvester, and Samuel Suggsridge. These men made up one of the best bands the College youths ever possessed, and we can only regard the statement that they rang so badly that they became an object of contempt and ridicule, as a piece of very silly spite.

In much the same spirit is the insinuation that the umpire was incompetent and had been bribed. Quite evidently the men who hinted this charge did not believe it themselves, and had not pluck enough to make it openly.

No direct evidence of anything beyond

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The bare fact that the contest was held, this newspaper report is worthless. It is the light which it indirectly throws on some matters which gives it some value for us.

It shows us for instance that the relations between the rival societies of College Youths and Cumberlands was quite the reverse of friendly, and that a good deal of personal bitterness entered into the competition then taking place over the ringing of the Long peals of Treble Bob Royal and Maximus. The sarcastic reference to transmitting "to posterity a lasting testimony of their superior abilities and indefatigable perseverance" is a sneering quotation from one of the College Youths' peal boards, possibly the one one then recently erected in the belfry of St. Leonard's Shoreditch to record the two Long peals rung in 1777, which the Cumberlands would have always before their eyes when

They met for practice

The Conductor of the Cumberland's peal and the leading man in that company was George Gross, and if we may see, as most likely we may see, in this account an expression of his personal opinion, we shall probably have the key to some of the problems which faced us when we dealt with his character and his relations to other ringers.

Although evidence on the subject is very scanty, I had formed the opinion that he was a man without the benefit of education or of the association with educated people, that he had great natural abilities, but was domineering and dictatorial in his manner. Such a man will go far and do much, but his range of vision will necessarily be limited. He will be unlikely to understand the work of other people and be prone to undervalue it, especially if it comes in competition with

his own. And if, as is probably the 168
case with George Cross his rivals looked
on him as their social inferior that would
add to the bitterness. It is perhaps very
significant that he, almost alone among
the leading London ringers, did not subscribe
to the Clavis.

The band that he led in the Cumberlands
society considered themselves, and with
reason, as at least the equals of the
College Youth in ringing ability, the feat
of Grand sire Caters they rang at Horsleydown
was, no doubt, excellently well struck,
and so, when the prize was awarded to
the rival band, it is not very surprising
that Cross saw in the matter evidence
of bribery and unfair treatment.

In the description of the first attempt
which failed there is a rather curious
reference to "all those so lately described

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platoons, divisions, sub-divisions,
grand-divisions &c." It is difficult to
gather what the writer was driving at
beyond the fact that he was trying to
be nasty, but perhaps we may see here
some oblique reference to John Reeves
and the investigations and improvements
he had lately been making in the
composition of Treble B♭. There is plenty
of evidence to show that between Gross
and Reeves there was keen rivalry and
no love lost.

When Gross died, the Cumberlands,
as we have seen, paid a handsome
tribute to his services and his abilities.
That was nineteen years further on. At
the time we are dealing with he had before
him one great personal triumph and
then the quarrel which for many years
parted him from the company for which

He had done so much, and which
 had done so much for him. In the spirit
 which was shown over this contest at
 Horsleydown we may see, not indeed the
 occasion of the quarrel, but the reason
 why it was so deep and lasting. Also
 we may probably see why there was so
 little intercourse and sympathy between
 Gross and Shipway, and therefore why
 practically all the former man's figures
 have perished and as a composer he is
 but a name.

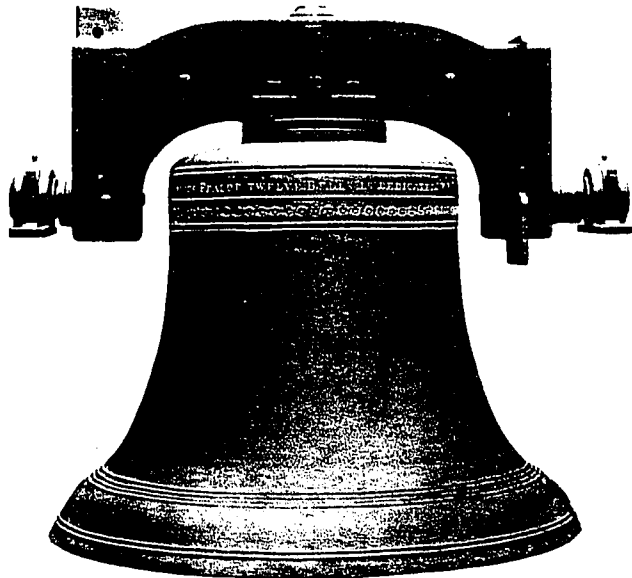
The contemporary account of the opening
 of St. John's bells confirms the impression
 we had already formed of such functions
 in London during the eighteenth century.
 There is nothing in the nature of a service
 in the church nor of any religious dedication
 of the bells. The clergy as such take no

part whatever in the matter. The bells are rung throughout the day by the leading ringers of the metropolis, and in the evening a dinner is held at which no doubt the senior churchwarden presided and which was attended by the leading parishioners.

What we now learn definitely, which before we did not know, is that the ringing was competitive and that a society of gentlemen, lovers of the art of ringing had provided ten gold laced hats to be rung for. This sort of thing was common enough in the country, but up till now there has been no evidence that it obtained in London. The College Youths' Feal Book which records the feal says nothing about any prize.

The wording in the newspaper account might lead us at first to suppose that

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The College Youths had chosen their
own umpire. That of course was most
unlikely and the sentence "they had
chosen for their umpire" means "the umpire
chosen for them"



ST. PETER MANCROFT CHURCH, NORWICH.
The Tenor Bell of the Ring of Twelve
WEIGHT 37 CWT. 3 ORS. 15 LBS.

Chapter Sixteen

The Early Years of the Nineteenth Century.

The first peal of the nineteenth century was one of Oxford Treble Bob Maximus rung on January 4th 1801 by the College youths at St Martin's-in-the-Fields. John Tovey conducted, and the band was made up of John Lyford, Winstanley Richardson, William Brooke, William Wilson, William Lyford, Daniel Jenkins, John Inville, Charles Barber, William Lowndes, Edward Bartill, and Philip Gilgrim. All these details suggest a typical eighteenth century performance, and indeed the method, the society, the tower, the band - everything except

just the date - belong to the period 174
that was passing away, and not to the
period that was dawning. We are reminded
that our account of London ringing is
still for a time concerned with the conditions
of the eighteenth Century.

The Society of College Youths was then
enjoying a reputation as high as at any
time in its history. Its members not only
inherited the great prestige of their predecessors,
but had themselves, one and all, long and
distinguished ringing careers behind them.
Their enthusiasm had not cooled, and
if some of them were less energetic in
peal ringing than they once had been,
advancing years had brought to them
authority and the respect of younger
men. It was from this period in its
history that the later traditions of the
society's dignity and importance were
directly derived.

In contradistinction to some of the 175
provincial societies we have no account of
any particular feast day with its list
of distinguished guests, but we may be
sure that the College Youths' annual dinner
was not a less important function than
that of the Union Society of Strewsbury
and similar bodies. The society's handbook
published in 1894 speaks "it being honoured
with the company of the aldermen and other
civic authorities," but the writers of that
book knew but vaguely of the history of
the society, and were obsessed with the
legendary connection between the Society
of College Youths and the City of London
through its supposed foundation by some
of the City aldermen and many of the
gentlemen in the vicinity of Whittington's
College. Osborn relates that William
Eversfield used to tell how in his younger

days "he had the honour to dine" with 176
the College youths. There were just two hundred
guests present, the tickets cost fifteen
shillings each, and he was much impressed
by the fact that there was not a dish
of meat on the table; all was poultry.
In those days game and poultry were
luxuries which were seldom seen except
on the tables of the rich.

On the morning of the feast day, following
the custom of the City Companies and
such like bodies, the society assembled
at the meeting house, and, headed by
the beadle robed in a silk gown and
carrying a staff surmounted by the
silver bell which it still possesses, walked
in procession to church, where prayers
were said by a clergyman who was paid
a guinea as his fee. As it is unlikely
that an ordinary faven like The Barn

or in earlier times The Barley Mow, 177
would have accomodation for so large
a dinner, it was held at some convenient
place in the City, but the statement
that for many years the company met
at the Paul's Head in Cateaton Street
(now Gresham Street) and proceeded
thence to attend divine service at Bow
Church before assembling for the annual
feast is no more than a guess suggested
by a misreading of what is related by
Osborn. The College youths had no
particular connection with St Mary-le-
Bow other than that they, like other
companies, occasionally sang there. Their
regular meeting place and practice
house was St Martin-in-the-Fields.

For the annual feast William Holy (95)
wrote an ode to be sung to the tune
of The Early Horn. It is a fine stately
piece of work consisting of a recitative

and an air. We are told that at

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The jocund feast, where smiling plenty fills the
Copious, how

The god of wine his welcome visit pays
And brings the nectar of empurpled grapes;

and that

ravishingly sweet
Harmonious hand-bells lull the ear,
And rivet each attentive College youth.
Each lively stroke a different change diffuses
round.

And gives new spirits to the festive board.
When allowance is made for the passage of
a hundred and fifty years, the annual
dinner of the College youths at the end
of the eighteenth century was very much
the same as it is today.

The sentiment expressed by the "air" of
Kroly's song is common and obvious enough,
yet the words are so far superior to
those of other people who have written
"poetry" about ringing that they will bear
repetition.

Ye youths so gay,
To hail this day
Your cheerful music bring.
No sound excels
The fine toned bells

When merrily they ring.

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The listening crowd around,

Their joy reveal,

To hear the peal,

All, all applaud the enlivening sound.

William Hoely was enthusiastically fond of bells and ringing, and was intimately acquainted with the College youths.

Whether he actually was a practical ringer cannot be said, but he did not attain sufficient proficiency to take a part with the company's regular band.

He was a minor poet who published one or two books of verse, and who enjoyed

the friendship of Dr. Johnson, Boswell,

Garrick, Reynolds, and other of the

leading literary men of the time⁽⁹⁶⁾ His

"Campanalogia, a Poem in praise of Ringing" was published in 1761, and was

dedicated "to the Society of College Youths and all ringers in general", "being the

first attempt of the kind." Although not

poetry it is good stately rhetoric.⁽⁹⁷⁾

A month after the College youths had rung their peal of *Masimus* at *St Martin's* we get the last notice of one of the most famous of eighteenth century ringers and of one of the old ringing societies. When John Reeves left the *Cumberlands*, soon after calling the peal of *Grandsire Masimus* at *Southwark*, his name drops out of the contemporary records, but he seems to have continued to ring with the men of *Whitechapel* and the district where he lived, and where the *Society of London Youths* still existed in a quiet and inglorious fashion. Reeves we may be sure had not altogether lost his interest in composition, though with the publication of the *Clavis* his greatest incentive to work was ended; and, so far as we know, he produced nothing in his later years to compare with his earlier achievements. He had

covered the whole field of composition 181
as he knew it, but Grand sire Triples he had
to leave as he found it. There John Holt
held the ground and the secrets of his peals
had not been revealed to the Exercise.

We may be certain that Reeves studied
them carefully, and towards the end of
his career he discovered how to add to
the ten-part the Q part with the observation
bell before, which gives the variation
now usually known by his name. It
was an interesting and important
discovery, and the peal was rung by the
London youths on February 7th 1801 at
St Mary's, Whitechapel. Reeves called
from the second, which shows that,
notwithstanding what he had said in
the Clavis of the superiority of calling
by the bobs before over the absurd and
unscientific plan of ringing the observation

and calling by the position of that 182
bell, he did know by experience that
the latter has its uses and advantages. (98)

This was the last peal by the Society
of London Jurists which not long
afterwards faded away.

John Reeves took part in one more
peal, and that a notable one. Two bands,
one of them a mixed band with John
Moonan as conductor, the other belonging
to the Cumberlands' society with George
Gross as conductor, were striving for the
honour of ringing what they thought
would be the first peal of Double
Norwich Court B.B. Royal, or, as they
called it, Court B.B. Royal. The first
peal in the method had actually been
already rung at Norwich in the year
1769, (99) and the London men should have
known it, for it is mentioned in the
Clavis. Moonan's party was the first

to succeed. On February 28th 1801 they rang at Christ Church, Spitalfields, an "excellent peal" consisting of 5040 changes of Court Bob Royal in 3 hours and 37 minutes. "This great performance," said the tables, "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 and perseverance, which must ever reflect honour and credit to the performers."

The band was made up of Thomas Smith, James Purser, Joseph Ladley, William Beard, John Reeves, Anthony Cavalier, William Troup, Charles Barber, John Noonan, and Edward Bartell. Smith, Purser, Beard, Barber, and Bartell were College youths; Ladley, Troup, and Noonan, were Junior Cumberlands, and Reeves was a London youth. Cavalier had been out of the leading peal ringing bands since

1789 when apparently he quarrelled 184
with his companions of the "old" Cumberland
Society. Before the end of the year he was
back again with them and taking part
in feals.

A little more than a month after the
Spitalfields performance the Cumberlands
rang their feal at Shoreditch. It consisted
of 5220 changes, one course longer than
the other. The band was, - George Gross,
George Gross junior, James Nash, William
Shipway, John Goulden, John Hints, Malachi
Channon, Thomas Rewes, Samuel
Bowling, and William Stephens. Since
they had been robbed of the honour of
ringing the first feal in the method
they made much of the fact (which
really was not a true one) that they
were the first of any society to ring a
feal in that intricate method

Both performances were recorded

in the belfry, but both records have 185
been destroyed. ⁽¹⁰⁰⁾ That at Christ Church
was a framed drawing and disappeared
when the church was burnt in 1836.
Osborn has preserved a copy. When
Jasper Snouder wrote his book on Double
Norwich in 1884 the Shoreditch board
still existed, but had become illegible.
Henry Bains however was able to make
a copy.

A full century had to pass before
another peal of Royal was rung in the
Metropolitan area in any method
besides Plain Bob and Treble Bob. ⁽¹¹⁰⁾

John Reeves lived for about fifty
years after these peals and died when
he was eighty years old, but we hear no
more about him. He is one of the greatest
names in the whole history of ringing,
and few, if any, men have done more
than he did to develop the science of.

Composition.

John Noonan appears to have enjoyed a very high reputation in his life time and no doubt was a very amiable man, besides being a very clever pinger and composer. His associates in the Junior Society of Cumberland Youths were of a distinctly lower class than the College Youths, and he himself was not likely to have paid fifteen shillings for a dinner ticket; but as practical pingers they probably were equal to any band in England. The peal with which Noonan's name is most usually associated had been rung just before the close of the eighteenth century.

Ever since the visit of the ancient Society of College Youths to Norwich in 1785 Wedman's Principle was the method most highly esteemed by the London pingers.

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Peals of Caters and Congues had been rung, but for Triples no fine composition existed, and that Noonan resolved to supply. The task was a heavy one, but the attempt was worth while. Noonan was a shoemaker, and a shoemaker's work lends itself naturally to cogitation and reflection.

No doubt, as he sat over his job, he remembered that John Hollis too was a shoemaker. Hollis had won fame through his peals of Grand sire Triples. Why should not he, Noonan, win equal fame with a peal of Stedman? At any rate he would not fail for want of trying.

Noonan had many of the qualifications necessary for a composer, but his disabilities were great. For that he resembled Hollis. He had no education, and could not deal with the matter in the modern fashion as a mathematical

problem. Nor had he much experience of other men's work to help him. He could only work by experiment, and by trial and error, and by the exercise of an infinite amount of patience. He did succeed, but not until he had, as he said, used as much paper as would have covered the walls of St Giles' church.

The peal was rung by the Junior Cumberlands on May 22nd 1799 at St. Giles-in-the-Fields. The band consisted of Henry Symondson, Charles Robinson Joseph Ladley, William Beard, John Hints, William Troup, William Tyler, and Samuel Garratt. Like Hollis' Original the composition was a one-part, and like Hollis, Noonan sat in the belfry and called the bells from manuscripts. The figures as given by Shipway are unintelligible, and apart from its

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general characteristics, we do not know what the feat was like. We cannot even be sure that it was fine, though that has never been doubted.

If Noonan did dream of leaving a name equal to that of John Halli, his dream did not come true, for though he had up to a point repeated the role of the older man, he could not carry it on far enough. He had produced what might be thought to be the equivalent of the Original, but to compose in *Siedman Triples* a feat which would be the parallel of the ten-part in *Grandsire* was a task far beyond his capacity. Yet he did gain by his work and from his contemporaries no small amount of renown. The feat board at St Giles' calls him the "celebrated" Mr. John Noonan, and Shipway in his book more than once applies to him the same

adjective. It was the epithet usually 190
associated with John Holt, but with no one
else.

After George Cross had severed his
connection with the Junior Cumberlands
the proceedings of the Company were carried
on in a very haphazard manner. No
particular record seems to have been kept
of the peals that were rung, and the book
was not written up until some years
later, after Samuel Austin had joined
the society and undertaken the task.
The information at his disposal was incomplete
and we cannot tell what peals Hoonan
and his friends actually did ring. It
seems clear that in the first few years
of the new century they were active, though
only one peal is recorded for 1801. This
was 6112 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Major
at St Giles Camberwell on November 3rd.

William Williams rang the treble and ¹⁹¹
conducted, and the band was made up
of William Troup, Joseph Ladley, John
Moonan, Richard Jagers, H. Symondson,
William Washer, and James Blacklock.

The composition was a variation by
Williams of Rees's five-part peal with
the sixth course ends. The number of the
courses in the second part being reduced
from four to two. The fact that Shipway
gives this as an original composition by
Williams shows in some degree the standard
of authorship prevailing at the time.

In 1802 the Junior Cumberlands rang
three peals. Williams called Grandsire
Caters at West Ham in August with a
band that did not include Moonan,
and Moonan called Grandsire Cinqes
at St. Martins-in-the-Fields in September,
and Treble BB Major at St. George's-in-the-
East in November. In the Cinqes 8-9

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lay still at the going off, which put the bells immediately into the pillars with the eighth behind the eleventh; and at the coming-round course the eleventh was called into the hunt and out at the second lead. This plan is today universally condemned and disallowed, but it has many advantages, and we can easily see why, in the days when the use of singles was looked upon as a departure from the strict method, it should have been preferred to the older and more correct style with its long and rather clumsy home coming.

This feat of Grand sire Cinques and the earlier one by the society in 1799, make us wonder how the Junior Cumberlands managed to gain access to the belfry which was the College Youths' stronghold and regular meeting place. Was it by the

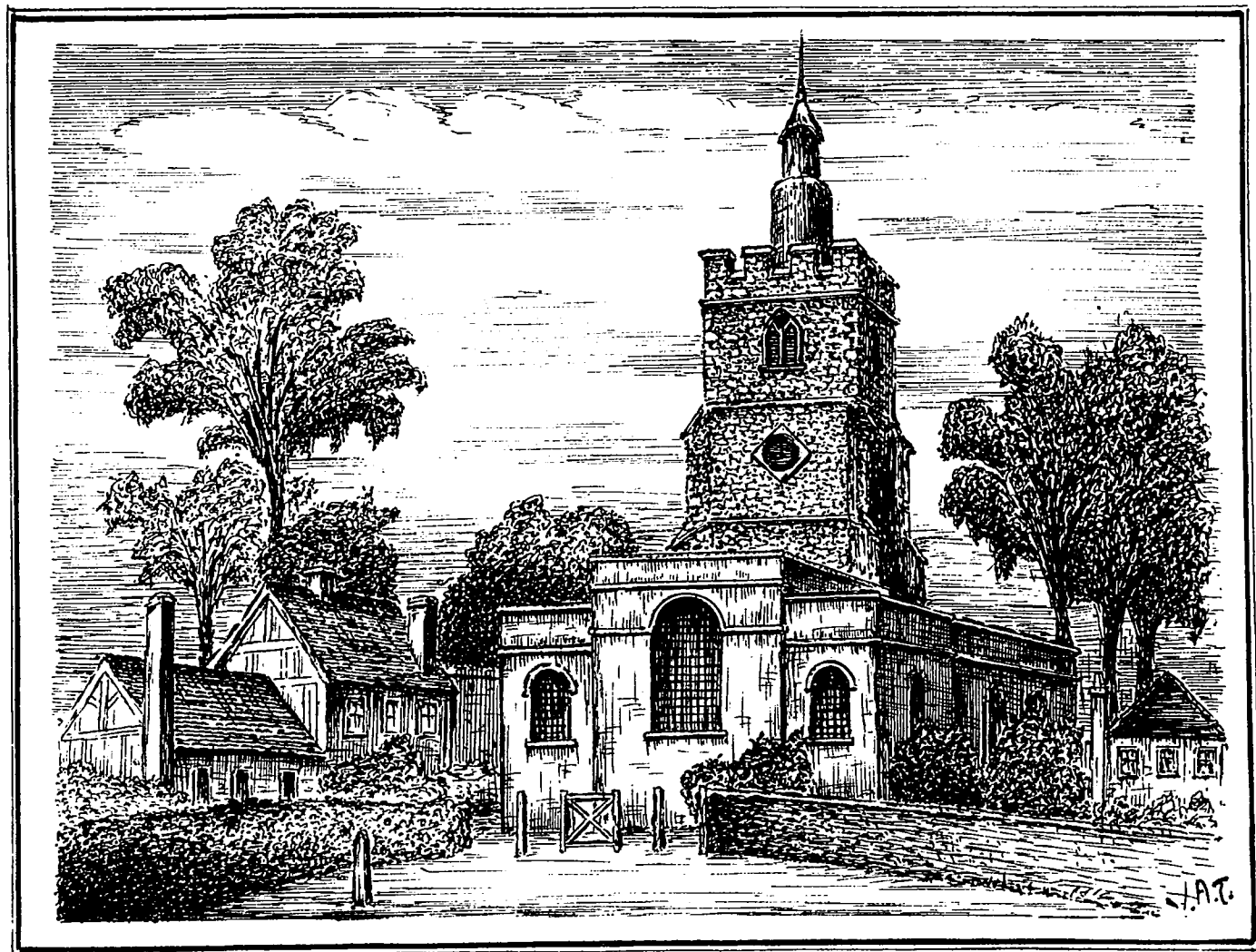
invitation or acquiescence of the older ¹⁹³
society, or had they no option in the matter,
which was done over their heads, and
without their consent being asked or
given? It would be pleasanter to think
it was the first but that would have been
contrary to the spirit of the times. Even
today when we pride ourselves, not without
reason, on the spirit of brotherhood and
friendship which exists in the Exercise,
we can hardly imagine an association
like the Middlesex being allowed to
attempt a peal at St. Paul's Cathedral
or St. Martin's-in-the-Fields; the vested
interests of the College Youths and the
Cumberlands form an insurmountable
barrier. In earlier times the decision
in the matter lay neither with the ringers
nor with the clergy, but with the steeple
keeper or the parish clerk, and if a bond.

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Could get the right side of him there was little to stop them attempting a peal in any tower. That is why the College Youths rang so many peals at Shoreditch notwithstanding the far from friendly relations between them and the Cumberlands whose regular meeting place it was. In the 1799 peal George Byers, who seems to have been the steeple keeper at St Martin's, was one of the Junior Cumberlands' band.

Following these peals there is but one recorded performance by the Junior Cumberlands until 1806, when they were engaged in a contest with the old society of Cumberland Youths at Christ Church Spital fields in which both companies were trying to ring the first peal of Stedman Cinques on the bells.

In the Society of Cumberland Youths the elder George Gross was still the



beadle and the most important man 195
in the Company during the opening years of
the new Century. Though there were younger
men, like Shipway and John Harris, who
were working on their own lines. 1801 was
an active and prosperous year for the society.
On January 11th Gross called 5104 changes
of London Court B. Major at Whitechapel.
It was the last peal in the method rung
in London, though in the following years
it was so a certain extent popular among
the ringers of the southern and south eastern
suburbs. ⁽¹⁰¹⁾ Shipway took part in the peal,
but he does not give the composition in
his book, and the figures are lost.

A month later Shipway called at
Hackney the first peal of Triples in a
new system which he had recently
produced. The idea was to dispense
entirely with dodging, and this he did

by causing each bell as it hunted up ¹⁹⁶
to make a place immediately after it had
passed the pebble, and as it hunted down
immediately before it passed the pebble.
The places were made alternately at hand-
stroke and at backstroke, and, as there
was one in every change, the result was
to turn the whole work of the bells above
the pebble into backward hunting, that
is into an extended dodge. The defect of
the method was that it was necessary
for the bells that the pebble turned and
were turned by the pebble from behind to
lie for three blows in percents.

The peal book says that "the Society to
commemorate the Union of Great Britain
and Ireland entitled the method Cumberland
Imperial Place Triples," but Shipway when
he gave it in his Campanalogia styled
it simply Place Triples.

In March George Gross called 6160 ¹⁹⁷ changes of Bob Major at Traiford, and in April the peal of Court Bob Royal at Shoreditch which I have referred to above. In May the younger Gross called 5000 changes of Treble Bob Royal at Shoreditch with a band made up of the elder Gross, Samuel Cowling, James Nash, William Shipway, William Stephens, Thomas Fresh, John Hints, James Barnard, and Malachi Channon. In August the Society rang the first peal on the bells at Hemel Hempstead. It was one of Grandeur Triples, and nine men took part owing to the bad going of the bells. In October two peals were rung, Treble Bob Major at Lewisham, and Tittum Treble Bob Royal at Shoreditch, both being conducted by the younger Gross. Two more peals of Treble Bob completed the peals

for the year, Royal at Spitalfields and Major at Bechnal Green. Anthony Lintott of Horsham rang the tenor to the latter.

Since the year 1784 the record honours for long peals of Treble Bb Royal and Maximus had been divided between the two leading Metropolitan societies. The Cumberlands' 12000 at Thredich was the longest length as yet rung on ten bells, and the College Youths' 7008 at Southwark was the longest length as yet rung on twelve bells. The College Youths were content to leave the matter where it stood, and had given up all hopes of regaining the double honour, but the Cumberlands were less inclined to rest on their laurels, and when they were joined by James Marlton they had once more, not only a tenor man of outstanding ability, but also a band capable of giving him adequate support. They therefore

renewed the contest, and on March 22¹⁹⁹
1802 by ringing 7104 changes of Oxford
Treble Bob Maximus at Southwark
gained what was to prove the final and
complete victory. The younger George
Gross rang the second and called the
bobs; the other bells were rung by the
elder Gross, Peter Jones, James Nash,
William Shipway, Thomas Reeves, James
Barnard, Anthony Cavalier, John Hints,
Matachi Channon, William Stephens, and
James Marlion. Four of these men,
Gross, Barnard, Reeves, and Channon,
had taken part in the Thoreditch feat
and so had personally shared in the
double honour.

The Southwark performance has always
been considered as one of the very finest
long length and heavy bell feats in the
history of change ringing, and Jasper

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Snowdon expressed the general opinion of the Exercise when he described the College youths' and Cumberlands' feats as "wonderful instances of physical prowess", and pointed out that "although greater lengths have since been rung on twelve bells, yet as they have all been accomplished on very much lighter tenors, it can hardly be said that any one of them can compare with the 7000's rung at Southwark". In recent years, since Snowdon wrote, the old tenor at St Mary-le-Bow has been turned in to 7392 changes of Cambridge Surprise Maximus by William Dye. That is the only performance which can justly be put alongside the feats of Samuel Muggenidge and James Marlion.

A comparison of the times taken by these three feats is interesting. Muggenidge rang Southwark tenor to 7008 changes

in ~~three~~^{two} hours and forty-eight 201
minutes or at the rate of 20.11 per minute. (103)
Marillon took eighteen minutes less for
a peal five leads longer, the rate being
21.53 changes per minute. Iye turned
the rather heavier tenor at Bow in to
7392 changes in five hours and thirty-
eight minutes or at the rate of 21.87
changes per minute. Marillon's peal
was rung much quicker than the
average rate for peals at Southwark
during the eighteenth Century, and Iye's
peals were almost invariably rung
much quicker than those of the earlier
generations of ringers. It is an established
fact that provided a man has a good
band in front of him, he needs less
physical exertion to ring a tenor to
a quick peal than to a slow peal,
the quality of the striking being equal.

The Cumberlands' 7104 of Maximus 202
at Southwark was John Reeves' one part
peal with the escent of the method in nine
courses. On ten bells it runs to 5200 changes
and was a popular composition with the
Cob callers at the end of the eighteenth
Century. The elder George Gross called it
at St Mary-le-Bow on January 3rd 1803.
William Stephens and James Marllion
again rang the five big bells, and the
rest of the band consisted of George Gross,
his son, Thomas Reeves, William Herbert,
James Barnard, John Hints, John Wooding,
and Anthony Cavalier. The performance
confirmed Marllion's position as the
foremost heavy bell ringer of his generation.
He was the first man to turn in the
famous old tenor at Bow to a peal. He
had already rung it behind to 5453
changes of Grand sire Calers, beating Philip
Gleghin's length of 5111 changes in the same

method.

203

William Shipway extended his system of
Glace ringing to eight and nine bells. On
September 12th 1802 he called at St. Mary's
Islington, 5040 changes of Imperial Glace
Major, the first and apparently the only, peal
ever rung in the method; and on the following
November 20th he called at Shoreditch 5004
changes of Imperial Glace Caters. The
method was an interesting experiment and
an attempt to break fresh ground and
explore fresh fields, but its actual merits
are few and there is little wonder that the
Exercise as a whole did not take it up
and even the Cumberlands dropped it
after ringing the first peals.

The younger Gross did not ring in these
peals, nor for nearly three years did Shipway
ring in any peals with Gross except for the
long peal of Maximus at Southwark. It
seems quite clear that there was jealousy

and rivalry between the two men. Both ²⁰⁴
were ambitious of calling peals and Shipway
and his friends held a regular practice
meeting at Islington. Three few days after
Christmas Day in 1802 he called 6128 changes
of Grandeur Major and claimed it as the
most ever rung in that method. The claim
was an unfounded one, for nearly ten years
earlier the Birmingham men had scored
their 8000 at Scitend.

George Gross died in 1803⁽¹⁰³⁾. He had held
the office of beadle in the Society of Cumberland
Youths since September 1792 and he was an
active peal ringer and conductor until the
last. I have already given an estimate
of his character as far as it is possible. He
did not quite reach the first rank, but
for many years he was one of the most
active and important members of the London
Exercise and his services to the Cumberlands'

Society fairly earned the eulogy they ²⁰⁵
pronounced upon him.

In 1801 two bells were added to the
ring of ten at Christ Church, Spitalfields,
and that gave the Cumberlands a twelve
bell tower to practise in, but it was some
time before they gained access to the belfry.
The bells were now in the charge of Charles
Gurser who had returned to London and
was the landlord of The Ben Jonson Tavern
in Booth Street near the church, a house
which according to Samuel Austin "was
resorted to by the gentry of the parish." ⁽¹⁰⁵⁾

(Spitalfields was then, of course, a very
different place from what it is now.)

In the course of a long and varied ringing
career Gurser had played many parts. He
had joined and left every one of the leading
companies. At one time he was almost the
foremost man in the London Exercise. At
another he stood outside all the societies

He led the College youths in the earlier 206
stages of the Long peal contest, and he
went backwards and forwards between
them and the Cumberlands as suited his
purposes. Such a man was sure to have
made rivals and enemies, and it is more
than likely that the elder George Gross
was one of them. For fifty years the
Cumberlands had rung every recorded
peal in Christ Church steeple, but during
the years that Gross was beadle to the
society and Purser was steeplekeeper at
Spitalfields, they scored only one. When
Gross died in 1803 the ban was lifted,
and on March 5th in the following year
the Cumberlands rang the first peal
on the twelve bells. It was one of Grand sire
Lingues, 5170 changes, and was conducted
by the younger George Gross, who had
succeeded his father in the office of beadle.

He rang the treble and the others in 207
the band were, Anthony Cavalier, Peter
Jones, James Nash, William Beard, Thomas
Reeves, James Barnard, William Richardson,
James Sticklebury, Malachi Channon, John
Hjints and William McDonald.

Five weeks later on Spitalfields bells
the society repeated the great performance
they had achieved five years before at
Southwark and again rang Reeves's nine
course peal of Treble Bob Maximus, containing
7104 changes. Marston was once more the
senior man and Stephens at the eleventh.
Gross conducted, and Shipway rang the
fifth. The time taken was ten minutes
longer than at St Saviour's

On November 5th 1805 a "long depending"
bell ringing match is said to have been
decided at Spitalfields when a band
from Norwich and twelve men of all
London contended for a purse of one
guinea a side. The Norwich Scholars

"took the lead by ringing 7008 changes of Treble Bob Royal in five hours and nine minutes, being nearly 26 changes a minute. The London men then followed, but after they had, ^{rung} over four thousand changes, Charles Purser who was at the tenor, became exhausted, suddenly collapsed, and did not recover until the next day. So the East Anglians won the match and the guineas.

This account comes to us from the peal book of the Union Society of Newport Isle of Wight, and there is at present no corroboration of it either from Norwich or from London. It seems strange that no memory of such a victory should have survived in the former city, but we need not dismiss the whole account as a baseless fable.

The peal book of the Union Society is not a company's peal book in the ordinary sense, though it does contain the records

of two or three peals rung by the society.²⁰⁹
It is a record of a number of peals rung by
different and unrelated Companies in various
parts of the country and during a considerable
period of years. Its historical evidence it
has just so much authority as properly
belongs to a collection made by a man who
was contemporary with the events related,
but could have had no personal knowledge
of the majority of them. Most of the items
can be tested from other sources, and
generally they prove to be accurate, but
there are a few which are not only not
corroborated, but are improbable. Three
peals are said to have been rung by the
Cumberlands at Shoreditch, not one of which
appears in their peal book. They are - 6410
changes of Union Bells on December 26th 1786,
5184 of Hedman Bells on July 5th 1796, and
5120 of Hedman Bells on March 15th 1808.
It is not impossible that one or all of these

peals were rung, but it is difficult to see why they should have been excluded from the peal book. A possible explanation is that they were incomplete attempts or were invalidated in some other way.

The evidence for the ringing match at Spitalfields is therefore by no means conclusive, but the account can hardly have been made up out of nothing. In itself there is nothing improbable about it.

On August 9th 1802, at Lewisham a match between the Maidstone and the Greenwich Companies for fifty guineas a side, was won by the latter who rang a peal of London Court Bob, 5280 changes, in 3 hours and 35 minutes. The Norwich men considered themselves the best band in England, and they did not mind who knew it. It is quite likely that they issued a general challenge and some sporting people were induced to put up a purse and arrange a picture with the London men. It is a

publican and a prominent ringer 211
Charles Purser was an obvious person to
negotiate with. He controlled a suitable
tower and he could easily get together a
suitable band.

But whatever happened, we may be sure
that the Norwich men did not ring 7008
changes of Treble Bob Royal in five hours
and nine minutes. A peal of that length
is not possible on ten bells, and evidently
Maximus was meant, for earlier in the
book the writer had recorded the College
Youths' long peal at Southwark in 1784
as one of Royal, "by twelve men only". The
Norwich men were expert twelve bell
ringers and they prided themselves on
the way they rang Treble Bob Maximus,
but they would hardly have started for
7008 changes on the bells on which in the
previous year the Cumberlands had rung
7104 changes, nor is it likely that such
a peal would have been clean forgotten

except for a more or less chance 212.
reference by a man in the Isle of Wight.
The time given too is clearly wrong. The
Norwich men rang their peals at a slower
rate than any other of the leading companies.
They would not have taken half an hour
less time than the Cumberlands did
to ring ninety-six more changes. The
rate stated - nearly twenty-six changes
a minute - is incorrect. It should have
been 22:35, which was an average rate
for Royal, but faster than was usual at
the time for Maximus.

In the same year that the Cumberlands
rang their two twelve bell peals at Christ
Church, they rang two other peals;
one of them 5024 changes of Treble Bob
at Chelmsford where the younger Gross
acted as composer and conductor, the
other 5039 changes of Grand sire Caters
at Shoreditch.

It will be remembered that when 213
after the upheaval of 1787 John Reeves joined
the Cumberlands, he called for them a feat
of Stedman Caters, the second achieved
in the Principle, and though they rang no
more five-thousands, we may assume that
so long as he was beadle the society practised
the method. The College youths rang feats
of Stedman Cinqes, and John Noonan and
the Junior Cumberlands rang Stedman
Caters in 1797, and Stedman Triples in 1799.
But after George Gross had returned to
his old office of beadle the senior Cumberlands
appear to have neglected the method.
Gross did not ring in the 1787 feat (though
his son did) and it is likely he despised
and discouraged a method which was so
closely associated with his rival, John Reeves,
and which he himself did not understand.
As long as he was beadle the Cumberlands
rang no feats of Stedman, but his death

made a great difference. The younger 214
Gross, who became leader, had taken part
in the early peal, and since had studied
the composition of the method. The society
again began to practise Nedman's
seriously, and on February 26th 1805, after
an unsuccessful attempt which they lost
through the breaking of the clapper of the
sixth bell when over 5500 changes had
been rung, they scored at St Leonard's
Shoreditch, a peal of 6129 changes, in 4 hours
and 12 minutes, which took its place as
the longest in the method, beating the
6003 rung by Hoonan and the Junior
Cumberlands at Spitalfields in 1797.

George Gross called from the field, and
the band was made up of the most skilful
of the ringers then belonging to the society—
William Shipway, Samuel Cowling, William
Beard, James Stickerbury, Peter Jones,
William Richardson, John Hints, Anthony

Cavalier, and Philip Pilgrim. Pilgrim 215⁵ apparently had broken with the College Youths; since 1801 he had been out of their peal band. The composition was by Gross, and was on the five-part plan with the treble fixed in seconds place at the course ends. This style of peal had lately been introduced by Noonan, and was generally adopted by composers during the following hundred years.

Noonan and the Junior Cumberlands had a band fully capable of ringing Stedman Caters, but they did not attempt to regain the record they had lost, and the Cumberlands' peal remained unbeaten for nearly forty years. Instead the two societies started a rivalry in Stedman Cinqes which culminated in a regular match at Spitalfields, lasting for six weeks. Every Monday the junior

society started for a peal, and every 216
Saturday the senior. On December 13th 1806
the seniors rang over 5500 changes and
got out, - curiously enough the same length
they had rung in their failure for Calers.
On the following Monday the juniors rang
the first peal of Piedman Cinques on
the bells, 5086 changes in three hours and
fifty nine minutes. Noonan rang the
treble and conducted, and the band was
made up of Thomas Humphrey, William
Williams, William Troup, Joseph Ladley,
Richard Jagers, William Mackee, Robert
Bates, Samuel Garrett, James Blacklock,
Thomas Gvenden, and William Fletcher.
The figures of this peal have not survived
but there is no doubt that it was on a
similar plan to the Calers.

On the following Saturday, December 20th
1806, the "old" Cumberlands were also
successful, and they rang a peal of 6334
changes in four hours and 55 minutes.

The band was - George Gross, conductor, 217 James Gurner, James Nash, Peter Jones, James Vickbury, Edward Barrell, William Shipway, John Hinds, Thomas, Freeth, Anthony Cavalier, William Stephens and Philip Gilgim. James Gurner after some years with the College Youths had come back to his old society, and Edward Barrell had also returned. He was now the pieperkeeper at Spitalfields having succeeded Charles Gurner who died in 1805.

As the Cumberland's' feat was 130 changes longer than the one the College Youths had rung in 1788, it was the longest so far in the method, and the society for some years held the double record for Caters and Cinqes. They lost it in 1820, when Thomas Thurston called a feat of 6600 Hedman Cinqes at Birmingham for the St Martin's Youths.

The next feat at Spitalfields was by the College Youths.

That society had still, as we have seen,

an excellent band at St Martin's, their 218
headquarters, but they had largely outlived
their ambitions in peal ringing, and were
content for the most part to leave that to
the more energetic members in the Middlesex
villages, and especially at Kensington where
Charles Barber was still very active. In
the first year of the new century the band at
Kingston-upon-Thames, who were College
youths, comes into prominence. There had
been a ring of ten in the tower since 1748,
when Robert Gallin recast the old octave,
and, no doubt, a competent band of ringers;
but nothing is known of their doings except
that on December 10th 1787 they rang Hollis's
ten-part peal of Grandine Triples Robert
Porter, a youth 17 years old, calling from the
second. He appears to have dropped out of
the band and not to have fulfilled the
promise of his youth, but others of the Company
continued active, and from the year 1801

onwards a number of peals were rung ²¹⁹
by the local men, some of them of more
than ordinary length. On February 10th 1801
5,040 changes of Grandsire Caters were rung
by a band which included Samuel Hills,
William and Richard Laming, and Robert
Collins, who had taken part in the 1787 peal,
as well as John Cole, the Iplewath ringer,
William Cook, and Thomas Hall, who was
now the leader of the bellry, and probably
called the bobs though it is not definitely
so stated.

This seems to have been something in
the nature of a practice peal, for a month
later the company rang 7001 changes of
Grandsire Caters in 4 hours and 41 minutes.
The band was not quite the same. Hills
and Cole did not ring, but Charles Barber
took part, and the performance was entered
in the College Youths' peal book. Thomas
Hall conducted.

On March 30th 1802 Barber called 5040

changes of Caters with a band that ²²⁰
otherwise belonged to the local company,
and on December 12th "few College youths
inhabitants of the town" ⁽¹⁰⁷⁾ rang 6011 changes
of Grand sire Caters. The first performance
was recorded in the peal book, but not
the other.

A little more than a month after the
six-thousand, 10,386 changes were rung
conducted by Robert Collins, and a year
after that a peal of Bob Royal conducted
by William Cook. There are no further
accounts of any performances at Kingston
until 1823, but it is reasonable to suppose
that, since all peals were not recorded
on boards, some were rung which are
now forgotten. ⁽¹⁰⁸⁾

The Kingston band, although they were
elected members of the Society of College youths,
stood apart from the men of the towers nearer
to the western suburbs of London, which for

some years continued to supply the main ²²¹
strength of the College Juniors' peal bands,
apart from the now occasional peals rung
at headquarters, or when the company visited
some provincial town. Barber called Bob
Major at Battersea on February 8th 1801 with
a band largely from Kensington, and five
weeks later, on March 22nd Grand sire Calers
^{at Fulham}
with much the same band. William Kuke,
Jonathan Longley, Nicholas Lockyer, Richard
Harley, and John Stralford rang in both
peals; Edward Rumball rang at Battersea;
William Paris stood in at Fulham, and
Edward Hudnott the parish clerk rang the
tenor. Two peals were scored at St Mary
Abbots during the year. On May 2nd Barber
called Grand sire Triples with 190 bobs and
50 singles, most likely the bob and single
peal from the Clavis, and on December 13th
William Brook called Treble Bob Major.
William Jones rang the fifth to the former
and John Govey, William Wilson, Thomas

Smith, James Tursur, Edward Barrell, 222
and Charles Barber were in the latter. In
June the company visited Leighton Buzzard
and rang the first peal on the bells which
Thomas Sears had put up in 1787. The
method was Grand sire Triples, Barber
conducted, and the band consisted of
William Kirke, John Buckingham, Thomas
Porter, John Tovey, Edward Simmonds,
Edward Barrell, and Philip Pilgrim. In
the autumn Barber called another peal
of Grand sire Triples at Cranbrook to open
the new ring of eight from the Whitechapel
foundry. James Tursur and William
Wilson were in this, and John Lyford
assisted Edward Simmonds at the tenor.

In 1802 the society rang Treble Bob Royal
at Shoreditch and Treble Bob Masimus
at St Martin in the Fields. It was over
eighty years before the next College Youth's
peal was rung at St Leonards. The Society's
annual outing was to Leeds in September

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When Barber called a peal of Grand sire
Caters, and after that for five or six years
peal ringing was left to the Kensington
men. They at least were still active and
keen, and on December 4th 1803 they accomplished
a performance of outstanding historical
interest.

When John Noonan called his peal of
Siedman Triples at St. Giles in 1799, it
seemed a very fine performance, but not
one which ringers would be likely to
imitate, and the London men were as far
off as ever from having a servicable
composition in the method. But about
the year 1792 Thomas Edwards of Kilmington
composed his peal. It was on the multi-bob
plan, and so was marred by the features
objected to by the authors of the Clavis,
and the leading ringers of the time. They
hoped to be able to produce a peal with
single bobs and, as Shipway wrote, the
matter had been for many years the

“Constant research of the most eminent 224
professors of the Art.” They did not
realise the peculiar difficulties of the
problem, but they did know that using
a multiplicity of bobs which would keep
two bells dodging together behind was
both “tedious and unmusical”, and a
practice justly reprobated.” This probably
was the reason why Edwards’s peal was
never rung, either by the the band in his
own tower, or by the Birmingham men
who had just recently accomplished their
peal of Nedman Caters at St Philip’s.
Edwards was a man who had devoted
considerable attention to composition,
and had produced peals in other methods
besides Nedman, but, owing to the then
custom of not giving the composers’
names in the peal records, we do not
know how far his merits were recognised
in the Midlands, and whether or no his
compositions were rung.

Shipway "paid much attention" to ²²⁵ "obtaining a peal in five parts on the proper plan, and at some time before 1816, he composed a half-peal with eightly bobs and ten ordinary singles in which there are never more than two consecutive calls, and that only twice in each part. But it was the longest length he was able to produce, nor has it, I believe, since been exceeded.

Edwards adopted a lower standard or had a juster appreciation of his own and other people's limitations. He adapted the traditional system of hunts to the multi-bob plan, and so produced a peal, which was not only fine, but could be called by a competent composer. It was a great improvement on Hoonan's peal which was irregular in form, but Edwards was not a conductor with a skilful band at his service, and he could not call it

Himself. The excessive number of 226
Bobs and singles condemned it in the eyes
of other conductors. The figures however
were known to the Birmingham men
and have been handed down through
them to us. Shipway, too, evidently
knew the peal, but thought it not worth
notice, and neither gives it in his book
nor mentions it, except indirectly. It
was however the ultimate source from
which all subsequent peals in the method
sprang.

To this general neglect of Edwards and
his peal there was one notable exception.
In some way or other he was in touch
with the Kensington Band and they
rang several of his compositions. The
probability is that he submitted his work
to William Jones, whom, as the author
of the Clavis, he would naturally consider
to be the great authority on composition

and Jones was still a member of the 227
St. Mary Abbot's Company.

After the break up of 1787 and the ruin of his ambitions, Jones had kept aloof from the leading ringers, but he still practised the art. For a short time he rejoined the Cumberlands, but for the most part his ringing was done in the western suburbs. He took part in several peals at Kensington, Battersea, Isleworth, and other towers, but he never stood in a band which included men from the headquarters at St. Martin's. He was on excellent terms with Charles Barber whose ringing career did not begin until after the dissolution of the ancient Society of College Youths, and therefore had had no share in the quarrel that caused it. Barber called all the peals that Jones took part in after the opening of the new century.

If then, Edwards had sent his peal 228
to William Jones, it was only natural
that Jones should hand it on to Barber,
and Barber did call it at Kensington
on December 4th 1803. The band was
a local one except that it included
Edward Barrell. It consisted of -
William Paris, William Brooke, Jonathan
Longley, William Jones, John Stratford,
Charles Barber, Edward Barrell, and
Richard Eddis. It was the fourth peal
of Stedman Triples which had been
rung, and the first that we definitely
know was true. The other three were
the two Norwich peals of 1731, and
Moore's peal at St Giles's. It was
thirteen years before the next peal in
the method was accomplished.

In the following April Barber called
a peal of Grandmere Triples composed by
Edwards in which there was a bob, a

single or a double in every lead. 229
The band was much the same as in the
Hedman. Barrell and Stratford did
not ring, but Edward Rumball took
a rope.

During the years 1804 to 1807 the
College youths rang eleven peals and none
of them is of any particular interest.
All of them were conducted by Charles
Barber, and the bands in every case
consisted mainly of the Kensington men.
They were rung at Fulham, Isleworth,
Kensington, Heriford, Battersea, and
Harrow. The methods were Grand sire
Triples and Calers, Treble Bob Major and
Royal, Bob Major and Reverse Bob Major.
The peal of Reverse Bob Major was rung
at St. Mary, Abbots on April 1st 1806,
and was the last in London in the method.
One of the peals at Heriford was Grand sire
Calers on July 30th 1807. and in it William

Lyford and Winstanley Richardson, 230
Both of whom had for some years been
out of peal ringing, reappeared, the
latter in his favourite position at the
treble.

In 1806 James Purser and Edward
Barrell had, as we have seen, gone over
to the Cumberlands and helped to make
up the band that rang the Sidman
Cinquies at Spitalfields in the December
of that year. After the peal was achieved
both came back to the College youths,
and on March 8: 1808 both assisted
in the last twelve bell peal rung by
the men who during the last quarter
of the eighteenth century had maintained
the position of the College youths as the
leading society in the Exercise. It was
one of Treble Bob Minimus at Christ
Church, Spitalfields, and the band was
made up of Winstanley Richardson, Edward

Barrell, William Wilson, John Povey, ²³¹
Joseph Holdsworth, William Brooke,
James Purser, William Lyford, James
Blacklock, Charles Barber, John Cooper,
and Thomas Grainger. Povey called
the bobs. Nearly all these men were
approaching the end of their careers,
but there was one who was to be the last
leader of the society in the conditions
under which it had existed for many
years, but which were shortly to come
to an end. John Cooper was a man from
Shrewsbury, and this was the first time
he made one of a London peal band.
It was the second and last peal of
Mascimus on Spitalfields bells.

In the western suburbs the ringers,
largely through the influence, first of
James Hooster and then of Charles
Barber, were for the most part connected
with the Society of College Youths, but

in the outlying villages and towns
 on the south side of the river they were
 more independent and had their own
 local societies, which often included men
 who at other times were prominent members
 of the metropolitan companies. Just before
 the close of the eighteenth Century the
 Surrey Youths rang their long peal of
 Grand sire Caters at St. John's, Horsleydown,
 which probably was then their headquarters.
 They may have achieved other performances
 now forgotten, and on April 1st 1807 they
 rang at St. Magnus, London Bridge,
 5111 changes of Grand sire Caters with a
 band made up of George Harris, Charles
 Hunt, Thomas Cockford, Joseph Ladley,
 Daniel Dearing, John Davis, Charles Clarke,
 John Palmer, Robert Muggidge, and
 Thomas Michael. Half the band had
 taken part in the earlier performance

which shows that the society was not merely an ephemeral organization. Indeed it appears to have lasted for several years, for as late as 1845 and 1856 the Surrey youths were ringing peals. At Deptford were the Trinity youths of whom we have already spoken, and at Greenwich was a company who called themselves the Eastern Scholars, though of course without any intention of claiming any connection with the older and more famous society of the same name. They were a skilful company and included at one time or another several prominent ringers. Their first peal rung at St. Alphage on October 11th 1800 was one of Maidstone Bob Major Royal, 5760 changes. The first peal in this method had been rung at Maidstone in 1794. It is said by Osborn to have

been composed by Thomas King, one of ²³⁴ the local company, who rang the sixth to the peal. The figures are lost, but it evidently was a simple variation of Plain Bob, and not an improvement, for Shipway did not think it worth a place in his book. The Eastern Scholars, however, liked it well enough to ring two more peals of it - 6000 at Greenwich on February 17th 1801, and 5500 at All Saints, Hereford, on June 2nd 1802. The company rang 5040 changes of London Court Bob Major at Greenwich on May 2nd 1802, and in the following August they apparently were the victors in the contest with the Headstone men at Lewisham which we mentioned a few pages back. The Lewisham peal is not included among the society's performances but the account in the peal book of the

Union Society of Newport may be 235
accepted as substantially authentic.

Between the years 1800 and 1826 the Eastern Scholars rang twenty-nine peals. They consisted of thirteen peals of Grand sire Triples, and seven of Caters; two peals of Bob Major, and one of Royal; two peals of London Court Bob Major; three of Headstone Bob Royal, and one of Oxford Treble Bob Royal. The first fifteen years was by far the most successful period in the Company's history and included all their best peals. The last ten were all Grand sire Triples.

Seventeen of the peals were rung at St Alphage, Greenwich, four at Lewisham, two at each Woolwich and Deptford, and one at each St. George's Camberwell, All Saints Hertford, Beckenham, and St. Leonard's Shoreditch. The conductors were George Gross, Edward Taylor, James Charlton, Joseph Ladley, George Cole, Henry Symondson and three or four others.

The early years of the nineteenth century were a time of considerable activity in bell founding, and Thomas Mears supplied several rings to churches in the metropolitan district, and augmented or restored several existing rings. In 1807 he recast the heavy octave at St. Dunstan's, Stepney, into the present ring of ten, and the first peal on them was one of Grand sire Gaters, rung on March 8th by the Junior Cumberlanders. It was composed and conducted by John Noonan and rung by, Thomas Grenden, John Noonan, Joseph Ladley, William Williams, William Leake, James Shirup, Samuel Garrett, John Haines, James Blacklock and James Harrison.

The next day the "old" Cumberlanders rang 5075 changes in the same method, and four days later 5080 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Royal. George Gross who rang the treble was the composer and conductor and the rest of the band were James Purser

Peter Jones, James Nash, William 237
Shipway, Thomas Reeves, John Herts,
James Hitchbury, Anthony Cavalier,
and William Stephens. On the following
February 24th the Junior Cumberlands
rang 5200 changes of Treble Ten, composed
and conducted by Noonan, — James Head,
Thomas Humphrey, Joseph Ladley, William
Williams, John Noonan, William Makee,
Benjamin Merrin, John Harrison, William
Fletcher and William Trasher. The peal
book claims it as the first peal in the
method on the bells, but owing to the
very haphazard way in which the book
was written, it need not be taken as an
assertion that Gross' peal was false in
composition or execution.

The ring at St Andrews, Enfield, was
apparently restored in 1809 and the Junior
Cumberlands rang two peals on them, the
first in the steeple, — Grandfire Triples

on April 9th and Treble Bob Major
 on July 10th. Williams called both, and
 Henry Symondson took part in both.
 The peal boards comment on the shortness
 of the times taken, but neither would be
 considered in any way remarkable today.
 The Grandsire took 3 hours and 8 minutes.
 The Treble Bob took 2 hours and 58 minutes.
 On January 28th 1798 the society had rung
 Grandsire Triples at St. Giles' Lambenwell,
 with Noonan as conductor, in the really
 quick time of 2 hours and 37 minutes.
 It was claimed at the time, and probably
 with truth to have been "rung in the shortest
 time of any peal that ever was rung."

A new Whitechapel ring of eight was hung
 at All Hallows, Barking, in 1813, and
 the first peal on them, Grandsire Triples,
 was rung by the Junior Cumberlands on
 March 23rd, 1814. Noonan conducted,
 Ladley rang the fifth, and Williams the

sixth. Two men were needed for the 239
tenor, though the weight was no more than
19cwt. Edward Bartell rang it single
handed to the next peal in the steeple,
one of Treble B.B. Major on May 22nd 1815.
It was a College youths' band, but the
conductor was George Gross, who had
quarrelled with the Cumberlands, and
left them for a while.

When George Gross succeeded to his
father's post of beadle to the Society of
Cumberland Youths, he inherited much
of his prestige and influence, though
there were men like Hinton and Shipway
who were inclined to resent and resist
his assumption of authority. For some
years, however, he managed, not only to
maintain the society's reputation, but
through his peals of Hedman Caters and
Cunques to add to it. The Cumberlands

were reaping the reward of their less
 exclusive spirit; for while the College
 youths were ceasing to ring peals because
 the older men's ambition was satiated, and
 there were no younger men to take their
 places when they dropped out of the peal
 band, the rival company still included
 many active and skilful ringers.

In 1805 the society promoted a scheme
 for increasing the ring at St Leonard's
 Shoreditch to twelve, and the necessary
 money was subscribed or collected. The
 amount had to be raised twice because
 the man appointed as treasurer absconded
 with the first subscriptions.

Permission to install the new bells in the
 steeple was granted by the vestry on October
 29th 1805 and the casting was done at
 Whitechapel. It would seem that at first
 they were not a success, for they were recast

in 1823

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The new bells were hung in November 1807, and on the last day of the month the opening peal was accomplished, 5390 changes of Grandiose Cinques, composed and conducted by George Gross, who rang the treble. The other ringers were, William Shipway, James Nash, James Sticklebury, Anthony Cavalier, Felix Jones, John Hints, William Stephens, Thomas Freeth, James Purser, Philip Pilgrim, and James Charlton. These men were then the best and most skilful ringers in the society.

On the following March 8th the Cumberlands scored a notable peal when they rang 5094 changes of Stedman Caters at St Mary. C. Bow. Gross was again composer and conductor and the band was made up by Shipway, Nash, Jagger, Sticklebury, Hints, Freeth, Cavalier, Stephens and Pilgrim. It was the first in the method

on the bells.

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The second peal on the twelve at Shoreditch was one of Treble Bob Maximus, 6000 changes, on December 9th 1809. Gross conducted, and the band was made up of Shipway, Hints, Stephens and the rest of the regular Cumberlands band, Philip Gilquin being at the tenor. Two years later much the same band went to St Martin's in the Fields and rang 5724 changes of Treble Twelve there. It was the first peal by the society in the steeple which later on was for so many years to be their headquarters. In 1812 the College Youths were still established there and the Cumberlands only visitors.

From the time he was elected leader in 1803 until December 1813, George Gross took part in twenty-five peals with the Cumberlands and he called them all. During the same period ten other peals were rung by the society and the conducting was shared by seven men.

No doubt in thus monopolising the conducting, Gross was within his strict rights as beadle, and of course he had the support of a majority of the members, but we need not wonder that it was the cause of discontent and faction. There were other men just as ambitious of calling, and one or two perhaps just as capable. John Harris rang in all the peals from 1800 until the beginning of 1810 and then significantly his name drops out of the peal records except for the Maximus at St. Martin's. He was connected with the rather nondescript company which called itself the Westminster Youths. William Shipway took part in all the more important peals by the Cumberlands such as the Piedman Caters at Shoreditch and Bow, the Piedman Cinques at Spitalfields, the Treble Bob Maximus at Spitalfields and St. Martin's, and the Grand sire Cinques at Shoreditch; and he often was one of the band when the society visited

some outlying power, but it is clear 244
that he was not one of Gross' inner circle
of friends. He had his own party at Islington
and he was in touch with the Greenwich
band, who, in addition to being Eastern
Scholars, were for the most part Cumberland
Youths.

One of these men was Edward Taylor
whose keen interest in the problems of
composition formed a bond of interest
between him and Shipway, for Shipway had
none of the selfish and exclusive spirit
shown by the elder Gross and probably by
his son, who kept their figures and their
knowledge to themselves. On February 7th
1809 Taylor rang the sixth and called a
peal of Grand sire Triples at Hackney with
Shipway at the fifth. This seems to be the
first performance of Taylor's well known
6/6 and single peal, which though it was
admittedly a variation of the composition

in the Clavis, was a great improvement ^{At 5}
as it was (to quote Shipway) rendered less
difficult, the singles in each part being
more regularly divided, and, instead of two
esclia singles, two are omitted, reducing
them to forty-six. It is true that, as long
as forty years before, John Vicars of Oxford
had produced a variation quite as good,
and indeed in many respects identical,
but that does not detract from the merits
of Taylor's work, for Vicars' feat had never
become generally known, and except for
the copy which lay hidden and unnoticed
among Dr. Charles Mason's papers, had
perished. Taylor's variation was a
decided acquisition to the conductors of
Grandure Triples yet it was some time
before it displaced the older Clavis feat.

Taylor produced one or two excellent
feats of Bob Major on what was then the
novel plan of keeping the sixth either in

fifths or sixths at the course end 246
throughout the peal. In one of these, which
he called in 1810 at Greenwich for the
Eastern Scholars, he used five in-course
singles, as well as five ordinary singles.
Such a device would now be inadmissible
but at the time all singles were looked
upon by the older and more conservative
men as departures from the strict method, and
Taylor's justification was that he was
able to get a result which could not be
obtained by any other means. In his
second peal, which he conducted at Deptford
in 1812 for the Trinity Youths, he used bobs
before to move the sixths from in front of
the tenor to behind the seventh (as a
modern composer would). This increased
the length of his peal by five leads, and
cut out eight leads of the full extent
with 6, 7, 8 together. In an endeavour to
get the full extent with ordinary bobs.

and singles only, he produced a 6272 ²⁴⁷
which the Cumberlands rang at Hackney
on February 26th 1813. The peal was evidently
arranged by Shipway who rang the fifth,
Taylor rang the sixth and conducted,
and the band was made up of Shipway's
friends. Shipway composed and called
a peal of Grandire Caters with the local
band at Greenwich in 1809, and rang in
another in 1812 conducted by Samuel
Wade.

On February 19th 1810 George Gross
called a peal of Grandire Triples at St
Andrew's Holborn. It was, so far as we
know, the first peal in the steeple since
1738 when John Bosc and the "Friendly
Society" rang 6160 changes of Bob Major.

It is not difficult to see evidence of
the existence of different factions within
the Society of Cumberland Junks with
Gross and Shipway as the leaders of two

hostile parties. For a long time Gross maintained his position, but after 1813 his name disappears from the society's records for some years. His last feat before the quarrel was Grand sire Calers at Shore ditch and in it Francis May reappeared after an interval of several years as a feat ringer. Shipway succeeded Gross as the leader and principal conductor to the society.

During the sixteen or seventeen years which followed the Piedman Cinqes in 1807 the Junior Cumberlands rang several more feats, but none of them of any particular historical interest or significance. That they ceased to make any further advances in Piedman is probably due to the misfortune which about this time befel John Noonan.

In 1808 he called Treble Bob Royal at Slipney and Grand sire Triples at Bishopscote

and then his name disappears from 249
the real records for a couple of years to
reappear only on two isolated occasions.

There is good reason to believe that he
himself was a harmless, inoffensive man,
with a character at least as high as the
ordinary London workmen of his time,
but many of his companions of the Junior
Cumberlands were a rather indifferent
lot. No one has suggested that they belonged
to the criminal class or were not law
abiding in the strict sense of the term,
but they had earned a bad name as low
characters and haunters of taverns. In
his visits with them to the obscure public
houses of Wapping, Radcliff and the other
Thames side districts, Hoonan must often
have come in contact with the lawless
and criminal men who were usually to be
found in the neighbourhood of great ports,
and one day when he was drinking in a

riverside tavern with some smugglers
the whole party was surprised and captured
by revenue officers. In such circumstances
it was very difficult for Noonan to
prove that his associations with the others
were perfectly innocent, and it would
have gone very hard with him indeed
had not William Eversfield stood as his
friend and testified to his character.
Eversfield is said to have held some
office in the excise service, or at least to
have been well known to the excise men.
Noonan was sentenced to a year's
imprisonment, which though it now seems
a very severe sentence, would then be
looked upon as a very light one, and
people probably thought he was lucky
in escaping transportation for life.
But imprisonment of any sort was a severe
blow to a man like Noonan, and he
came out of gaol a broken man, with

his ringing career practically ended ²⁵¹
He did ring the tenor and call a peal of
Treble Bob at Bishopsgate in February
1810, and four years later one of Grandsons
Triples at All Hallows, Parking, but
they were his last. He died about the
same time at Bromley in Kent, whither
he had retired.

It is a tragic coincidence that two
men, John Noonan and Thomas Thurstons,
one of whom composed the first fine peal of
Spedman Triples, and the other the first
fine peal with common Cobs and singles,
should each have suffered a term of
imprisonment, and each through misfortune
rather than for anything morally wrong.
The effect on both men's characters and
careers was disastrous.

From the time that George Gross and
his son had left the Junior Cumberlands
that company had been held together

by William Williams who held the office of beadle, and as long as he was an active ringer it enjoyed a certain amount of prosperity. The members were for the most part a rough and undisciplined lot with an undue fondness for beer and the inside of taverns but they included many good and skilful ringers. Williams himself must have had good qualities, or he would not have been able to maintain his position and that of the company for so long. He was a conductor and he had some pretensions to be considered a composer, but he did not try to usurp all the calling as George Gross did. So long as Noonan was active, Williams was content to let him take the lead in conducting and when he disappeared, he welcomed the assistance of Joseph Ladley who for some years called the majority of

the peals rung by the society. One of ²⁵³
them Grand sire Caters rung at Thoreditch
in 1817 is of interest as showing a stage
in the development of composition. It was
in the fittings throughout with the fifth
and sixth the only bells behind the ninth,
"being their escent in both courses which
proves the utility of singles." It was the
first peal rung on the pean. All the peals
called by Ladley were either Grand sire
Triples or Grand sire Caters.

In October 1807 William Williams paid
a visit to Oxford and while there called
a peal of Grand sire Triples on the back
eight at Magdalen College. He rang the
second and the rest of the band were
local men - James Howell, Thomas Taver
Jonathan Taver, Charles Taver, Edward
Nicholls, John Haines, and W. Green.
The Tavers were for many years the mainstay
of ringing in Oxford. Edward Taver was

The father and Thomas, Jonathan, 254
Charles and George his sons. Jonathan was
born at Hinksey near Oxford on May 31
1779, and was still living and in his ninety
seventh year in 1876. He had been blind
for some time which led to his giving up
ringing.

Williams's visit to Oxford was followed
by a revival of change ringing in the city
and it may have been one of the contributory
causes. The local band rang Hollis' Ten.
part in 1810 and twice again in 1812. On
January 5th 1815 they rang 6101 changes
of Grand sire Calers at Magdalen, and on
the following March 25th 10,008 changes
at New College. Edward Nicholls rang
the eighth and called both peals which
were recorded in the Junior Cumberlands'
book, and in the case of the ten thousand
on a tablet in the belfry. For ringing the
long peal the band received ten guineas

and a good dinner. It was the first ²⁵⁵
ten-thousand rung in Oxford, John Vicar's
attempt in 1742 having been a failure.

These peals were followed in 1820 by 5003
Grandsire Caters at Christ Church, composed
and conducted by W. Parker, and 5376
Bob Major at New College composed and
conducted by Isaac John Benjamin Lales
who was afterwards so famous as a
Birmingham ringer. Lales's peal had "the
whole of the 7865, 8675 and 6785 in the 40, 320;
in other terms the 6th 24 times Wrong and
Right". It must have been very similar
to Taylor's composition and like it consisted
with in-course as well as ordinary singles.

Parker called another peal of Caters at
Christ Church in 1828 and an unbroken
tradition of Grandsire Caters ringing was
kept in the city down to the end of the
nineteenth century and the revival associated
with the name of James W. Washbrook

The early years of the nineteenth century

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must have seemed to the men of the time as a period of prosperity and advancement, and indeed it is not until some years later that we notice any very marked signs of decline. Yet a decline was setting in and of so marked a nature that it could not be hidden from the eyes of the more discerning of the contemporary men. As early as 1813 Shipway wrote that he was "fully sensible that for some years past the practice of ringing had been much on the decline." He hoped that the publication of his Campanalogia would help to revive it and the event did in no small measure justify his hope, but now we can see that the real cause of the decline lay in the fact that many of the most potent of the influences which had at first created and then developed the Exercise and the art had worked themselves out and become exhausted.

The art itself was sound enough, and 257
would ultimately show that it had abundant
vitality for an indefinite amount of further
advance when once those effete influences
had been replaced by new and vivifying
ones. Both the decline and the revival
of the Exercise were slow processes spread
over many years.

The first symptoms of decay in London
were a lowering of the standards in the
character and social status of the members
of the leading Companies, and the increasing
popularity of Grandfire Triples as the method
practised in eight bell towers. It would
perhaps be difficult to show that Grandfire
Triples as a method is inferior to B.D.
Major but history teaches the lesson that
when bands start from the former their chances
of advancement are very much less than when
they start from the latter.

During the three years in which William

Shipway led the Cumberlands after George Gross' defection the company rang only five peals, and three of them were Grand sire Triples. The other two were Grand sire Calers in 1814, and Treble Bob Royal in 1815. Both at St Leonard's Shoreditch. The peals of Triples were all in 1816. Francis Mathew called one at Croydon, and one rung at Lewisham is of interest as the first performance of Shipway's five-part with triple changes throughout.

All these performances were rung largely by outside members of the society, and it is evident that the company at headquarters was seriously weakened by dissensions. It was no doubt the reason why when William Booth of Sheffield paid a visit to London and a peal was arranged for him and rung at Shoreditch on June 16th 1816, that though he himself was a Cumberland youth, the band was a mixed one, made up from both

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the old societies. The peal was 5200 changes of Oxford Treble Bb Royal, George Gross conducted from the treble, and the band was made up of William Shupway, William Hall, William Makee, William Booth, Thomas Freeth, Thomas Michael, James Nash, Thomas Grainger, and Edward Barrell. Gross, Makee, Michael, Grainger and Barrell were College Youths, the others Cumberlands. The ringer of the tenor was not the Edward Barrell whose name we have so often mentioned. He died on July 20th 1818 at the age of fifty one and was buried at Whitechapel. This was his son.

The Shoreditch peal was probably an attempt on the occasion of an attempt to reunite the Cumberlands. Shupway realised that he had not sufficient influence to carry on the society successfully, and he was willing to let George Gross come back on his own terms. The result was that the company had once again a large measure

of prosperity. Gross called three peals in 260
1817, Grandeur Triples and Caters, and Oxford
Treble Bob Royal. In the next year the
company rang Reeves's 8448 of Treble Bob
Major at All Hallows, Barking, and in
September they paid a visit to Gloucester-
shire where on the 24th they 5000 changes
of Oxford Treble Bob Royal at Stroud,
with the 6th twelve times each way in ten
courses. It evidently was the well known
one part peal by Joseph Riley, who at the
time was living at Gloucester and who met
the Londoners and stood in the band, which
included the most skilful ringers that then
belonged to the society - Gross, Nash, Hints,
Shipway, Herbert, Fresh, Marllon, Riley,
Mathew, and John Whiting.

Next day they went to Painswick, and
standing in the same order rang another
peal of Treble-ten, this time Reeves's 5200
in nine courses. Gross called both peals.

James Marlion seems to have had some ²⁶¹ connection with Gainswick, for in 1815 he rang the tenor there to 5099 changes of Titium Grand sire Royal with the local band.

Before the year 1818 closed the Cumberlands scored a third peal of Treble Bob Royal - 6360 changes at St Margaret's Westminster.

John Powell Powell was a wealthy man who had a great love and enthusiasm for change ringing. He was a belated successor of Henry Smyth, Henry Brett, William Fortrey, Theodore Eccleston and the other gentlemen patrons of the art, and like them he spent money freely in the pursuit of his hobby. He probably learned to ring at Fulham where he had a house and with which parish his family had been for some generations connected. His country estate was at Birchington in Kent and in Quex Park his seat he built a special bell tower and in it installed a ring of twelve bells

from the Whitechapel foundry with a tenor ²⁶²
of 15 cwt.

The opening took place on August 4th 1819, and was a more or less public event, being attended by a "considerable concourse of Fashionables" from the neighbouring town of Margate. Both the College Youths and the Cumberlands were invited to send bands to the opening and each in turn rang a touch of about 900 changes of Cinques. The Cumberlands then rang the first peal in the steeple 5213 Grandfire Cinques in 3 hours and 39 minutes. George Cross rang the pebble and conducted and the band was made up of James Nash, William Thipway, John Hints, Peter Jones, James Blacklock, Thomas Fresh, Thomas Grenden, James Stickerbury, Joseph Riley, Thomas Grainger, and Francis Mathew.

The College Youths did not attempt a peal which shows that many of their leading men had now reached the stage when

they did not care to face the ordeal of 263
standing for three and a half hours. Instead
they contented themselves with two or three
fouces of an hours duration.

Towell endeavoured to get together a local
band; men on the estate were induced to
join, and William Shipway was engaged
as instructor. He had some measure of
success and in 1820 called Hollis ten-part
with Towell at the tenor.

After the feat of Treble-twelve at Spitalfields
in 1808 the College Youths did very little
feat ringing for a long time. In 1809
Charles Barber called Treble Bob at Leatherhead
and Grand sire Triples at Hatfield. The Treble
Bob was John Lyford's last feat. For more
than thirty years he had been one of the
most important people in the company and
had taken part in many feats. He died
on October 14th 1826 aged sixty nine, and
was buried at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields.

John Govey was still the Beadle to the 264
society and in 1811 he had some renewed
activity as a peal conductor. On March 14th
he called 5160 Treble Bob Royal at Westminster
and on December 12th 5093 Grand sire Caters
on the same bells. The bands included several
of the older members such as Daniel Jenkins,
William Lyford, William Wilson and Joseph
Holdsworth.

The Royal was Thomas Smith's last peal
he had taken a prominent part in the
London Exercise both as a Cumberland
and as a College Youth. He rang in the
Cumberlands' ten-thousand of Royal at
Shoreditch in 1777, in the College Youth's peal
at Cornhill in 1783, in Noonan's peal of
Double Norwich Court Bob Royal, and he
acted as conductor on several occasions.

On December 30th 1811 Govey called the first
peal on the new Whitechapel ring of eight
at Writtle in Essex. William Lyford, Jenkins
Holdsworth, Cooper, Barber, Blacklock, and

Notes

1. For an account of James Parkham and his band see Vol page
2. Jasper Snowden wrote an account of the Tebbi family and the band at Soham in Church Bells of February 26th 1876.
3. Volume X, page 413.
4. Dr. Samuel Lee to Samuel Lawrence Nov. 29 1817.
5. See Vol VIII page 84.
6. Peal Book of the Union Scholars of Newport, Isle of Wight. See Vol X page 392.
7. The Soham band was the only company, outside Norwich to ring a peal of Imperial Major.
8. On the 14th of March 1779 was rung in this steeple a true and complete peal of 5040 changes Peal Major in 3 Hours and Twenty six mins.
Performed by the following persons.
R. Midnell 1. R. Laughton 3. J. Bowtell 5. J. Sanders 7.
J. Cooper 2. W. Bland 4. J. Swan. 6. J. Hayward 8
N.B. The peal was composed by J. Sanders. —
— Peal Board at Great St. Mary's Cambridge as transcribed in Church Bells, June 10th 1874.
9. Jasper Snowden writing in Church Bells of

Janry 15. 1876 says that "J. Bowtell was one of the first to call Hollis one part peal as he conducted it in 1797, two years only after it was called for the first time by J. Barlett. Mr Bowtell was a great benefactor to Cambridge; among other good deeds he built either one or both the wings to Addenbrooks's Hospital.

Snowdon was relying as his authority on the transcript of one of the boards in Great S. Mary's Chapel given in Church Bells of Janry. 17. 1874.

Garnell in his notes says that "Mr James Barlett called and rung it on the 8 kind bells of the peal of twelve at Great S. Mary's Church, Cambridge along with the Cambridge fourths."

There is no reason to doubt Garnell's accuracy as he was writing very shortly after the event. There may, of course, have been two peals, but that does not seem likely, nor does Bowtell's name appear as a conductor in any other connection. Whether the board still exists I do not at present know, but I suspect that the man who copied it for Church Bells, misread a name which probably was almost illegible. See further Note 27.

10. J. S. Pritchett in a letter to Church Bells of March 4 1876 refers to this peal as Hollis' Ten-part peal of Grandiose Triples.
11. Copy of peal board in the copy of Leeds parish church (as given in Church Bells). - This peal of ten bells first rung February 5th 1798 and on December 25 was rung by the St. Peter's Company of Change Ringers a complete Peal of Grandiose Colors consisting of 5040 changes which was performed in 3 hours and 37 minutes by the following persons, William Ellbeck, 1; Two. Wigglesworth, 2; Joseph Whitaker, 3; James Sawyer, 4; William Shaw, 5; Benjin Stocks, 6; Richard Willcock, 7; William Preston, 8; Thomas Normington, 9; Benj Skirrow and James Blackburn, Tenor. William Preston conducted the peal."
12. For an account of the visit of the College Youths to Yorkshire in 1788 see Vol X page 384
- 13 See Vol II page 247. There may however have been two distinct societies called the Northern Youths, one in London and the other in Nottingham.

14. Quoted by Ernest Morris, History and Art of Change Ringing p. 253.
15. The Nottingham set have been alienated from the belfry and are now in private possession, but they are in good hands.
16. See Volume X page 384.
17. Inawdon's Grandvire page.
18. "May 12, 1788. On Monday last was rung at Wakefield by the Ringers of that place, a New Composition Peal of Trippe Bob Tripples called Wakefield Delight consisting of 5040 in 8 Courses completed. The same set of Ringers without changing a man or setting a bell began another Peal of Gocford Single Triples in Twelve Courses consisting of 5040 called Wakefield Surprise. Both these peals consisted 10,080 changes were performed, including the Raising and Letting the bells in Seven Hours and One Minute and were rang with a exactness and nice distinction never before done in ye Kingdome. What adds to the singularity of this performance is - There were Two Fathers

Five Sons, Five Brothers, Four Cousins
One Uncle, One Nephew, yet only eight
persons, and five names — from "an old
feal book", particulars not specified.

19. J. T. Bourne Old St Martin's Birmingham
page.
20. Tilley & Waller's, Church Bells of Warwickshire
page Mears & Stainbank's Catalogue (1920)
gives the date of the bells as 1756.
21. William Hutton, History of Birmingham 4th
ed. 1819.
22. Churchbells of Warwickshire — Tilley & Waller.
23. Ibid.
24. Ibid. The rings at St Martin's, St Philips and
Aston have all been recast in recent years
by Mears & Stainbank, Collett & Johnston, and
John Taylor & Co respectively. St John's church
has been pulled down.
25. William Hutton, History of Birmingham
26. The information came to Osborn probably
from William Hassal through John Hopkins.
27. Osborn copied the record of the feal from the
Cambridge feal book and gives Parlett as
the conductor. That definitely settles the
question.
28. See Vol. X page 50.

29. John Bowtell joined the Cambridge Youths on October 21, 1773, and died in 1813.
30. Charles Day was a surveyor of taxes. He joined the Cambridge Youths on May 30, 1850; he subscribed for two copies of the Clavis; and died in 1806.
31. Lee was writing in 1817. Peter Spencelay, the last of the conductors at Cambridge of any particular note, died in January 1807.
32. See Vol. x. p. 452.
33. From the account copied by Osborn from "an ancient MS at Nottingham" it seems that the peal was rung at the first attempt. If so it is difficult to see how it could have been rung in competition with the Leicester performance of more than a twelve month earlier.

"I throve Tuesday Morning, the 3rd of March 1778, A Peal of Ten Thousand, two hundred and sixty Grandring Calers was completely Rung in the first attempt for the same. On the Peal of Ten Bells at St Mary's Church in Nottingham. By John Smith 1, Richard Teal 2, William Bradley 3, Samuel Roe 4, John Masin 5, Richard Tharrah 6, John Fettlepeace 7, Francis Draper 8, William

Crop 9, James Coppock and Richard Wilson, Tenor. The time Seven Hours and 22 minutes."

34. See Vol. IX page 556.
35. The 8027 is recorded in the peal book, but the year is given as 1789
36. Osborn
37. J. W. Snowdon - Grand sire page 147.
38. J. W. Snowdon - A Treatise on Treble Bob. i p. 19.
39. See Vol X p 269.
- 40 J. St. Parnell quoted by Morris.
- 41 Berrows Worcester Journal, Oct. 12, 1775.
42. L. C. Bowdlerwell, St. J. Skelding, Letters in The Ringing World, December, 1931.
43. It may however have been Joseph Slater the conductor at Walsall, See page 64.
- 44 Berrows Worcester Journal Nov 28, 1774.
45. J. W. Snowdon - History of Hedman - See Hedman by C. D. P. Davies, page 141.
46. The word "anacreontic" simply meant "convivial". It was a not uncommon name for clubs at the time.
- 47 All that is known of Dr. Lee's early life is derived from a letter written by himself in 1813 while he was still a schoolmaster to a Mr. Jonathan Scott. This is given in the Dictionary

of National Biography and reproduced
in extenso by R. A. Daniell, The Bell News,
July 16th 1904. See also D. Lee's Life by his
daughter.

48. Shrewsbury Chronicle

49. Yeal bound in St. Chad's belfry.

50. At the time Hassall was only fourteen years old
so it is likely that in after years he was repeating
the opinions of the older men

51. William Booth's best known feat of Treble
Bob Royal is his variation of John Reeves's
one part in which the number of changes is
reduced to a level five-thousand - See
Snowdon's Treble Bob part II page 105.

52. A writer quoted in Shrewsbury Notes
and Queries.

53. This is a reference to a Coast on the
Broadsheet.

54. These five letters were printed by R. A. Daniell
in the Bell News of July 16th 1904.

55. I have come across what is apparently an
copy of an old record of the feat, which says
that it was composed and conducted by
Charles Shuter, and completed at the first
attempt. What authority it has I do not know.

56. Charles Ravenscroft called five long
peals at Bromsgrove - 10,192 B♭ Major in
1787. and 12000 B♭ Major in 1788.

57 On September 29th 1788 the Aston men rang
10080 B♭ Major, and on September 29th 1792
10192 B♭ Major. These peals were rung at the
rates of 26.32 and 26.40 respectively.

58. See Vol IV. p. 164.

59. There was, and perhaps still is, the following
record at Aldbourne - May 3rd 1791 was rung
5040 Grandsires Triples By John North, Treble,
William Gwyn 2. Edw. Witts 3, Levi Pizzi 4.

Wm. Lawrence (called the bobs) 5 Broom Witts 6.
James Witts 7. Joseph Orchard Tenor 3 hrs 28 mins

60. The Tebbits were gardeners by trade

61. "These I was told by old Michael Turner
of Warnham (born 1796) were the heaviest peal
in Sussex, the tenor weighing 36 cwt." - Henry
Burdow, Reminiscences of Horsham, p 87. But
local estimates of the weights of tenors are
almost always exaggerated.

62. George Gross called the same length and
possibly the same composition at Edmonton
in 1794.

63 On March 10th 1846 a man named Thomas
Lintott rang the fourth to a peal at Gravesend.

64. See Vol X. page 255.
65. A broadsheet recording this peal was printed and a copy of it is now in the belfry.
66. Thomas Bristow joined the Cumberlands on August 12th 1775; Thomas Aldridge on Decr. 26th 1776.
67. A copy of the Trinity Youths peal book is in the library of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.
68. Samuel Austin - Letter to C. H. Lukis.
69. Jasper Snowdon, - History of Hedman - included in C. D. P. Davies' "Hedman" page 140.
70. "There was a branch existing at Heriford, the chair being usually taken by the Marquis of Salisbury who was supported by Lord Bacc and many of the gentry of the County" - College Youths' Hand Book 1894 p. 12. There is no record of any connection between Lord Bacc and the Heriford College Youths and Lord Salisbury was still only an earl on the only occasion he visited them.
71. The peal of Grand sire Caters at Leicester was the composition of John Martin and is given by Shipway in his appendix. Martin rang the sixth, William Bull

rang the ninth and concluded. An account of the composition is given in an article in *The Ringing World* of by Edgar Shepherd.

72. Two peals of Grandson's Coliers at St. Margaret's Leicester - one of 6,012 changes on August 12th 1776, the other of 10,080 changes on February 25th 1777 - were conducted by William Bull. There is nothing to identify this man with the Shrewsbury ringer, but though there is a considerable interval of years between the performances he might well have been the same.
73. Charles Ravenscroft died on September 21st 1812 at the age of 46 years - J. W. Snowdon, "Trelle Bob" ii. p. 120.
74. The handbells are now in St. Chad's Celfry.
75. E. J. Osborn.
76. A verbatim copy of the records is among the Osborn manuscripts.
77. An account of John Briant by Herbert C. Andrews was published in 1930 by the East Meris Archaeological Society.

78. Horn-book = child's alphabet &c on framed paper covered with thin horn. The paracasm is obvious.
- 79 Of course neither the Clavis nor Shipway's book had as yet been published and Hathi's peal could very well have been composed independently of any other though probably Revers was fairly generally known.
80. "The two great objects of our attention and exertion now are to endeavour to raise spirit enough in the Country to contribute voluntarily to the expenses of the war ****" - William Pitt, Prime Minister to Lord Mornington, Jan. 26th 1798.
81. "On October 8, 1788 the new peal of six bells at Soham, in Cambridgeshire, was opened by a Society of Gentlemen of Ely and Soham, with a peal of Oxford Treble, Court, and Plain B.B. each consisting of 720 changes" - Peal Book of Union Society, I. q. H.
- 82 "August 20th 1796 at Reddeminster, 5012 Grand sire Trebles, conducted through with one single and brought to the 4984th change viz 1267453 in 3 hours and 14 mins. This peal was conducted and composed by Stephen Hill, and allowed by those conversant with

to have excelled all others of the sort ever rung in this Kingdom" - Ibid.

- 83 "October 9th 1785, was rung at St. Martin's Birmingham, by a set of young men, 5040 Hollis Triples in 3 hours and 20 minutes. The bobs were called by John Black, a youth only 16 years of age" - Ibid.
84. "February 23rd 1789, was attempted at Aston near Birmingham, by eight youths of that place (some of which were under 20 years of age) a peal of Bob. Majors consisting of 15,120 changes, but after ringing a considerable time they found themselves so much fatigued that they begged the caller, to bring the bells home; which he did by omitting a bob; therefore the Peal terminated at the 14,224th change end in 8 hours and 45 minutes.
N.B. This is the longest peal ever rung by one set of men in the Kingdom" - Ibid.
- 85 "May 9th 1791 at Auburn, Hills, by a Society of that place 5040 Grandire Triples in a very masterly manner" - Ibid.
86. Thomas North, Robert Selwicksides, and Matthew England were "steeple" ringers who

at one time or another held the office of steward.

87. See page 141 for rewritten account of the Cambridge Youths. See VOL. VII p. 230 for account of the earlier ringing in Cambridge

88. See VOL VII page

89. Charles Day subscribed for two copies of the Clavis.

90. The particulars relating to these men are taken from a Register of a Society dominated the Cambridge Youths - Add. MSS. 19369.

91. See Vol IX p. 330

92. See page

93. See Vol X p. 415.

94. See page 75.

95. William Holij, a clerk & a solicitor in Chancery born 1731, died Mar 15th 1791. Published "Shrubs of Parnassus" by J. Coppywell, 1760. Campanalogia 1761.

96. At any rate they subscribed to one of his books.

97. It was reprinted in the Clavis and is given in full in D. Ravens' The Bells of England.

98. Both on the peal board and in the peal book the composition is said to have been by Reeves. No mention is made of Holij.

99. See Vol VIII p. 249.

- 100 This statement is incorrect. The Shoreditch Board still exists and has been restored.
101. 5040 London Court Bob Major was rung at Greenwich on May 2 1802; 5280 at Lewisham on August 9th 1802; and 6000 at Gravesend in 1817. On Feb 15th 1801 5200 changes were rung at Leatherhead.
102. According to Concanen and Morgan the time of the College Youths' peal as given on the original peal board was six hours and five minutes which is at the rate of 19.20 changes a minute.
103. George Gross died on May 3rd 1803, and was buried at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, on May 8th.
104. See page 167 supra. and Vol 10 p. 217.
105. A letter from Samuel Austin to apparently C. W. Lukis in the British Museum.
106. About this time challenges to ring for a purse of £100 were thrown down between Samuel Thurston and Robert Chestnut. See Ringing World Sep.
107. Peal Book of the Union Society of Newport.
108. The account of the peals at Kingston-upon-Thames is based on the records given by boards in the belfry, supplemented by the College Youths' peal book, and the Peal Book of the

Union Society of Newport. Two of the boards recording the 10,386 Calers in 1803, and the 5040 Bds Major Royal in 1804 still exist and are in good condition. Others mentioned in Church Bells of _____ apparently have since disappeared.

109 "The above feat was an uninterrupted succession of such correct striking that during its continuance not a note of jarring or discord hurt the attentive ear." - The feat board in St Chad's Celfry.

110. On October 20th 1890 the Ipswich men rang 5040 Double Norwich Court Bds Royal at All Saints, Fulham. They were the first company to achieve a feat in the method after the performances mentioned in the text.



C.E.BORRETT

G.P.BURTON

J.A.TROLLOPE

J.E.BURTON

11,200 Changes of BOB MAJOR
April 26, 1894.

The Peal Book
of the
Society of College Youths.

Continued from Vol Page 173.

Battersea

Sunday, February 8th 1801 This Company rang
a fine peal of 5040 changes of Bob Major in
2 hours + 56 minutes, viz

Philip Neasby	1.	Jonathan Longley	5.
Edward Rumball	2.	Nicholas Lockyer	6.
Charles Barber	3.	Richard Hartley	7.
William Kerke	4.	John Straiford	Tenor.

Called by Mr Charles Barber

Kingston upon Thames, Surrey

March 10 1801 This Company rang a fine peal
of 7001 changes Grand sire Callers in 4 hours +
41 minutes.

James Brown	1.	William Laming	6.
William Hale	2.	Thomas Wright	7.
Charles Barber	3.	Thomas Hale	8.
William Coke	4.	Robert Collins	9.
Thomas Morffew.	5.	Richard Laming	Tenor

Called by Mr Thomas Hale.

Fulham.

Sunday, March 22nd 1801, This Company rang
a peal of 5201 changes Grand sire Callers in 3 hours
+ 32 minutes

James Brown	1.	Jonathan Longley	6.
Charles Barber	2.	Peter Ashley	7.
Nicholas Lockyer	3.	Richard Hartley	8.
William Kerke	4.	John Straiford	9.
William Paris	5.	Edward Hurdnotte	Tenor

Called by Mr Charles Barber.

Kensington

Saturday, May 2nd, 1801 This Company rang a true peal of 5040 changes of Grand sire Triples (with 190 Bobs + 50 Singles)

Philip Neasly	1.	William Jones	5.
John Hialford	2.	Jonathan Longley	6.
William Kirke	3.	William Carlinghi	7.
Charles Barber	4.	Richard Eddis	Tenor

Called by Mr. Barber.

Leighton Buzzard in Bedfordshire

Tuesday, June 16th, 1801, This Company rang a true peal of 5040 changes Grand sire Triples in 3 hours + 5 minutes

William Kirke	1.	Charles Barber	5.
John Duckingham	2.	Edward Simmonds	6.
Thomas Porter	3.	Edward Parrell	7.
John Povey.	4.	Philip Pilgrim	Tenor

This was the first peal on the new bells + called by Mr. Charles Barber

Cranbrook in Kent.

Monday, October 19th, 1801 The Society rang a complete peal of 5040 changes Grand sire Triples in 3 hours + 7 minutes

John Duckingham	1.	William Brooke	6.
Charles Barber	2.	Philip Pilgrim	7.
Joseph Holdsworth	3.	Edward Simmonds	} Tenor
James Purser	4.	and	
William Wilson	5.	John Lyford	

Called by Mr. C. Barber.

Kensington.

Sunday, December 13th, 1801. The Company rang
a true peal of 5120 changes Treble Bob in 2 hours
and 58 minutes viz

William Brooke	1.	James Purser	5.
John Povey	2.	Thomas Prier	6.
William Wilson	3.	Edward Parrell	7.
Thomas Smith	4.	Charles Barber	8.

Called by Mr. William Brooke.

Storditch

Friday, February 12th 1802 This Society rang
a complete peal of 5040 Treble Bob Royal in
3 hours + 24 minutes

James Purser	1.	Thomas Smith	6.
William Wilson	2.	William Brooks	7.
Peter Ashley	3.	Edward Simmonds	8.
William Beard	4.	Charles Barber	9.
James Pouldon	5.	Edward Parrell	Tenor

Called by Mr. Charles Barber.

St Martin-in-the-Fields.

Tuesday, March 9th, 1802 The Society rang a
true peal of 5040 changes Treble Bob Maximus
in 3 hours + 58 minutes

John Lyford	1.	Daniel Jenkins
William Cross	2.	James Purser
John Povey	3.	William Lyford
William Wilson	4.	Edward Parrell
Charles Barber	5.	Joseph Holdsworth
William Beard	6.	Samuel Laurence

Called by Mr. Charles Barber.

Kingston upon Thames

Tuesday, March 30, 1802 This Company rang
a peal of 5040 Grandine Caters in 3 hours + 19 min.

Thomas Hall	1	Moore	6.
William Hale	2	William Cooke	7.
	3	C Barber (call' the peal)	8.
Thomas Wright	4	Robert Collins	9
Nicholas Lockyer	5.	Richard Laming	Tenor

Leeds, in Kent

Monday, September 13th, 1802 The Company
rang a peal of 5057 changes Grandine Caters
in

John Dovey	1.	Daniel Jenkins	6
James Surser	2.	Thomas Smith	7.
William Wilson	3.	Edward Bartell	8.
John Buckingham	4.	Charles Barber	9.
William Brooke	5.	Edward Simmonds	Tenor

Called by Mr. Charles Barber

Kensington

Sunday, Feb. 13, 1803 This Society rang a
peal of 5088 changes Treble P.D.B. which were
performed in three hours, viz

John Lyford	1.	William Brooke	5.
Daniel Jenkins	2.	Jonathan Longley	6.
Thomas Smith	3.	John Eddis	7.
Charles Barber	4.	Edward Bartell	Tenor

Called by Mr. Barber.

Kensington

Sunday, December 2^d 1803 This Company rang a
peal of 5040 Triples upon Headman's Principle
in 2 hours + 58 minutes

William Paris	1.	John Hialford	5.
William Brooke	2.	Charles Barber	6.
Jonathan Longley	3.	Edward Barrell	7
William Jones	4.	Rich ^d Eddis	Tenor

Called by Mr. Barber.

Kensington

Thursday, April 19^t 1804 This Company
rang a peal of 5040 changes Grandson Triples
in 2 hours + 51 min^{ts} with a B.B., Double, or a
Single every Trible Lead.

Philip Neasby	1.	John Eddis	5.
Edward Rumball	2.	Charles Barber	6.
Jonathan Longley	3.	William Paris	7.
William Jones	4.	Richard Eddis	Tenor

The peal was call^d by Mr. Cha^s Barber.

Fulham

Sunday, May 13, 1804 This Society rang a
true peal of 5039 changes Grandson Colers in
3 hours + 21 minutes

Joseph Holdsworth	1	Nicholas Lockyer	6.
Thomas Smith	2	Richard Hartley	7.
William Wilson	3	John Cooper	8
Charles Barber	4	John Ashley	9
William Brooke	5	Edward Hudson	Tenor

Called by Mr. Charles Barber

Ipsleworth

Sunday, June 17th 1804. This Society rang a
peal of 5040 Grand sire Tripples with 190 Bobs and
50 Singles in 2 hours + 55 minutes

Richard West	1.	William Jones	5.
Peter Ashley	2.	Charles Barber	6.
William Kerke	3.	Richard Hartley	7.
Nicholas Lockyer	4.	Richard Eddis	Tenor

Conducted by Mr Barber

All Saints, Heriford.

Friday, July 27, 1804. This Company rang a
peal of 5039 Changes Grand sire Caters in 3 hours
+ 10 minutes

Joseph Holdsworth	1.	Nicholas Lockyer
Charles Barber	2.	William Brooke
Thomas Smith	3.	Benjamin Simmonds
John Povey	4.	Richard Hartley
Peter Ashley	5.	Thomas Dye

Called by Mr Charles Barber.

Battersea

Sunday, December 16, 1804 This Company
rang a true peal of 5024 Changes Treble Bob
in 3 hours

Peter Ashley	1.	William Jones	5.
William Baulin	2.	Thomas Smith	6.
Nicholas Lockyer	3.	Charles Barber	7.
William Wilson	4.	Richard Hartley	Tenor

Called by Mr Charles Barber.

Kensington

October 1805. This Company rang a peal of 5040 changes Bob Major in

Peter Ashby	1.	Isaac Green	5.
Edward Rumball	2.	Jonathan Longley	6.
Charles Barber	3.	Thomas Westcombe	7.
William Jones	4.	Richard Hartley	8.

Called by Mr. C. Barber.

Kensington.

Tuesday, April 1. 1806. This Company rang a peal of 5040 Bob Major Reversed in 2 hours + 50 minutes

Philip Neasby	1.	Isaac Green	5.
Edward Rumball	2.	Charles Barber	6.
Joseph Longley	3.	Thomas Westcombe	7.
William Jones	4.	William Paris	8.

Called by Mr. C. Barber

Harrow.

Monday, May 5, 1806. This Society rang a true peal of 5088 changes Treble Bob in 3 hours + 20 minutes

John Lyford	1.	Charles Barber	5.
Peter Ashby	2.	Benj ⁿ Timmonds	6.
Thomas Smith	3.	Richard Hartley	7.
Nicholas Lockyer	4.	Edward Parrell	8.

Called by Mr. Charles Barber.

Battersea

Thursday, March 5, 1807 The Society rang a
fine peal of 5040 Bob Major in

Israel Johnson	1.	William Stone	5.
Edward Rumball	2.	John Parnell	6.
Charles Barber	3.	William Jones	7.
Nicholas Lockyer	4.	Isaac Green	Tenor

Called by Mr. Charles Barber

Fulham

Sunday, March 22, 1807. This Society rang
a peal of 5200 changes Treble Bob Royal, in
3 hours & 27 minutes

William Lyford	1.	Charles Barber	6.
William Cross	2.	Edward Bartell	7.
William Wilson	3.	Richard Hartley	8.
Thomas Smith	4.	Daniel Jenkins	9.
William Brook	5.	Joseph Holdsworth	10.

Conducted by Mr. Charles Barber.

All Saints, Heriford.

Friday, July 30th 1807 The Society rang a fine
peal of 5093 changes Grandfire Caters, in

Winstanley Richardson		Thomas Smith	6.
William Wilson	2.	William Lyford	7.
Joseph Holdsworth	3.	James Blacklock	8.
Charles Barber	4.	Edward Bartell	9.
William Brook	5.	Thomas Dye	Tenor

Conducted by Mr. Charles Barber

Kensington

February 1808, This Society rang a true
peal of 5040 changes Bob Major, in

Thomas Harris	1.	Thomas Granger	5.
Edward Remball	2.	John Eddis	6.
William Jones	3.	Thomas Westcombe	7.
Charles Barber	4.	William Dyer	Tenor

Called by Mr. Chas. Barber

Spitalfields.

Saturday, March 8, 1808. This Company rang
a peal of 5040 changes Treble Bob Majorus
in 3 hours + 50 minutes

Winstanley Richardson	1.	James Purser	7.
Edward Bartell	2.	William Lyford	8.
William Nelson	3.	James Blacklock	9.
John Povey	4.	Charles Barber	10.
Joseph Holdsworth	5.	John Cooper	11.
William Brock	6.	Thomas Granger	12.

Conducted by Mr. John Povey.

Leatherhead.

Monday, July 10, 1809 This Company rang
a true peal of 5280 changes Treble Bob, in
2 hours + 19 minutes, viz.

John Lyford	1.	James Blacklock	5.
Charles Barber	2.	Edward Bartell	6.
William Makee	3.	Matthew Oliver	7.
James Brown	4.	Benj Timmonds	8.

Conducted by Mr. Charles Barber

Bishop's Hatfield, Herts.

Sunday, July 15th 1810 This Company rang a complete peal of 5040 changes Grandine Triples in 3 hours + 8 minutes

Charles Barber	1.	William Jones	5.
Thomas Tompkins	2.	William Everett	6.
James Tompkins	3.	William Cartwright	7.
Thomas Pygrave	4.	William Coles	8.

Conducted by Mr. Charles Barber

At St. Margaret's Westminster

The following members of this Society rang the two peals which are hereunder written that is to say.

Thursday March 14th 1811

A Peal of 5160 changes of Treble Bob Royal in 3 hours + 32 minutes

John Povey	1.
Thomas Smith	2.
Daniel Jenkins	3.
William Lyford	4.
William Wilson	5.
Joseph Holdsworth	6.
Charles Barber	7.
John Cooper	8.
James Blacklock	9.
Edward Barrell	Tenor

Thursday December 12, 1811.

a peal of 5093 changes of Grandine Caters in 3 hours + 12 minutes

John Povey	1.
Edward Barrell	2.
William Kirke	3.
William Wilson	4.
William Lyford	5.
Joseph Holdsworth	6.
Charles Barber	7.
James Blacklock	8.
John Cooper	9.
Edward Hudnott	10.

The above two peals were conducted by Mr. Povey.

Writtle in Essex

Monday December 30, 1811, This Society rang a peal of 5280 changes Treble Bob in 3 hours & 11 minutes being the first peal on the Bells at the above place. Called by Mr. Povey.

John Povey	1.	John Cooper	5.
William Lyford	2.	Charles Barber	6.
Daniel Jenkins	3.	James Blacklock	7.
Joseph Holdsworth	4.	Edward Barrell	Tenor

Kensington

Sunday, November 1, 1812 This Company rang a peal of 5040 changes Grandeur Triples in 2 hours & 51 minutes

Thomas Hollis	1.	William Jones	5.
John Cooper	2.	Charles Barber	6.
Thomas Pygrave	3.	John Straiford	7.
James Tompkins	4.	Thomas Wedicombe	8.

Called by Mr. Charles Barber

Whitechapel

Monday, December 28, 1812 This Company rang a peal of 5088 changes Treble Bob in 3 hours & 10 minutes, viz.

Edward Barrell	1.	William Jones	5.
William Meakes	2.	Charles Barber	6.
William Kirke	3.	John Cooper	7.
Thomas Michael	4.	John Straiford	Tenor

Conducted by Mr. Charles Barber

Kensington

Sunday, March 14th 1813 This company rang
a peal of 5088 changes Treble Bob in 3 hours
& 6 minutes

John New	1.	James Cole	5.
Edward Melham	2.	John Cooper	6.
Scholes Bramford	3.	John Seatt	7.
John Stratford	4.	George Cole	Tenor

Conducted by Mr. George Cole.

Fulham

Sunday, May 16 1813 This Society rang a
complete peal of 5039 changes Grandure
Caters in 3 hours & 18 minutes

John New	1.	James Cole	6.
John Bates	2.	George Cole	7.
Charles Barber	3.	William Seatt	8.
Scholes Bramford	4.	John Seatt	9.
John Stratford	5.	Edward Hudnott	10.

Conducted by Mr. C. Barber.

Fulham

Sunday, October 3, 1813 This company rang
a true peal of 5040 changes Treble Bob Royal
in 3 hours & 20 minutes.

John New	1.	James Cole
John Bates	2.	John Cooper
Edward Parrell	3.	William Seatt
William Makee	4.	George Cole
Charles Barber	5.	John Stratford

Conducted by Mr. Charles Barber.

East Grinstead in Sussex

Tuesday, October 12, 1813. The Members of this Company rang a peal of 5040 Grandine Tripples in 3 hours + 6 minutes. Being the opening of a new peal of Bells

John Povey	1.	John Cooper	6.
Daniel Jenkins	2.	John Stratford	7.
Joseph Holdsworth	3.	Edward Bartlett J ^r	}
Charles Barber	4.	and	
Edward Bartlett J ^r	5.	William Lyford	8.

Called by Mr. Charles Barber

Hammermith

Thursday April 21 1814 The company rang a true peal of 5040 changes Grandine Tripples in 3 hours + 5 minutes

Charles Barber	1.	William Hallett	5.
John Stratford	2.	William Jarvis	6.
John Hew	3.	George Cole	7.
James Cole	4.	Edward Hudnott	8.

Conducted by Mr. George Cole.

Battersea

Wednesday, June 1, 1814 This Company rang a true peal of 5040 changes Grandine Tripples in 3 hours with 190 Bbs + 50 Doubles, viz

Charles Barber	1.	Thomas Lloyd	5.
William Meake	2.	Nicholas Lockyer	6.
John Stratford	3.	William Sheel	7.
John Cooper	4.	James Stee	Tenor

Conducted by Mr. Charles Barber

All Hallows, Barking.

Monday, May 22, 1815, This Company rang a peal of 5024 changes Treble Bob in 3 hours & 12 minutes. viz

George Gross	1.	William Makee	5.
William Kirk	2.	John Cooper	6.
John Polion	3.	Thomas Granger	7.
Thomas Michael	4.	Edward Bartell	8.

The peal was conducted by Mr. George Gross.

Kensington

Sunday, August 20, 1815 This Company rang a peal of 5088 changes Treble Bob in 2 hours & 50 minutes

Charles Barber	1.	William Makee
William Kirk	2.	John Stratford
John Polion	3.	John Day
Thomas Granger	4.	Edward Bartell

Called by Mr. Charles Barber

Crickfield in Sussex

Monday September 4 1815 The Company rang a peal of 5088 changes Cocford Treble Bob in 3 hours & 2 minutes.

John Tovey	1.	Charles Barber	5.
William Lyford	2.	John Cooper	6.
William Makee	3.	Thomas Granger	7.
Joseph Holdsworth	4.	John Stratford	Tenor.

Conducted by Mr. Charles Barber

First peal on the new bells.

St Margaret's Westminster

Wednesday March 6 1816 This Society rang a true peal of 5040 changes Treble Bob Royal in 3 hours + 21 minutes

Peter Ashley	1.	Charles Barber	6.
William Wilson	2.	Thomas Grainger	7.
Joseph Holdsworth	3.	William Lyford	8.
William Makee	4.	John Cooper	9.
John Stratford	5.	Edward Barrell	10.

Conducted by Charles Barber

St Margaret's Westminster

Sunday May 26, 1816, The Company rang a true peal of 5129 changes Grandfire Caters in 3 hours + 15 minutes

George Gross	1.	John Stratford	6.
William Wilson	2.	Thomas Grainger	7.
Joseph Holdsworth	3.	William Lyford	8.
Peter Ashley	4.	John Polion	9.
William Makee	5.	Edward Hudnott	10.

Conducted by Mr. George Gross.

Kensington

Sunday, December, 20. 18 This Company rang a peal of 5088 changes Treble Bob which was performed in 3 hours + 4 minutes

Charles Barber	1.	John Cooper	5.
John Hannum	2.	John Stratford	6.
William Makee	3.	George Cole	7.
John Phip	4.	Thomas Hurry	Tenor

Kensington

Sunday April 18th 181 This Society rang a true peal of 5040 changes of Grandine Triples which were performed in 2 hours + 53 minutes

George Stratford	1.	John Cooper	5.
William Makee	2.	George Cole	6.
John New	3.	William Cullum	7.
John Stratford	4.	Edward Hudnot	8.

The above true peal was conducted by Mr. Geo. Cole

Isleworth

Sunday, June 6, 181 This company rang a peal of 5120 Gocford Treble Bob in 3 hours + 7 minutes

John Cole	1.	John New	5.
John Bates	2.	William Platt	6.
John Cooper	3.	John Platt	7.
George Cole	4.	William Cullum	8.

Conducted by Mr. George Cole.

Fulham

Sunday October 3rd 181 This Company rang a peal of 5031 Caters upon Piedman's Principle in 3 hours + 12 minutes.

John New	1.	John Cooper	6.
John Bates	2.	George Cole	7.
Charles Barber	3.	William Platt	8.
Scotes Bamford	4.	John Platt	9.
John Stratford	5.	Edward Hudnot	10.

Conducted by Mr. George Cole.

St Martin in the Fields

Saturday, March 11, 1820. The Company rang
a peal of 50 Changes Grandserie Cinques in
4 hours + 47 minutes

John Povey	1.	John Stratford	7.
William Lyford	2.	Joseph Holdsworth	8.
Charles Barber	3.	Edward Bartell	9.
William Graham	4.	John Cooper	10.
William Meake	5.	Joseph Lubbock	11.
Peter Ashley	6.	Edward Hudnott	12.

Conducted by Mr. John Povey.

Kensington

Tuesday December 26 1820 This Society rang
a peal of 5088 changes Treble Bob in 3 hours
+ 5 minutes, viz.

Charles Barber	1.	Joseph Holdsworth	5.
William Lyford	2.	John Cooper	6.
William Meake	3.	Joseph Lubbock	7.
John Stratford	4.	George Cole	Tenor

Conducted by Mr. Charles Barber.

Kensington

Sunday, December 8, 1822 This Company
rang a peal of 5120 changes Treble Bob, in
3 hours, viz.

John Cooper	1.	George Cole	5.
John Hew	2.	Henry Smith	6.
William Meake	3.	Joseph Lubbock	7.
John Stratford	4.	William Cullum	8.

Conducted by Mr. John Cooper.

St Dunstan's Fleet Street

Monday February 10 1823 This Company rang a
peal of 5088 changes Treble Bob in 3 hours + 8 minutes

John Cooper	1	Joseph Lubbock	5.
John Stratford	2	Henry Smith	6.
William Makee	3	Francis Mathew	7.
James Michbury	4	Edward Bartell	Tenor

Conducted by Mr John Cooper

Northlake

Sunday, October 26 1823 This Company rang
a peal of 5040 changes Treble Bob in 3 hours and
28 minutes

Edward Withall	1	John New	5.
Leeds Bamford	2	William Hinson	6.
John James	3	George Cole	7.
Richard House	4	William Cullen	8.

Conducted by Mr George Cole.

Richmond

Saturday November 29, 1823 This Company
rang a peal of 5088 changes Treble Bob in 3 hours
and 2 minutes

William Hinson	1.	John Bates	5.
John James	2.	George Cole	6.
Richard House	3	John Peat	7.
Ed. Withall	4	William Cullen	8.

Conducted by Mr George Cole.

Kensington

Sunday, December 7, 1823 This Society rang a
peal of 6336 changes Treble Bob in 3 hours and
43 minutes.

Edward Withall	1.	John James	5.
William Makee	2.	Henry Smith	6.
Richard House	3.	Joseph Lubbock	7.
John Shalford	4.	George Cole	Tenor

Conducted by George Cole.

St George, Camberwell

Monday, December 29, 1823 This Society rang
a peal of 5696 changes Treble Bob in 3 hours
and 21 minutes. Being the first peal in that
method on those Bells. Called by Geo. Cole

John Cooper	1.	Thomas Michael	5.
John Shalford	2.	George Cole	6.
John James	3.	Joseph Lubbock	7.
James Stickerbury	4.	Francis Mathew	8.

Isleworth

Sunday, February 22, 1824 This Company
rang a peal of 5088 changes Treble Bob in
3 hours, as follows.

William Kinson	1.	Joseph Lubbock	5.
Edward Withall	2.	Henry Smith	6.
John James	3.	William Bullum	7.
John Shalford	4.	George Cole	8.

Conducted by Mr. Geo. Cole.

Whitechapel

This Inscription is to Commemorate an excellent performance of this Society who on Tuesday the 16th day of March, 1824 did in a very superior style Complete the whole peal of Triples on Piedman's principle consisting of 5040 changes in 2 hours and 58 minutes

John Cooper	1.	Joseph Lubbock	5
William Makee	2.	Francis Mathew	6
James Sitchbury	3.	George Cole	7
John Stratford	4.	Henry Smith	8

The peal was conducted by Mr. Geo. Cole.

Kensington

Sunday May 2, 1824 This Company rang a peal of 5088 changes Treble Bob in 3 hours + 2 min.

John Cooper	1.	Joseph Lubbock	5.
William Makee	2.	William Cullum	6.
John James	3.	Francis Mathew	7.
John Stratford	4.	Henry Smith	8

Conducted by Mr. John Cooper.

Kensington

Sunday August 8th 1824 This Society rang a peal of 5040 changes Grandure Triples in 2 hours + 58 min⁴⁵.

John Cooper	1.	Thomas Purton	5.
William Makee	2.	John Stratford	6.
John James	3	Joseph Lubbock	7.
John Bradley	4	Henry Smith	8.

Conducted by Mr. John Cooper.

St Luke's Chelsea

Wednesday, Dec 29, 1824, This Society rang a
peal of 5040 changes Treble Bob Royal in 3 hours
& 30 minutes Being the first upon the Ten Bells
& was called by J. Cooper.

John Cooper	1.	James Tichbury
Daniel Beakley	2.	George Cole
John Beakley	3.	Joseph Lubbock
John Straiford	4.	Francis Mathew
William Makee	5.	William Cullum.

Fulham

Sunday, Feby. 13, 1825 This company rang a
peal of 5039 changes Grandine Catero in 3 hours
& 20 minutes

John Cole	1.	John Cooper	6.
Daniel Beakley	2.	George Cole	7.
George Clayton	3.	Joseph Lubbock	8.
William Makee	4.	Edward Parrell	9.
John Straiford	5.	Edward Hindon	10.

Conducted by Mr. George Cole.

St. John, Waterloo Road.

Monday October 24th 1825 This Company rang
a peal of 5120 changes Treble Bob in 3 hours &
13 minutes

John Cooper	1.	Thomas Michael	5.
James Tichbury	2.	John Straiford	6.
Daniel Beakley	3.	Francis Mathew	7.
William Makee	4.	William Cullum	8.

This was the first peal upon the Bells and was
called by Mr. John Cooper

Kensington

Sunday, January 8, 1826 This Society rang
a peal of 5120 changes Treble Bob in 3 hours and
13 minutes

John Cooper	1.	John Bradley	5.
William Makee	2.	John Straitford	6.
Charles Barber	3.	Joseph Lubbock	7.
John Caming	4.	William Cullum	8.

Conducted by Mr. J. Cooper.

Kensington

Monday January 30 1826 This Company
rang a peal of 5088 changes Treble Bob in 3
hours + 1 minute.

John Cole	1.	John Straitford	5.
George Cole	2.	Thomas Harris	6.
John Cooper	3.	Joseph Lubbock	7.
John Caming	4.	Henry Smith	8.

Conducted by Mr. George Cole

St. Matthew, Bethnal Green

Monday, February 12, 1827, This Company
rang a peal of 5088 changes Treble Bob in
3 hours + 15 minutes

John Cooper	1.	Daniel Beakley	5.
James Sitchbury	2.	George Cole	6.
William Makee	3.	Joseph Lubbock	7.
John Straitford	4.	Edward Bartell	8.

Conducted by Mr. George Cole.

St Luke's Chelsea

Tuesday, March 4, 1824, This company rang a peal of 5039 changes Grand sire Caters in 3 hours + 29 min⁵

Richard Blake	1.	Joseph Lubbock	6.
John Newbury	2.	Thomas Dowell	7.
James Sleet	3.	Thomas Brooke	8.
John Canning	4.	Israel Johnson	9.
Daniel Beakley	5.	John Gunter	10.

Conducted by Mr. John Canning.

St Lukes Chelsea

Friday, December 25, 1828 This company rang a peal of 5039 changes Grand sire Caters in 3 hours + 28 min⁵.

Richard Blake	1.	John Newbury	6.
John Cooper	2.	Francis Matthew	7.
George Clayton	3.	Thomas Brooke	8.
Joseph Lubbock	4.	Israel Johnson	9.
William Harri	5.	John Gunter	10.

Conducted by Mr. John Cooper.

St. Martin-in-the-Fields.

Tuesday, February 2, 1829 This Society rang
and completed in a fine and scientific manner
a Peal consisting of 5040 changes Treble
Bob Maximus in 4 hours and 3 minutes.

The above very excellent peal was conducted
by Mr. John Cooper and the performers were
stationed in the manner following. Videlicet

John Cooper	1.	Thomas Michael	7.
William Dunn	2.	John Stratford	8.
William Makee	3.	Joseph Lubbock	9.
Daniel Beakley	4.	Henry Smith	10.
John Canning	5.	Edward Bartell	11.
James Stichbury	6.	Francis Mathew	12.

Kensington

Friday, October 23, 1829 This Society
rang a peal of 5040 changes Grandmere
Tripples in 2 hours + 51 min⁴.

Daniel Beakley	1.	Samuel Thurston	5.
Thomas Dowsett	2.	Joseph Boull	6.
Charles Barber	3.	Israel Johnson	7.
John Stratford	4.	Charles Davis	8.

Conducted by Mr. Daniel Beakley.

Isleworth

Sunday, October 25, 1829, This Society rang
a peal of 5120 changes Treble Bob in 3 hours
and 2 minutes.

John Coles	1.	George Cole	5.
John Cooper	2.	William Hinson	6.
Edes Bamford	3.	John Peat	7.
John Bates	4.	Samuel Thurston	8.

Conducted by Mr. Samuel Thurston

St Clement, Danes, Strand.

Thursday, December, 17th 1829 this company
rang a peal of 5120 changes Treble Bob in 3
hours + 32 minutes

James Pichbury	1.	John Newbury	5.
William Dunn	2.	William Bull	6.
John Stralford	3.	Francis Mathew	7.
Daniel Beakley	4.	Samuel Thurston	8.

Conducted by Mr. Samuel Thurston

St. Mary Battersea

Monday, May 23, 1836 This Company
rang a peal of 5040 Changes Grand sire Triples
in 2 hours + 56 min⁵.

Richard Hills	1.	Nathaniel Brown	5.
Thomas Barton	2.	James Rogers	6.
George Clayton	3.	Henry Smith	7.
Thomas Tolladay	4.	Israel Johnson	8.

Conducted by Mr. Tho^s. Tolladay.

St. Dunstan's, Fleet Street.

Thursday, February 26th 1839 This Company rang a peal of 5040 changes Grand sire Tupples in 3 hours + 3 minutes

Daniel Kemmer	1.	George Stockham	5.
Thomas Britten	2.	Thomas Burton	6.
Richard Hills	3.	William Dunn	7.
Thomas Tolladay	4.	James Durant	8.

Conducted by Mr. Thomas Tolladay.

All Saints, Fulham

Whit Tuesday 20 May 1839 This Company rang a peal of 5040 changes Grand sire Caters in 3 hours + 23 minutes

Nathaniel Beever	1.	Thomas Burton	6.
James Rogers	2.	George Clayton	7.
Richard Hills	3.	Israel Johnson	8.
George Stockham	4.	William Cullen	9.
Thomas Tolladay	5.	James Season	10.

Conducted by Mr. Thos. Tolladay.

St. James Bermondsey

Wednesday, September 4th 1839 This Company rang a peal of 5039 Grand sire Caters in 3 hours + 30 minutes

Charles Clay	1.	Thomas Burton	6.
Thomas Britten	2.	George Stockham	7.
Thomas Tolladay	3.	Edw. Hill Lawyer	8.
James Rogers	4.	Edward Bartlett	9.
William Dunn	5.	Robert Burgess	10.

Conducted by Mr. Thomas Tolladay.

Trinity Church, Newington

Thursday, October 1, 1840, This company rang
a peal of 5280 changes Treble Bob in 3 hours &
15 minutes, viz.

(a silver medal was given to each member in this
peal by Mr. Richard Sells).

Thomas Tolladay	1.	George Stockham	5.
Thomas Britten	2.	William Cullum	6.
John	3.	Edw: Will: Lawyer	7.
Thomas Burion	4.	Edward Lansdell	8.

Called by Mr. Tolladay.

Christ Church, Surrey.

Monday, 21 December 1840 This Society rang
Mr. John Hollis's Original one Course peal of
5040 changes Grandine Triples in 2 hours & 59
minutes, & the performers were as follows,

Charles Brown	1.	James Mash	5.
Thomas Britten	2.	Edward Lansdell	6.
Charles Clay	3.	William Dunn	7.
George Stockham	4.	James Durrant	8.

Conducted by Mr. Charles Brown.

Lewisham, Kent.

Sunday, March 7, 1841 This company rang
a peal of 5120 changes Treble Bob in 3 hours
and 10 minutes, viz.

Thomas Tolladay	1.	Edward Lansdell	5.
Thomas Britten	2.	William Cullum	6.
George Stockham	3.	Joseph Harper	7.
John	4.	Henry Littlechild	8.

Conducted by Mr. Thomas Tolladay.

St Martin in the Fields

Thursday, May 4, 1837 An excellent performance in the Science of variations was at the above church conducted by Mr. Tho^s Brooke, consisting of 5016 changes Grandeine Cinques, which was brought into rounds in a masterly manner by the following persons in 3 hours + 38 minutes.

William Dunn	1.	George Clayton	7.
Charles Clay	2.	Thomas Burton	8.
James Rogers	3.	Thomas Brooke	9.
Thomas Tolladay	4.	Israel Johnson	10.
Edward Barrell	5.	Henry Smith	11.
Nathaniel Brown	6.	James Durant	Tenor

St Martin in the Fields

Monday February, 26 1838 This Company rang a peal of 5003 changes Grandeine Caters, in 3 hours + 32 minutes

Charles Clay	1.	Thomas Burton	6.
Thomas Tolladay	2.	William Dunn	7.
Thomas Britten	3.	Israel Johnson	8.
George Hickham	4.	Henry Smith	9.
Nathaniel Beaver	5.	James Durant	10.

Conducted by Mr. Thomas Tolladay.

St. Stephen's Coleman Street, City.

Monday, 29 October 1838, This Society rang a peal of 5040 changes Grandeine Triples in 3 hours + 5 minutes

William Graham	1.	Thomas Tolladay
Nathaniel Brewer	2.	William Dunn
Thomas Britten	3.	George Hickham
Thomas Burton	4.	Jas. Durant

Called by Mr. Thomas Tolladay

St Nicholas, Leeds, Kent

Sunday, 10 August, 1841, This Company rang
an excellent peal of 5003 changes Grand sire
Caters in 3 hours + 13 minutes

Thomas Tolladay	1.	Thomas Burton	6.
Thomas Britten	2.	George Clayton	7.
Charles Ball	3.	William Dunn	8.
Joseph Hughes	4.	John	9.
George Stockham	5.	Edward Lansdell	10.

Conducted by Mr Thomas Tolladay.

The
Peal Book of the
Society of Junior Cumberland
Youths.

Continued from Vol Page 324.

St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate.

Tuesday June 7th 1808 This Society rang a peal
of 5040 Grand sire Triples in 3 hours + 17 minutes

Samuel Feetcham	1	John Noonan	5
Benjamin Merrin	2	William Fletcher	6.
William Williams	3	Thomas Thomas	7.
James Mead	4	John Howe	Tenor

Conducted by Mr J. Noonan

St. Georges in the East

Friday 12 Nov^r 1802 This Society rang a peal
of 5280 Oxford Treble Bob Major in 3 hours +

30 minutes

William Williams	1.	John Noonan	5
Benjamin Merrin	2.	William Fletcher	6.
Henry Symondson	3	William Troup	7
Joseph Ladley	4	James Blacklocks	8.

Called by John Noonan

St. Giles, Camberwell.

Tuesday, 3 Nov^r 1801 This Society rang a peal
of 6112 Oxford Treble Bob Major in 3 hours +

12 minutes

William Williams	1	Richard Jagers	5.
William Troup	2.	Henry Symondson	6.
Joseph Ladley	3	William Washer	7
John Noonan	4.	James Blacklocks	Tenor

Called by Mr Will^m Williams

All Saints, West Ham, Essex.

Sunday, 2 Aug^o 1802 This Society rang a peal
of 5039 Grand sire Gales in 3 hours + 23 minutes

William Williams	1	Robert Inwood	6
Joseph Ladley	2	Benjamin Merin	7.
Charles Mackee	3	John Haynes	8
James Blacklock	4	William Fletcher	9
John Turday	5	Thomas Corder	Tenor

Called by Mr W^o Williams

St. Mary Lambeth

Monday 10 March 1809 This Society rang a
peal of 5040 Grand sire Triples in 3 hours + 2
minutes.

Samuel Feecham	1.	William Mander	5
Thomas Humphreys	2.	John Haynes	6.
Hen ^y . Symondson	3.	William Williams	7
Joseph Ladley	4.	John Howe	8.

Conducted by Mr Ladley.

All Saints, Fulham

Monday, 5 April 1810 This Society rang a peal
of 5040 Grand sire Triples in 2 hours + 43 minutes

William Williams	1	W. Mander	5
E. Chambers	2	W. Thomas	6
W. Parkes	3	P. Vaughan	7
J. Ladley	4	Isaac Bolton	Tenor

The above peal was rang on the Carge 8, +
called by W. Williams.

St Margaret's, Westminster

Sunday, Feby 9 1817 This Society rang a peal of
5003 Grand sine Titum Calers in 3 hours + 19 minutes

James Crane	1	Robert Melfield	6
James Mead	2	Henry Birell	7.
John Howman	3	William Williams	8
Joseph Ladley	4	John Haynes	9
Thomas Thomas	5	James Preston	Tenor

Comp^d + call'd by J. Ladley.

St. Mary, Whitechapel

Sunday, Dec 8 1811 This Society rang a peal of
5040 Grand sine Tripples in 3 hours + 5 minutes viz

Charles Wright	1	William Mercer	5
Edw. Chambers	2	John Howe	6
Thomas Page	3	Philip Vaughan	7
Joseph Ladley	4	John Whitehead	Tenor

Call'd by J. Ladley with 108 Bobs + 2 Singles

St. Mary, Whitechapel

Sunday Dec 8 1811 This Society rang a peal of
5040 Grand sine Tripples in 3 hours + 6 minutes viz

C. Wright	1.	J. Howe	5.
E. Chambers	2.	P. Vaughan	6.
T. Page	3	W. Mander	7.
J. Ladley	4.	J. Whitehead	8

and call'd by J. Ladley.

Note. Compare the last two entries in the peal book.

All Saints, West Ham, Essex

Sunday, April 26 1812 This Society rang a
peal of 5453 Caters in 3 hours and 40 minutes
as follows

Charles Brough	1.	Thomas Page	6
Edward Chambers	2.	William Mander	7
William Williams	3.	John Howe	8
Joseph Ladley	4.	Philip Vaughan	9
Thomas Thomas	5.	John Newbury	Tenor

This Peal composed and called by J. Ladley.

St Mary, Battersea

Thursday, Aug^r 25 1812 This Society rang a
peal of 5040 Grandeur Tripples in 3 hours & 10
minutes

John Leach	1	John Howe	5.
William Williams	2	Philip Vaughan	6.
Joseph Ladley	3	Isaac Bolton	7.
Edw ^r Chambers	4	John Newion	Tenor

Call^d by Jos^t Ladley with 108 Cobs & 2 Singles

St. Botolph, Bishopsgate

Monday, Feb^r 22, 1810 This Society rang a peal
of 5088 Oxford Treble Bob in 3 hours and 28
minutes, viz.

James Meads	1.	Joseph Ladley
Edw ^r Chambers	2.	Charles Mackee
William Williams	3.	William Thomas
Thomas Thomas	4.	John Noonan

Compos^d & Call^d by J. Noonan.

All Hallows, Barking

28th March, 1814. This Society rang 5040 Grandine Tripples in 3 hours + 8 minutes. The first peal on those Bells.

James Meads	1.	William Williams	6.
Edward Chambers	2.	John Noonan	7.
James Polley	3.	John Howe	} Tenor
Charles Bright	4.	and	
Joseph Ladley	5.	Rowland Keepes	

Called by Mr John Noonan.

St. Margaret's Westminster

Sunday, Nov: 20, 1814 This Society rang a peal of 6101 Grandine Calers in the short period of 3 hours + 45 minutes

Edward Griffiths	1.	Robert Surfield	6.
Thomas Humphreys	2.	William Mander	7.
Joseph Ladley	3.	Robert Bates	8.
Edward Chambers	4.	John Haynes	9.
James Polley	5.	John Kingsbury	Tenor

Comp: + call: by Jos^t Ladley.

St. Margaret's Westminster

Monday, Dec: 26, 1814 This Society rang a peal of 5040 Grandine Tripples in 3 hours + 10 minutes

Edward Griffiths	1.	William Mander	5.
James Polley	2.	John Baker	6.
George Beer	3.	John Haynes	7.
Joseph Ladley	4.	John Leach	Tenor

Call'd by J. Ladley with 108 Bobs + 2 Singles

St Mary, Magdalen, Oxford.

Thursday, Jan 7, 5th 1815. The Society rang a peal of 6101 changes Grand sire Calers in 3 hours and 55 minutes

Thomas Pavier	1	Charles Pavier	6.
William Parker	2	Joseph Montague	7.
John Tagg	3	Edward Nichols	8.
George Pavier	4	Jonathan Pavier	9.
Henry Carr	5	Thomas Cook	Tenor

The Peal was called by Edw. Nichols

New College, Oxford.

Monday, March 27th 1815 The Society rang a peal of 10008 Grand sire Calers in 6 hours + 42 minutes

Thomas Pavier	1.	Charles Pavier	6.
William Parker	2.	Joseph Montague	7.
John Tagg	3.	Edward Nichols	8.
George Pavier	4.	Jonathan Pavier	9.
Henry Carr	5.	Thomas Cook	Tenor

The above Peal was called by Mr. Ed. Nicholls.

St Mary, Kensington

Sunday, July 7th 1815 This Society rang a peal of 5040 Grand sire Triples in 2 hours + 51 minutes

James Crane	1	Robert Kenfield	5.
William Williams	2.	Henry Birch	6.
Joseph Ladley	3.	John Whiting	7.
Edward Chambers	4.	George Williams	Tenor

Called by W. Williams.

St Mary, Lewisham.

Sunday, 15th Sep: 1805 This Society rang a peal
of 5040 Grand sire Triples in 3 hours & 15 minutes

Joseph Ladley	1.	John Noonan	5
William Williams	2.	Benj ⁿ Merrin	6.
James Mead	3.	George Earl	7
William Mackee	4.	Will ^m Fletcher	Tenor

Called by John Noonan

St Leonards Shore-ditch.

Tuesday Jan'y 7th 1817, This Society rang a
peal of 5147 Grand sire Calls in 3 hours and 23
minutes

Edward Griffiths	1.	Robert Mirfield	6.
Joseph Ladley	2.	Henry Birch	7.
Edward Chambers	3.	John Howe	8.
Robert Bates	4.	John Haynes	9.
Thomas Thomas	5.	Roland Malpas.	Tenor

Composed & call'd by Joseph Ladley.

All Saints, Enfield.

Sunday 9 April 1809 This Society rang a
peal of 5040 Grand sire Triples in 3 hours &
8 minutes

William Williams	1.	William Maulden
Thomas Grenden	2.	J. Haynes
Thos. Thomas	3.	Will ^m Fletcher
Hen ^y . Lyndonson	4.	W. Vincent

Call' by Mr W^m Williams.

All Saints, Enfield.

Monday, 10th July 1869. The Society rang in the short time of Two hours and fifty eight minutes a fine peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major containing 5088 changes.

William Williams	1.	T. Overden	5
Joseph Ladley	2.	T. Thomas	6.
H. Symondson	3.	J. Haynes	7.
H. Bates	4.	H. Fletcher	8

and composed and called by Mr. W. Williams

Saint Leonard Thoreditch

Tuesday, January 20, 1817 The Society rang in that steeple a fine and complete Peal of Grandsire Caters consisting of 5147 Changes in 3 hours and 23 minutes. Performed by.

Edward Griffiths	1	Robert Mirfield	6.
Joseph Ladley	2	Henry Birch	7.
Edward Chambers	3	John Howe	8.
Robert Bates	4	John Haynes	9.
Thomas Thomas	5	Rowland Malpas	10.

Composed and called by Mr Joseph Ladley
The above Peal (whilst in the Tiltum position) the 5th and 6th are the only Bells behind the 9th being to their Excent in both Courses which proves the utility of Singles This was the 1st Peal ever rang in that way of calling. (see previous page.)

St. Margaret's Westminster

Sunday, January 20. 1811, The Society rang in that steeple a fine and complete Peal of 5th 53 Caters in three hours and 42 minutes. Performed by

Edward Chambers	1.	Robert Mirfield	6.
William Williams	2.	William Mander	7.
Thomas Humphries	3.	William Vincent	8
Joseph Ladley	4.	John Howe	9
Thomas Thomas	5.	John Newberry	10

The Peal was composed and called by Mr Joseph Ladley.

All Hallows, Barking, Tower Street
 Wednesday, March 5, 1817, was rung in the above
 place the whole complete Peal of Grandire Tripples
 containing 5040 changes, in the short time of 3 hours
 and 5 minutes by the following persons, viz^c:

Samuel Feetchum	1.	Robert Bates	5.
James Crane	2.	William Williams	6.
James Mead	3.	Robert Kenfield	7.
Edward Chambers	4.	Rowland Malpas	8.

Conducted by Mr. William Williams

Saint Dunstan in the East.

Tuesday, 6th May, 1817, The Society rang in 3 hours and
 7 minutes the whole complete Peal of Grandire Tripples
 containing 5040 Changes being the first ever completed
 on the bells in that method Performed by

William Williams	1.	Thomas Thomas	5.
James Mead	2.	John Haynes	6.
Henry Law	3.	Rob ^d . Kenfield	7.
Charles Bought	4.	Row ^d . Malpas	8.

Called by Mr. Williams

Saint Dunstan in the East

The Society rang in 3 hours and 30 minutes a
 true and complete peal of Bob Major containing
 Five thousand five hundred and sixty-four
 changes. Performed by.

Samuel Feetchum	1.	Mr. Williams	5.
James Mead	2.	Will ^m . Troup	6.
Benj. Merrin	3.	James Crane	7.
Robert Bates	4.	James Blacklock	8.

Called by Mr. W. Williams

The above was the greatest number of changes
 ever rung on the bells.

St Paul's Shadwell

Thursday, 2nd October 1821 Was Rung the whole complete Peal of Grandire Triples Consisting of 5040 changes in Three hours and seven minutes by the following persons, viz:

Samuel Teecham	1.	Benjamin Merrin	5.
John Merrin	2.	William Williams	6.
James Head	3.	Samuel Thurley	7.
James Blacklock	4.	Thomas Bells	8.

Called and Conducted by Mr. W^m Williams
The above is the first peal ever rung on the Bells.

Saint Giles in the Fields.

Wednesday, May 22 1799 This Peal is dedicated to the above Society in Commemoration of a performance not to be surpassed by any that profess this magnificent art. Namely the whole Peal of Triples on Stedman's principle containing 5040 changes in 2 hours and 50 minutes. By

H. Symondson	1.	J. Hints	5.
C. Robinson	2.	W. Troup	6.
J. Ladley	3.	W. Tyles	7.
W. Beard	4.	S. Garratt	8.

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

Saint George's Camberwell

Monday, 1 September, 1823, was rung at the above place a fine and complete Peal of Bob Major, consisting of 5040 Changes, in the short time of 2 hours and 47 minutes by the following persons, viz^t:

James Mead	1.	James Blacklock	5.
John Merin	2.	Sam ^l . Thurley	6.
William Williams	3.	John Harris	7.
Robert Bates	4.	Thomas Betts	8.

Called and conducted by Mr. W. Williams.

The above was the first Peal ever rung on the Bells.

All Hallows, Barking, Tower Street.

Monday Dec^r. 1 1823, The Society rang at that place a fine and complete peal of Bob Major consisting of 5120 Changes which was performed in the short time of Two hours and 59 minutes.

Peter Hall	1.	Sam ^l . Austin	5.
John Merin	2.	Tho ^s . Betts	6.
James Mead	3.	John Harris	7.
W ^m . Williams	4.	Step ^m . Wedge	8.

Called by Mr. W^m. Williams

This was the first peal ever rung on the Bells in the method.

All Saints Poplar

Monday 15 December 1823 The Society rang at that place a fine and complete peal of Grandring Cairns consisting of 5183 Changes which was performed in 3 hours and 28 minutes by:

Peter Hall	1.	Ja ^s . Blacklock	4.	John Harris	7.
Wm. Williams	2.	Sam ^l . Thurley	5.	Tho ^s . Betts	8.
John Merin	3.	Sam ^l . Austin	6.	St ^m . Wedge	9.
				Edm ^d . Black	10.

The above was the first and longest peal ever rung on the Bells by ten men

Conducted by Mr. Williams

Saint Dunstons, Stepney.

Sunday, 1 February, 1824 The Society rang in 3 hours and 30 minutes a true and complete peal of Grand sire Calers, containing 5075 Changes performed by.

Peter Hall	1.	John Merrin	6.
Wm Williams	2.	John Harris	7.
Benj Merrin	3.	Thomas Betts	8.
Joseph Blacklock	4.	Stephen Wedge	9.
Samuel Austin	5.	Richard Harsell	10.

Called by Mr. Wm Williams

Saint Dunstons, Fleet Street

Monday, 23 February, 1824 The Society rang in 3 hours and 5 minutes the whole complete peal of Grand sire Triples containing 5040 changes performed by.

John Merrin	1.	Stephen Wedge	5.
James Mead	2.	William Williams	6.
Benjamin Merrin	3.	Samuel Austin	7.
James Blacklock	4.	Samuel Porter	8.

Called by Mr. J. Merrin

Saint Pauls, Shadwell.

Thursday, 20th April 1824 The Society rang a true peal of Grand sire B B Major containing 5167 changes which was completed in Three Hours and three minutes by the following persons, viz^t.

Sam ^l . Teecham	1.	Sam ^l . Austin	5.
Sam ^l . Thurley, jun ^r .	2.	Tho ^s Betts	6.
Wm Williams	3.	Step ^r . Wedge.	7.
James Blacklock	4.	John Merrin	8.

Composed, called and conducted by Mr. Wm Williams being the first peal ever rung on the bells in the above method.

The Peal Book
of the
Society of Cumberland Youths.

Continued from Vol page.

Hackney

Monday, December 5, 1803 This Society rang a peal of 5040 changes Bob Major in 3 hours & 32 minutes, viz

Samuel Bowling 1	Thomas Fresh 5.
Thomas Reeves 2.	John Hints 6.
Thomas Harris 3	James Barnard 7.
James Jacobs 4	John Windsor Tenor

Compos'd & call'd by John Hints

Spitalfields

Monday, March 5, 1804 This Society rang a peal of 5170 changes Grandeur Cinques in 4 hours & 4 minutes. First on the 12 Bells

George Gross (Call'd the peal)	James Barnard 7
Anthony Cavalier 2.	William Richardson 8.
Peter Jones 3.	James Sickerbury 9.
James Nash 4.	Malachi Shannon 10.
William Beard 5.	John Hints 11.
Thomas Reeves 6.	William Mc Donald 12

Spitalfields

Sunday, April 14 1804 The Society rang a peal of 7104 Changes Treble Bob Maceinus in 5 hours & 40 minutes. The first in that method on those Bells & the most on 12 Bells

George Gross (Call'd the peal)	John Hints 7.
Anthony Cavalier 2.	William Richardson 8.
Peter Jones 3.	James Sickerbury 9.
James Nash 4.	John Wooding 10.
William Shipway 5.	William Stephens 11.
Thomas Reeves 6.	James Marllion 12.

Chelmsford in Essex

Tuesday, June 13, 1804, This Society rang a peal of 5024 changes Treble Bob in 3 hours & 32 minutes with the Cobs above 4th place

John Hints	1.	James Polley	5.
Anthony Cavalier	2.	Thomas Freeth	6.
George Gross	3.	Francis Baker	7.
William Mathews	4.	Richard Hall	8.

Composed & called by George Gross.

Shoreditch

Sunday, November 17, 1804, This company rang a peal of 5039 Grandaine Caters in 3 hours & 35 minutes

Malachi Channon	1.	Peter Jones	6.
Thomas Cosc	2.	Thomas Freeth	7.
Daniel Dearing	3.	John Hints	8.
James Jacobs	4.	Robert Clifford	9.
George Gross (call the peal)	5.	William de Donald	10.

Shoreditch

Thursday, February 26, 1805 The Society rang a peal of 6129 changes on Piedman's Principle in 4 hours & 12 minutes being the most ever rung in that method, & was called by George Gross.

George Gross	1.	Peter Jones	6.
William Shipway	2.	William Richardson	7.
Samuel Cowling	3.	John Hints	8.
William Beate	4.	Anthony Cavalier	9.
James Slickburs	5.	Philip Pelgum	10.

Waltham Abbey, Essex.

Sunday, July 20th 1806 This Society rang a peal of 5056 changes Treble Bob in 3 hours & 16 minutes containing 15 courses with the 6th twelve times wrong & 12 times right & was the first peal ever rang on the Bells.

George Gross	1.	Thomas Fresh	5
John Hints	2.	James Pichbury	6
James Nash	3.	William Stephens	7.
Malachi Channon	4.	James Marston	8

Composed & called by George Gross

Spitalfields

Saturday, December 20, 1806 This Society rang a peal of 6334 changes upon Piedman's Principle in 4 hours & 55 minutes, being the most ever rung in that method. Composed and called by Geo. Gross.

George Gross	1.	William Shipway	7.
James Purer	2.	John Hints	8.
James Nash	3.	Thomas Fresh	9.
Peter Jones	4.	Anthony Cavalier	10.
James Pichbury	5.	William Stephens	11.
Edward Bartlett	6.	Philip Pelgrim	Tenor

Wepney

Friday March 13, 1807 The Society rang a peal of 5080 changes Treble Bob Royal in 3 hours & 55 minutes. The 1st in that method on the Bells Composed & called by George Gross.

George Gross	1.	Thomas Reeves	6.
James Purer	2.	John Hints	7.
Peter Jones	3.	James Pichbury	8.
James Nash	4.	Anthony Cavalier	9.
William Shipway	5.	William Stephens	10.

Edmonton

Monday, July 6, 1807 This Company rang
a peal of 5040 changes Bob Major in 3 hours
+ 15 minutes

Anthony Cavalier	1.	John Hints	5.
George Harris	2.	Thomas Freeth	6.
Daniel Dearing	3.	James Nash	7.
James Jacobs	4.	James Slickbury	8.

Called by Anthony Cavalier

Shoreditch

Monday, November 30, 1807 This Society
rang 5390 changes Grand sire Cinques, in 4
hours + 2 minutes, being the first peal on the
12 Bells + was the opening peal, Comp'd +
called by G. Gross.

George Gross (call' the peal)		John Hints	7.
William Shipway	2.	William Stephens	8.
James Nash	3.	Thomas Freeth	9.
James Slickbury	4.	James Purser	10.
Anthony Cavalier	5.	Philip Selgrim	11
John Jones	6.	James Marlion	Tenor

Tuesday, December 5th 1807 Six persons of the Cumberland Society rang on the hand bells after a diligent perseverance two complete courses of Oxford Treble Bob Maximus, containing 1248 changes which were completed in 4 hours + 2 minutes* being the greatest performance ever achieved on the science of Hand bell ringing which will ever reflect Honor to the performers. This unparalleled performance was accomplished at Mr. M^r. M^r. Dorners keeper of the Red Cross Horse Street Bethnal Green + was conducted by Geo. Gross

William Makee	1-2	George Gross	7-8
Paul Debues	3-4	Daniel Debues	9-10
James Tichbury	5-6	Charles Makee	11-12.

St. Mary-e-Bow.

Tuesday, March 8 1808 This company rang a peal of 5094 Caters on Stedman's Principle in 3 hours + 52 minutes being the only peal in that Inimitable method on those Bells, viz

George Gross	1.	James ^{John} Hints	6.
William Shipway	2.	Thomas Freeth	7.
James Nash	3.	Anthony Cavalier	8.
Richard Jagger	4.	William Stephens	9
James Tichbury	5.	Philip Pilgrim	Tenor

Composed + Called by George Gross

* So in Osborn's transcript. Possibly a mistake for 1 hour and 2 minutes which however would be slow ringing

St. Peter's at St. Alban's, Herts.

Monday July 4 1808 The Society rang 5040 Grandfire
Caters in 3 hours + 31 minutes being the first peal of
Caters on the Bells.

William Hall	1.	James Jacobs	6.
George Gross	2.	Thomas Fresh	7.
William Shipway	3.	Richard Jagers	8.
James Nash	4.	John Hints	9.
Anthony Cavalier	5.	Philip Pilgrim	Tenor

Composed & called by George Gross.

St. Giles in the Fields

Sunday, November 13 1808, The Society rang
St. Hollis 10 part peal of 5040 changes Grandfire
Tripples in 2 hours + 55 minutes

George Gross	1.	Philip Everit	5.
William Shipway	2.	William Everit	6.
Henry Warren	3.	James Shurup	7.
John Hints	4.	Philip Pilgrim	Tenor

Called by George Gross.

Hackney

Tuesday, February 7, 1809, This Society rang
St. Hollis peal of 5040 changes of Grandfire
Tripples in 3 hours + 16 minutes

William Hymns	1.	William Shipway
James Bates	2.	Edward Taylor
Thomas Fresh	3.	John Windsor
Thomas East	4.	Charles Earl

Called by Edward Taylor.

Islington

Wednesday, March 8, 1809, This Society rang a
peal of 5040 Grand sire Triples, in 3 Hours & 8
minutes, viz.

Thomas Harris, Junr.	1.	Richard Jagers	5.
William Chaplin	2.	Thomas Fresh	6.
William Hall	3.	William Shipway	7.
Thomas Harris, Senr.	4.	Thomas Smallpage	8.

Called by William Shipway.

Greenwich

Sunday, November 19th 1809 This Company rang
a peal of 5039 changes Grand sire Caters, in
3 Hours & 31 minutes

John Stephan Reed	1.	Thomas Smallpage	6.
Daniel Dale	2.	Henry Warren	7.
William Herbert	3.	James Tichbury	8.
Richard Hills	4.	Thomas Shackell	9.
William Shipway	5.	Philip Selgim	Tenor.

Composed & called by William Shipway

Shoreditch

Sunday, December 9, 1809 This company
rang a peal of 6000 changes Treble Bob
Mascius in 4 hours & 33 minutes. Being

the first peal in that Method on those Bells

George Gross	1.	William Lee	7.
Anthony Cavalier	2.	Richard Jagers	8.
James Nash	3.	Thomas Fresh	9.
William Shipway	4.	John Hunt	10.
James Tichbury	5.	William Stephens	11.
John Jones	6.	Philip Selgim	Tenor

Composed & called by Mr George Gross.

St Andrew, Holborn.

Monday February 19, 1810, This Society rang a
peal of 5040 Grandure Tripples in 3 hours + 22
minutes

John Hints	1.	Thomas Fresh	5.
George Gross (call the peal)	2.	Richard Jagers	6.
Henry Warren	3.	Philip Selgins	7.
William Shipway	4.	Tho: Smallpage	Tenor

Harrow-on-the-Hill.

Monday, April 26, 1810 This Society rang
a peal of 5040 Changes Grandure Tripples in 3
hours + 8 minutes

Daniel Pope, Sen ^r	1.	Philip Everet	5.
Thomas Harris, Jun ^r	2.	William Everet	6.
Thomas Harris, Sen ^r	3.	Daniel Pope, Jun ^r	7.
Thomas Fresh	4.	William Halsey	8.

Conducted by Mr. Daniel Pope, Jun^r.

St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green

Sunday, February 10th 1811, This Society rang
a peal of 5248 Changes Treble PB in 3 hours
+ 18 minutes. Being the full extent of 13
Courses. Call'd by George Gross.

George Gross	1.	Henry Burnwell	5.
William Hall	2.	Peter Jones	6.
Malachi Channon	3.	James Nash	7.
James Tichbury	4.	James Marlion	Tenor

King Edward the Confessor Chapel
Rumford, Essex.

Monday, February 18, 1811. This company rang
a peal of 5248 changes Oxford Treble Bob in 3
hours + 26 minutes. Being the full extent of
13 courses called by George Gross.

William Hall	1.	James Tichbury	5.
George Gross	2.	James Nash	6.
William Shipway	3.	William Stephens	7.
Peter Jones	4.	James Marlion	Tenor

Hackney

Tuesday, March 26, 1811 This Society rang a
peal of 5168 changes Bob Major in 3 hours +
40 minutes

William Hall	1.	James Nash	5.
James Bates	2.	William Shipway	6.
James Tichbury	3.	John Windsor	7.
Thomas Fresh	4.	Thomas East	Tenor

Called by William Shipway

St. Martin-in-the-Fields

Sunday, February 8 1812 This company rang a
peal of 5424 changes Treble Bob Maximus in 4
hours + 14 minutes

George Gross	1.	John Hunt	7.
William Hall	2.	William Stephens	8.
James Nash	3.	Henry Symondson	9.
Peter Jones	4.	James Tichbury	10.
William Shipway	5.	Thomas Gvenden	11.
Anthony Cavalier	6.	Philip Selgrim	Tenor.

Composed + called by George Gross.

Waltham Abbey

Monday, September 19, 1812 This Society rang a
peal of 5040 changes Grandsire Triples in 3 hours
+ 16 minutes

George Gross	1.	Thomas Overden	5.
William Kennerley	2.	Thomas Fresh	6.
James Kennerley	3.	William Shipway	7.
James Nash	4.	William Woodbridge	Tenor

Called by George Gross.

Greenwich

Sunday November 1, 1812 The Society rang
a peal of 5219 changes Grandsire Caters in 3
hours and 29 minutes

William Shipway	1.	Daniel Dale	6.
James Mucklow	2.	William Herbert	7.
John Wilbee	3.	Edward Taylor	8.
Joseph Ambrose	4.	Samuel Wade	9.
John Read	5.	William Fell	Tenor

Called by Mr. Samuel Wade.

Edmonion

Monday, November 23, 1812. This Society
rang a peal of 5040 changes Grandsire Triples
in 3 hours + 25 minutes

George Gross	1.	Thomas Fresh	5.
William Kennerley	2.	Charles Woodbridge	6.
William Hall	3.	William Woodbridge	7.
William Shipway	4.	William Wright	Tenor

Called by Mr. George Gross.

Lewisham

Sunday, December 13, 1812, This Society rang a peal of 5040 changes Grandsire Triples in 3 hours + 2 minutes

William Smith	1.	William Herbert	5.
James Ducklow	2.	Edward Taylor	6.
Joseph Ambrose	3.	Daniel Dale	7.
Samuel Wade	4.	William Fell	Tenor

Called by Mr. William Herbert.

Beithnal Green

Monday, December 28, 1812, This Society rang a peal of 5856 changes Bob Major in 3 hours + 45 minutes containing as many courses as there are weeks in a year, as many leads as days in a year and as many changes as hours in 8 months Composed + called by George Gross

George Gross	1.	Thomas Fresh	5.
William Stephens	2.	Peter Jones	6.
William Hall	3.	William Fletcher	7.
James Marston	4.	James Nash	Tenor.

Shoreditch

Sunday, January 9, 1813, The Society of Cumberlands rang 5039 changes Grandsire Calers in 3 hours + 38 minutes.

John Stephen Reed	1.	James Marston	6.
William Ducklow	2.	William Herbert	7.
John Willbee	3.	George Gross	8.
Thomas Fresh	4.	(called the peal)	
Peter Jones	5.	Samuel Wade	9.
		William Fletcher	Tenor.

Greenwich

Sunday, January 24, 1813 The Society rang a peal of 5040 changes Plain Bob Royal in 3 hours + 37 minutes with the 6th twelve times right. Composed and called by Geo. Gross

John Stephen Read		William Herbert	6
George Gross	1.	Thomas Fresh	7
James Nash	2.	Daniel Dale	8
Joseph Ambrose	3.	Samuel Trade	9
James Tolley	4.	James Marlton	10

Hackney

Thursday, February 26, 1813 This Society rang a peal of 6272 changes Bob Major in 4 hours + 20 minutes. This peal contains all the 8675 and 6785 that can be obtained in the whole revolution of 40320 changes, + is composed in 56 Courses with the 6th at home 48 times wrong + right with 2 Singles. Comp^d + called by Mr. E. Taylor

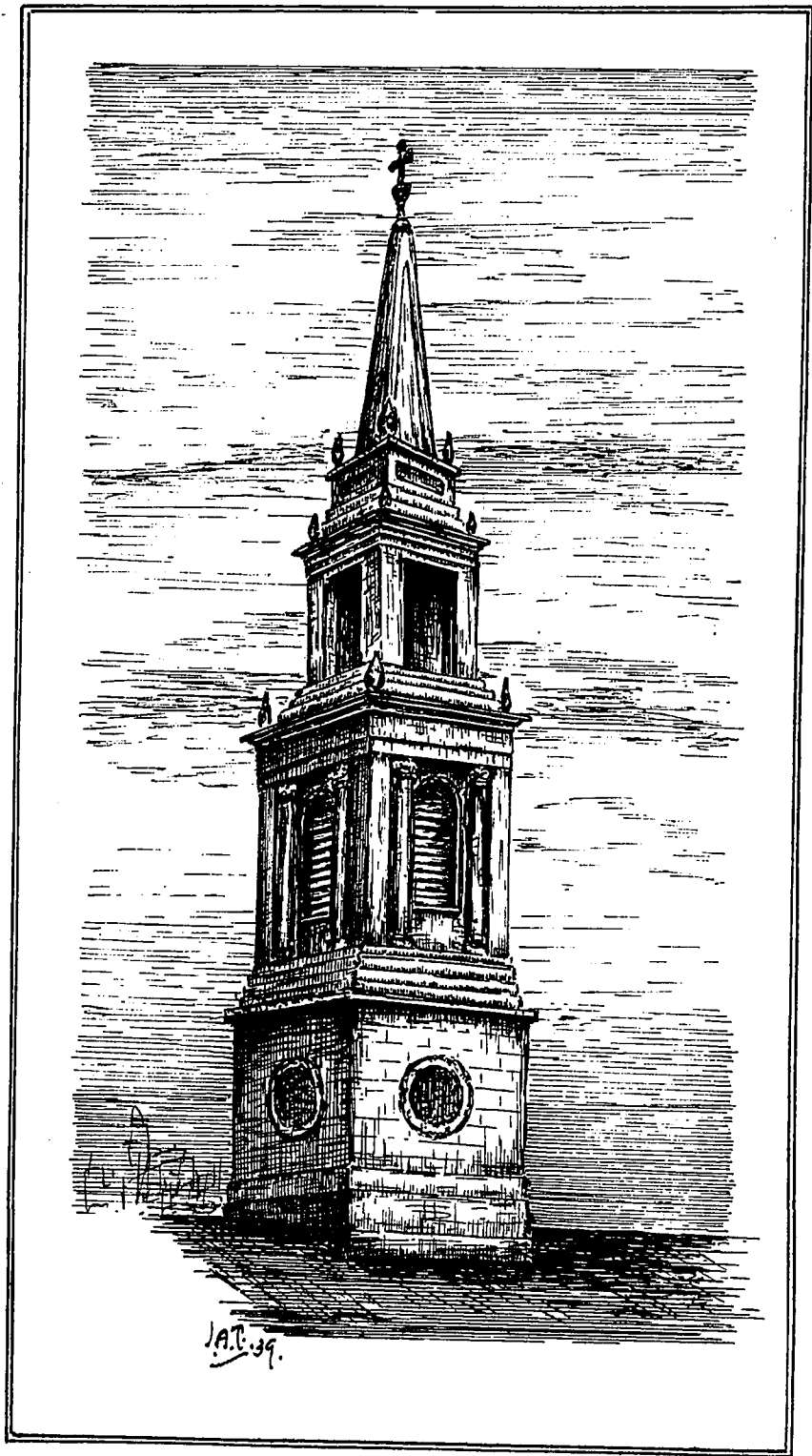
Isaac Earl	1.	William Shipway	5.
William Hall	2.	Edward Taylor	6.
James Tolley	3.	John Windsor	7.
Thomas Fresh	4.	Thomas East	8.

Bethnal Green

Monday, April 12 1813, This Society rang a peal of 5024 changes Oxford Treble Bob in 3 hours + 15 minutes

George Gross	1.	Thomas Fresh	5.
William Shipway	2.	Francis Nay	6.
William Hall	3.	Malachi Channon	7.
Peter Jones	4.	James Nash	8.

Composed and called by George Gross.



S^t JOHN'S, WATERLOO ROAD, LAMBETH.

Shoreditch

Saturday December 11 1813 This Society rang
a peal of 5057 Grandfire Chimes in 3 hours and
40 minutes

William Hall	1	Peter Jones	6
Elias Mills	2	Henry Barnwell	7
Daniel Debus	3	Francis May	8
Daniel Dearing	4	George Cross	9
Charles Meake	5	Thomas Wilson	10

Composed and called by Geo. Cross.

Shoreditch

Monday, November 7, 1814 This Society rang
a peal of 5040 changes Grandfire Chimes in 3
hours and 30 minutes

Elias Mills	1	Thomas Fresh	6
William Shipway	2	Henry Barnwell	7
Daniel Dearing	3	James Blacklock	8
James Jacobs	4	James Nash	9
Peter Jones	5	Thomas Wilson	10

Called by Mr. William Shipway

Shoreditch

Saturday March 18, 1815, This Society rang
a peal of 5200 changes Oxford Treble Bob Royal
in 3 hours and 44 minutes

William Hall	1	Thomas Fresh	6
William Shipway	2	Henry Barnwell	7
William Stephens	3	James Nash	8
James Slickbury	4	Thomas Overden	9
Peter Jones	5	James Blacklock	10

Called by Mr. William Shipway.

Groydon

Saturday, January 13, 1816 This Company rang a peal of 5040 changes Grand sire Triples in 3 hours and 6 minutes.

William Cresswell	1.	John Glide	5.
Robert Oiley	2.	William Taylor	6.
William Thoms	3.	Francis Mathew	7.
George Lockyer	4.	Robert Margetts	8.

Called by Mr. Francis Mathew

St. Matthew Bethnal Green.

Monday May 13 1816 This Society rang a peal of 5040 changes Grand sire Triples in 3 hours and 7 minutes

Keelach Channon	1.	Thomas Fresh	5.
James Tichbury	2.	James Tichbury, Jun ^r	6.
William Hall	3.	William Shipway	7.
Henry Barnwell	4.	Thomas Wilson	8.

Called by Mr. William Shipway

Lewisham

Sunday, September 15th 1816 This Company rang a peal of 5040 changes Grand sire Triples in 3 hours being the 15th ever rung with all bells and called by Mr. Shipway

William Cresswell	1.	John Glide	5.
William Shipway	2.	Edward Taylor	6.
Robert Oiley	3.	Francis Mathew	7.
Thomas Fresh	4.	Robert Margetts	8.

Shoreditch

Saturday, February 15, 1817 This Society rang
a peal of 5039 Changes Grandfire Baters in
3 hours and 26 minutes

George Cross	1.	Thrup Lods	6.
John Wooding	2.	Henry Barnwell	7.
James Nash	3.	Elias Hills	8.
William Shipway	4.	Francis Mathew	9.
Peter Jones	5.	Edward Lewin	10.

Called by Mr. George Cross.

Lewisham

Sunday, September 7, 1817 This Company
rang a peal of 5040 Grandfire Triples in
3 hours and 8 minutes

William Presurck	1.	Richard Alley	5.
John James	2.	Edward Taylor	6.
Robert Margetts	3.	Francis Mathew	7.
George Cross	4.	John Glide	8.

Called by Mr. George Cross

Shoreditch

Saturday December 13 1817 This Society rang
a peal of 5040 Changes Oxford Treble B. Royal
in 3 hours and 29 minutes with the 6th 12 times
each way Called by Geo. Cross.

Charles Hills	1.	William Shipway	6.
George Cross	2.	Henry Barnwell	7.
James Nash	3.	Ja ^s Shubbery Sen ^r	8.
Daniel Bearing	4.	Francis Mathew	9.
Peter Jones	5.	John Whiting	10.

All Hallows, Barking.

Monday, February 16, 1818. This Society rang a peal of 8448 changes Oxford Treble Bob in 5 hours + 25 minutes, being the full extent with the Tenors together. Called by Geo. Gross.

George Gross	1.	William Herbert
Peter Jones	2.	James Pickbury, Sen ^r
James Nash	3.	James Whiting
William Shipway	4.	Francis Mathew.

St. Laurence, Minnowdale, Gloucestershire

Thursday, September 24 1818 This Society rang a peal of 5000 changes Oxford Treble Bob Royal in 3 hours + 20 minutes, with the 6th 12 times each way in 10 Courses. Called by Geo. Gross.

George Gross	1.	Thomas Freeth	6.
James Nash	2.	John Marlion (sic)	7.
John Hints	3.	Joseph Riley	8.
William Shipway	4.	Francis Mathew	9.
William Herbert	5.	John Whiting	10.

St. Mary at Painswick in Gloucestershire

Friday September 25. 1818 This Company rang a peal of 5200 changes Oxford Treble Bob Royal in 3 hours + 32 minutes being the full extent of 9 Courses. Call^d by Geo. Gross.

George Gross	1.	Thomas Freeth	6.
James Nash	2.	James Marlion	7.
John Hints	3.	Joseph Riley	8.
William Shipway	4.	Francis Mathew	9.
William Herbert	5.	John Whiting	10.

St. Margaret's, Westminster.

Saturday, December 5th 1818 This Society rang
a peal of 6360 changes Oxford Treble Bob Royals
in 4 hours and 25 minutes

Elias Mills	1.	Thomas Treeth	6.
George Gross	2.	Henry Barnwell	7.
William Shipway	3.	James Marlion	8.
Peter Jones	4.	Thomas Granger	9.
James Tichbury, Sen ^r	5.	Francis Mathew	10.

Called by Mr. George Gross

St. Dunstan-in-the-East, London.

Monday, February 1, 1819 This Company rang
a peal of 5120 changes Oxford Treble Bob in 3
hours + 30 minutes

Thomas Tichil	1.	William Herbert
George Gross	2.	James Tichbury, Sen ^r
James Nash	3.	Francis Mathew
William Shipway	4.	Thomas Granger

Called by Mr. George Gross.

Quesc Park, Thanet.

Wednesday, August 4, 1819 The day announced
for the public opening of the Bells which were
cast and hung by Mr. T. Mears of Whitechapel
London, and, as might be expected from the
novelty of the thing, attracted a considerable
concourse of Fashionables (it being in the
immediate vicinity of Margate) and the
interest of the scene was considerably enhanced

by its having no parallel in the united Kingdom, namely that of a Gentleman erecting in his Park a Tower and Spire, and placing therein a peal of twelve bells solely for his amusement and to attain the art of change ringing, having an eminent tutor for the purpose, who in patronising this manly art has evinced considerable ability in this very abstruse science.

Two Societies of twelve Bell-Ringers of London (the Cumberlands and College youths) were invited to this festive scene where booths were erected, and the park and pleasure grounds were opened to the assembled auditors.

The onset commenced by each Company giving a specimen in a touch of 900 Cinques after which the Cumberlands Society rang a fine peal comprising 5213 Grand and Cinques in 3 hours 39 minutes. This was the opening peal.

The other Society did not attempt a peal, but contributed alternately to give touches of about an hour's performance

on that and the following day which closed this never to be forgotten treat to the amateurs of the manly art of Ringing. The following were the performers and their stations in the peal

Mr. George Gross	1.	M ^r . Thomas Fresh	7
James Nash	2.	Thomas Overden	8
William Shipway	3.	James Sticklebury	9
John Hints	4.	Joseph Riley	10
Peter Jones	5.	Thomas Grainger	11
James Blacklock	6.	Francis Mathew	12

Mr. George Gross Conductor.

Greenwich

Friday, Sep^r. 24 1819 This Society rang a peal of 5280 changes Oxford Treble Bob Royal in 3 hours and 34 minutes

George Gross	1.	William Herbert	6
John Hints	2.	James Sticklebury Jun ^r .	7
Joseph Ladley	3.	Thomas Overden	8.
Thomas Grainger	4.	James Marston	9
Thomas Fresh	5.	Francis Mathew	10

Called by M^r. G. Gross.

Bethnal Green

Sunday Sep^r. 26 1819 The Society rang a peal of 5056 changes Treble Bob in 3 hours and 13 minutes. This peal was rung by particular desire of M^r Malachi Channon it being the last he intended to ring he having been a member of the Society 52 years and 72 years of age. Called by G. Gross.

George Gross	1.	James Marston	5.
Peter Jones	2.	James Sticklebury	6.
Malachi Channon	3.	Thomas Grainger	7.
Henry Smith	4.	James Nash	8

Croydon

Monday, 4 October 1819 This Society rang a peal of 5056 Changes Treble Bob in 3 hours and 17 minutes

George Gross	1.	Henry Barnwell	5.
Peter Jones	2.	Thomas Granger	6.
James Nash	3.	John Whiting	7.
James Tichenury, Lente.		Francis Heather	8.

Called by Mr George Gross.

Lewisham

Sunday, November 28, 1819 This Society rang a peal of 5040 Grandfire Triples in 2 hours and 51 minutes with 108 Cobs and 2 singles. Called by Joseph Ladley.

Daniel	1.	William Harcourt	5.
John James	2.	James Blacklock	6.
John Bray	3.	James Tichenury, jun ^r	7.
Joseph Ladley	4.	William Fell	8.

Greenwich

Sunday, December 19, 1819 This Society rang a peal of 5040 Grandfire Triples in 3 hours + 8 minutes

James Heather	1.	William Herbert	5.
John James	2.	James Blacklock	6.
John Bradley	3.	William Seifield	7.
Joseph Ladley	4.	Harry C	8.

Called by Mr. Joseph Ladley.

Bethnal Green

Monday Dec: 27 1819 This Society rang a
peal of 5120 changes Treble Bob in 3 hours &
17 minutes

George Gross	1.	Henry Barnwell	5
Joseph Ladley	2.	James Slickbury Sen ^r	6.
Edward Chambers	3.	Francis Meathew	7
Thomas Michael	4.	John Whiting	8.

Called by Mr. George Gross.

Bethnal Green

Sunday, Jan. 9 1820 This Society rang
a peal of 5120 changes Oxford Treble Bob
in 3 hours & 15 minutes as follows.

George Gross	1.	Henry Barnwell	5.
James Slickbury Sen ^r	2.	William Ludford	6.
Edward Chambers	3.	Francis Meathew	7
John Whiting	4.	Jon ^r . Greenwood	8

Called by George Gross.

St John Southwark.

Tuesday, June 13, 1820 This Society rang a
peal of 5080 changes Oxford Treble Bob Royal
in 3 hours & 34 minutes

George Gross	1.	James Slickbury	6.
James Nash	2.	Henry Barnwell	7.
Edward Chambers	3.	John Whiting	8
Joseph Ladley	4.	Thomas Harboey	9.
Peter Jones	5.	Francis Meathew	10

Called by Mr. Geo. Gross.

Kingston, Surrey.

Sunday, 24 September, 1820 This Society rang
a peal of 5080 changes Great Treble Bob Royals
in 3 hours + 25 minutes, viz

Elias Mills	1	Thomas Faeth	6.
George Gross	2	Henry Barnwell	7.
James Nash	3	James Stickbury	8.
Edward Chambers	4	Francis Mathew	9.
Peter Jones	5	John Whiting	10

Conducted by Mr George Gross.

Shoreditch

Sunday, 25 November 1820 This Company
rang a peal of 5120 Changes Treble Bob
Royal in 3 hours + 42 minutes, viz.

George Gross	1	John Whiting
Joseph Ladley	2	Henry Barnwell
Edward Chambers	3	William Ludford
James Stickbury	4	Robert Mirfield
Peter Jones	5	Francis Mathew

Called by Mr. Geo Gross.

St. Olave, Southwark

Tuesday, 26 December 1820 This Society
rang a peal of 5040 Changes Grandeur Triples
in 3 hours + 11 minutes with 190 Cots + 50 Singles

Robert Mirfield	1	James Stickbury Junr.	5
Daniel Deering	2	Francis Mathew	6
John Bradley	3	Edward Sawyer	7
Joshua Ladley	4	Thomas Michael	8

Called by Joseph Ladley.

St George in the East, London

Monday 22 January 1821 This Society rang
a peal of 5024 Changes Oxford Treble Bob in
3 hours + 23 minutes being the first on the
Bells

George Gross	1.	Thomas Michael	5.
Peter Jones	2.	James Sickerby	6.
James Nash	3.	John Whiting	7.
Edward Chambers	4.	Francis Mathew	8.

Called by Mr. George Gross.

Islington

Tuesday 6. January 1821 This Society rang
a peal of 6208 Changes Oxford Treble Bob
in 3 hours + 58 minutes

Robert Linfield	1.	Henry Barnwell	5.
George Gross	2.	James Sickerby Junr	6.
Edward Chambers	3.	Francis Mathew	7.
Thomas Michael	4.	John Whiting	8.

Called by Mr. George Gross.

St Peter Mitcham

Sunday 13 May 1821 This company rang
a peal of 5120 Changes Oxford Treble Bob
in 3 hours and 12 minutes. viz.

George Gross	1.	James Nash	5.
Edward Chambers	2.	James Sickerby	6.
J. Bolton	3.	Francis Mathew	7.
Thomas Michael	4.	John Whiting	8.

Called by Mr. George Gross

St. Mary, Croydon

Tuesday June 12 1821, This Society rang a
peal of 5040 changes Grand sire Triples in
2 hours and 56 minutes

William Creswick	1.	Henry Please	5.
John Bradley	2.	George Lockyer	6.
Robert Margitts	3.	Francis Mathew	7.
Edward Sawyer	4.	Richard Tidy	8.

Called by Mr. Francis Mathew.

St. Peter, Mitcham

Tuesday, June 12, 1821 this company rang
a peal of 5040 Grand sire Triples in 2 hours
and 55 minutes

William Creswick	1.	John Bradley	5.
Robert Giley	2.	George Lockyer	6.
Henry Please	3.	Francis Mathew	7.
Edward Sawyer	4.	Richard Tidy	8.

Called by

St. George in the East

Monday March 11 1822 This Society rang
a peal of 5040 changes Grand sire Triples in 3
hours + 28 minutes, and the Performers were
4 Fathers and 4 Sons

Thomas Gross	1.	James Tichburn Jun ^r	5.
George Gross	2.	James Tichburn Sen ^r	6.
John Merrin	3.	Thomas Michael Jun ^r	7.
Benjamin Merrin	4.	Thomas Michael Sen ^r	8.

Called by Mr. George Gross

Bethnal Green

Sunday, 15 December 1822, This Society rang
a peal of 5056 changes Treble Bob in 3 hours
+ 17 minutes

Thomas Gross	1.	James Nash	5.
George Gross	2.	James Tichbury Junr	6.
Peter Jones	3.	Robert Merfield	7.
Daniel Deering	4.	James Tichbury Senr	8.

Called by Mr. George Gross.

Shoreditch

Monday, May 19, 1823 This Society rang
a peal of 5213 changes Grandfire Cinqes. in
3 hours + 47 minutes

George Gross	1.	Peter Jones	7.
James Nash	2.	John Whiting	8.
Thomas Gross	3.	Henry Barnwell	9.
Robert Merfield	4.	William Ludford	10.
Thomas Michael	5.	Thomas Hurry	11.
Joshua Hurry	6.	Thomas Wilson	12.

Called by Mr. Geo. Gross + 150 peal on this 12.

All Saints Poplar

Thursday 3 July 1823 This Society rang a peal
of 5094 changes Grandfire Caters in 3 hours + 29m

George Gross	1.	Henry Barnwell	6.
James Nash	2.	Robert Merfield	7.
Thomas Gross	3.	William Ludford	8.
Peter Jones	4.	James Tichbury	9.
Thomas Michael	5.	Thomas Wilson	10.

Called by Mr. George Gross, and the first Peal on the Bells.

Shoreditch

Saturday Jan^y 3 1824 The Society rang a
peal of 5039 Grand sire Colers in 5 hours and
3 $\frac{1}{4}$ min^{ts} Call^d by Thomas Gross

Thomas Gross	1.	William Atherton	6
George Gross	2.	Henry Barnwell	7.
James Crane	3.	John Chapman	8
Robert Murrell	4.	John Whiting	9
Peter Jones	5.	William Ludford	10.

All Saints, Poplar

Monday, 5 December, 1825, This Society
rang a peal of 5200 changes Oxford Treble
Bob Royal in 3 hours + 35 minutes

Thomas Gross	1	William Atherton
George Gross	2	Henry Barnwell
William Shipway	3	Charles Foster
James Nash	4	William Ludford
Peter Jones	5.	John Whiting

Called by Mr Thomas Gross.

All Saints Poplar

Sunday March 26 1826 This Society rang
a peal of 5040 Grand sire Triples in 3 hours
+ 11 minutes

Thomas Gross	1	Edward Giles	5.
William Wise	2	James Rogers	6.
William Atherton	3	John Chapman	7.
Charles Warner	4	Richard Ashley	8

Called by Mr Thomas Gross.

Shoreditch

Saturday May 6 1826 This Society rang a
peal of 5040 changes Oxford Treble Bob Minimus
in 4 hours and 5 minutes

George Gross	1.	Peter Jones	7.
Thomas Gross	2.	William Atherton	8.
James Nash	3.	Henry Barnwell	9.
William Shipway	4.	William Ludford	10.
Edward Chambers	5.	Charles Foster	11.
James Allen	6.	John Whiting	}
		David Evans	

Called by Mr George Gross.

All Saints Poplar

Monday December 4 1826 This Society rang
a peal of 5040 Grand sire Caters in 3 hours
and 35 minutes

Robert Sirfield	1.	Edmund Giles	6.
William Trice	2.	William Ludford	7.
John Chapman	3.	James Rogers	8.
William Atherton	4.	Henry Parsons	9.
Charles Warner	5.	Robert Ashley	10.

Called by Mr. Robert Sirfield

St. Peter's Mitcham

Tuesday December 12 1826 The Society rang
a peal of 5040 Grand sire Triples with 108
bobs and 2 singles in 2 hours + 56 minutes

Called by Mr Henry Please

William Creswick	1.	William Bailey	5.
Henry Please	2.	George Lockyer	6.
Robert Margetts	3.	John Slide	7.
William Wilkins	4.	Henry Thornton	8.

Holy Trinity, Surrey.

Monday February 26 1827 This Company rang a peal of 5040 changes Grand sire Triples in 3 hours + 5 minutes. This was Mr. Hollis' one part with 2 Doubles in the Last 4 Leads and was called by Mr. T. Gross.

Thomas Gross	1.	Edward Giles	5.
William Atherton	2.	John Whiting	6.
William Lydford	3.	Henry Parsons	7.
Charles Tramer	4.	William Rose	8.

All Saints Poplar

Monday, March 5, 1827 This Society rang a peal of 5040 Grand sire Triples in 3 hours + 7 minutes. This was Mr. Hollis' one part with 2 Doubles in the Last 4 Leads + was called by Mr. Robert Merfield

Robert Merfield	1.	William Atherton	5.
William Wise	2.	Charles Tramer	6.
John Chapman	3.	James Rogers	7.
Edward Giles	4.	William Rose	8.

Hackney

Thursday April 5 1827 This Society rang a peal of 5040 changes Grand sire Triples in 3 hours + 19 minutes

William Hymns	1.	John Trumper	5.
George Bryant	2.	John Windsor	6.
George Potter	3.	James Hutchinson	7.
William Atherton	4.	Robert Pettit	8.

Called by Mr. William Atherton.

64352 - 1 - 1
 45623 - .
 24536 - . - 2
 43265 - .
 26452 - .
 65324 - .

43526 - 1 - 1
 32465 - .
 26354 - .
 65243 - .
 54632 - .

These 5 courses
 twice repeated
 42563 Park 23rd
 23456 ends 4th
 5024 Treble 8th
 John Cox

All Saints, Poplar.

Monday 24 April 1827 This Society rang a peal of 6101 Grand sire Calers in 4 hours as follows

Robert Airfield	1.	Charles Warner	6.
Edward Giles	2.	William Ludford	7.
John Chapman	3.	James Rogers	8.
William Atherton	4.	Henry Parsons	9.
Charles Foster	5.	William Rose	10.

Called by Mr. Robert Airfield

Hackney

Sunday 30 April 1827 This Society rang a peal of 5120 Gocford Treble Bb in 3 hours and 20 minutes

George Gross	1.	John Whiting	5.
Thomas Gross	2.	William Atherton	6.
Charles Warner	3.	William Ludford	7.
Edward Giles	4.	Charles Foster	8.

Called by Mr. George Gross.

West Ham

Sunday 6 May, 1827, This Society rang a peal of 5040 changes Grand sire Triples in 3 hours and 22 min⁶

Robert Ashley	1.	Charles Warner	5.
Edward Giles	2.	James Rogers	6.
Thomas Toleaday	3.	George Smith	7.
William Atherton	4.	William Rose	8.

Called by Mr. William Atherton.

Croydon

Tuesday May 29 1827 This Society rang a
peal of 5040 changes Grand sire Triples in 2
hours and 50 minutes

William Creswick	1.	William Bailey	5.
Henry Please	2.	George Lockyer	6.
Robert Margitts	3.	John Glide	7.
William Wilkins	4.	Henry Thronton	8.

Called by Mr. George Lockyer.

Poplar

Sunday June 3 1827 This Society rang a
peal of 5040 Grand sire Caters in 3 hours and
20 minutes

Henry Whillock	1.	William Howlett	6.
Edmund Giles	2.	John Chapman	7.
Robert Ashley	3.	Augustus Frederick Frost	8.
William Wise	4.	William Atherton	9.
Charles Tramer	5.	William Rose	10.

Called by Mr. Edmund Giles

Barking, Essex

Sunday July 1 1827, This Company rang
a peal of 5040 changes Grand sire Triples in
2 hours and 58 minutes

Robert Ashley	1.	Thomas Tolladay	5.
Edmund Giles	2.	Charles Tramer	6.
George Smith	3.	A. G. Frost	7.
William Atherton	4.	William Rose	8.

Called by Mr. William Atherton

Hackney.

Thursday, November 27, 1827 The Society rang
a peal of 5040 changes Grand sire Triples in
3 hours and 24 minutes

William Hymms	1.	William Atherton	5.
Charles Warner	2.	John Wilson	6.
George Potter	3.	Edmond. Giles	7.
Wm Henry Burwash	4.	John Thompson	8

Called by Mr W^m Atherton

Clerkenwell

Wednesday January 9 1828 The Society rang
a peal of 5040 changes Grand sire Triples in 3
hours and 9 min^{ts}.

John Poles	1.	William Atherton	5.
Thomas Tolladay	2.	Edmund Giles	6.
W. H. Burwash	3.	A. G. Frossi	7.
George Potter	4	Thomas Sharp	8

Called by Mr W^m Atherton

West Ham

Sunday February 17 1828 This Society rang
a peal of 5040 changes Grand sire Triples in
3 hours + 10 min^{ts}.

James Bibbing	1.	W. H. Burwash	5.
Samuel Collins	2.	Asa Haywood	6.
William Atherton	3	Charles Woodbridge	7
Thomas Tolladay	4	William Cote	8

Called by Mr W^m Atherton.

Poplar

Monday February 25 1828 The Society rang
a peal of 5003 changes Grand sire Galers, in
3 hours + 20 minutes

John Chapman	1.	Charles Warner	6.
William Field	2.	Edm ^d . Giles	7.
William Wise	3.	George Stone	8.
William Atherton	4.	A. G. Frost	9.
John Saunders	5.	William Rose	10.

Called by Mr. Edmund Giles.

Islington

Wednesday March 12 1828 This Society rang
a peal of 5040 Grand sire Triples in 2 hours
+ 55 minutes

John Toole	1	George Potter	
John Oldfield	2.	Thomas Tolladay	
William Atherton	3.	A. G. Frost	
W. H. Burwash	4	Thomas Sharp.	

Called by Mr. William Atherton

Hackney

Tuesday March 25 1828 The Society rang
a peal of 5040 Grand sire Triples in 3 hours
and 10 minutes

John Trumper	1	William Atherton	5.
John Oldfield	2.	George Potter	6.
Thomas Tolladay	3	A. G. Frost	7.
W. H. Burwash	4	William Hymms	8

Called by Mr. W. Atherton.

Christ Church, Surrey.

Wednesday March 25, 1828 The Society rang
a peal of 5040 changes Grandine Tripples in
2 hours + 50 minutes

John Poole	1.	John Oldfield	5.
W. H. Purwash	2.	A. Hayward	6.
George Potter	3.	Thomas Tolladay	7.
William Atherton	4.	A. G. Frost	8.

Called by Mr. William Atherton

West Ham.

Sunday March 30, 1828 This Society rang
a peal of 5003 changes Grandine Caters in
3 hours and 10 minutes

John Poole	1	William Scott	10
Thomas Tolladay	2.	W. H. Purwash	6.
Robert Ashley	3.	George Smith	7.
Saml. Collins	3.	A. Hayward	8.
John Oldfield	4	Edmund Giles	9.

Called by Mr. E. Giles

West Ham

Sunday April 6, 1828 The Society rang a
peal of 7004 changes Grandine Caters in 4
hours + 24 minutes

John Poole	1	William Atherton	6
Edm. Giles	2.	George Smith	7.
W. H. Purwash	3.	A. Hayward	8
John Oldfield	4	A. G. Frost	9
Thomas Tolladay	5.	W. Scott	10

Called by Mr. W. Atherton

All Saints Hereford

Sunday, Apr. 27 1828. This company rang a peal of 5003 changes Grandure Caters in 3 hours + 17 minutes

John Tool	1.	Charles Foster	6.
William Atherton	2.	John Oldfield	7.
Thomas Tolladay	3.	A. Hayward	8.
Edmund Giles	4.	A. G. Frost	9.
H. H. Burwash	5.	Robert Ashley	10.

Called by Mr. Charles Foster

Poplar

Sunday May 25 1828 This company rang a peal of 5147 changes Grandure Caters in 3 hours and 20 minutes

Robert Ashley	1	John Oldfield
William Field	2	Charles Warner
William Atherton	3	George Pine
John Chapman	4	A. G. Frost
Edmund Giles	5.	William Rose

Called by Mr. Edmund Giles

At the Sign of the Green Dragon, Poplar.

Friday August 1 1828 Four of this Society of Cumberlands rang on the Hand Bells, up in hand a complete peal of 5046 Grandure Tuffles in 3 hours + 3 minutes

Mr. John Chapman	1-2	Mr. Charles Warner	5-6
Mr. Edmund Giles	3-4	Mr. Robert Ashley	7-8

Called by Mr. E. Giles and witnessed by Mr. William Atherton.

Hackney.

Wednesday 15 October 1828 This company rang a peal of 5280 changes Oxford Treble Bob which were performed in 3 hours + 36 minutes, viz.

James Rogers	1.	W. H. Burwash	5.
William Shipway	2.	A. Hayward	6.
John Oldfield	3.	A. G. Frost	7.
William Atherton	4.	George Potter	8.

Called by Mr. Atherton

Poplar

Monday Nov. 17 1828 This Society rang Mr. J. Hollis celebrated One part peal of 5040 Grand sire Triples (with 2 Doubles in the last four leads) in 3 hours + 8 minutes viz

H. Whillock	1.	John Chapman	5.
William Field	2.	Charles Warner	6.
William Atherton	3.	Edmund Giles	7.
Joseph Howlett	4.	William Rose	8.

Called by Mr. Giles.

Greenwich

January 12 1829 This Society rang a peal of 5363 changes Grand sire Calers in 3 hours + 52 minutes

John Poole	1.	Robert Thurstby	6.
William Atherton	2.	John Oldfield	7.
John Chapman	3.	George Stone	8.
J. Saunders	4.	James Rogers	9.
Edmund Giles	5.	W. H. Burwash	10.

Called by Mr. Edmund Giles.

Hackney

Tuesday January 20. 1829 This company rang a fine peal of 5040 Changes Grandeire Tripples in 3 hours + 14 minutes

William Hymms	1.	James Trumper	5
Charles Barnett	2.	John Oldfield	6.
William Atherton	3.	W. H. Burwash	7.
George Potter	4.	Robert Pettit	8

Called by Mr George Potter

Spitalfields

Monday February 10 1829 This company rang a peal of 5015 Changes Grandeire Congres in 3 hours + 58 minutes

Thomas Gross	1	Henry Barnwell	7.
William Atherton	2	Edmund Giles	8.
Richard Jagers	3.	William Young	9.
John Francis	4.	James Rogers	10.
John Oldfield	5.	John Whiting	11.
W. H. Burwash	6.	Charles Foster	12

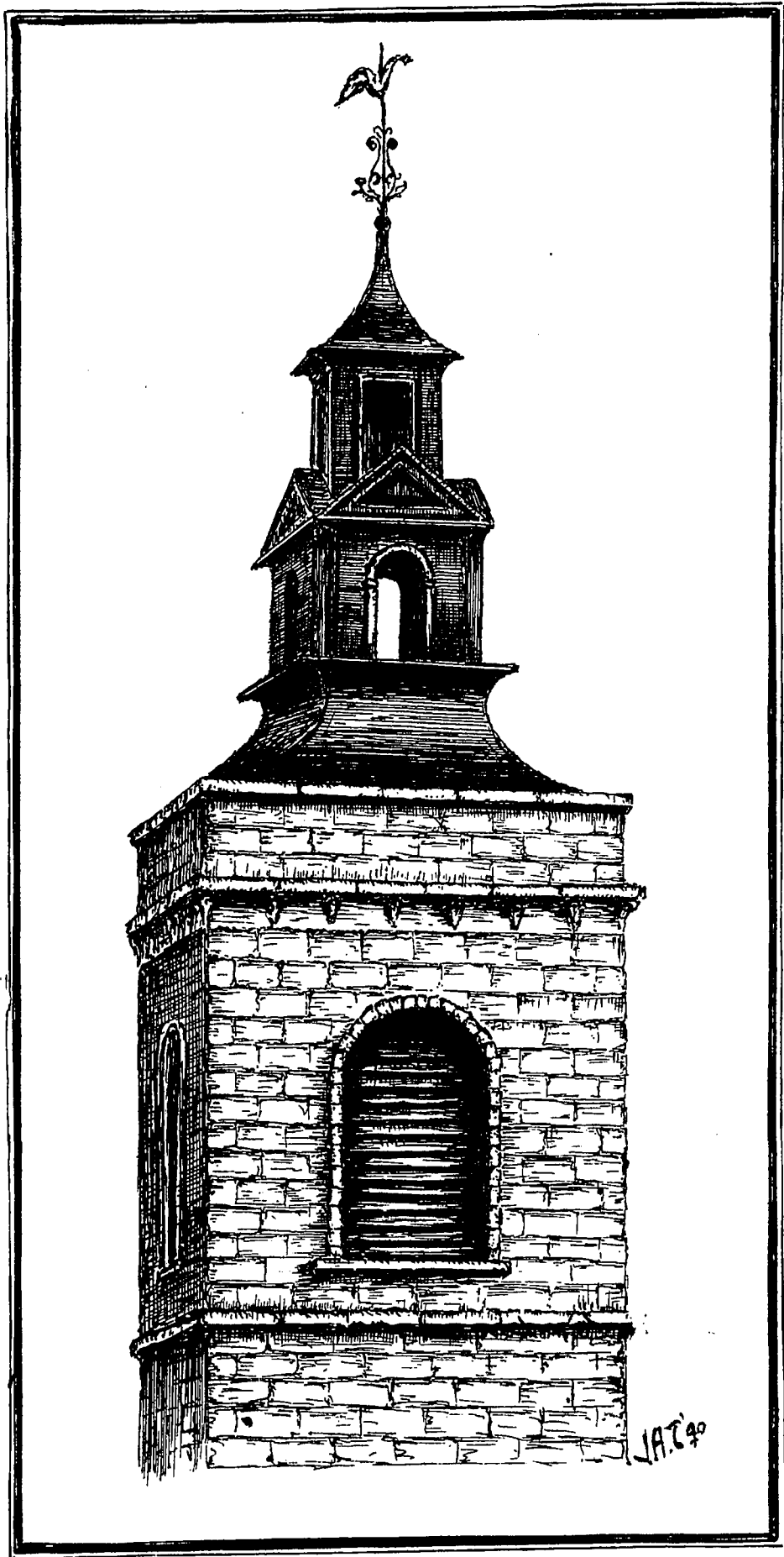
Called by Mr. T. Gross.

St. Peter at Bromley Kent

Monday March 16 1829 This Society rang a fine peal of 5040 Grandeire Tripples in 3 hours + 3 minutes

John Saunders	1.	John Giles	5.
George Stone	2.	W. H. Burwash	6.
Richard Chapman	3.	John Oldfield	7.
Edmund Giles	4.	James Bibbling	8

Called by Mr. W. H. Burwash



J.A.C. 90

The Peal Book
of the
Saint James's Society.

Transcribed from Osborn's copy in the
Library of the British Museum.

St Stephen's, Coleman St., City of London.

Monday, April 2nd 1827 The undermentioned members
of the St James' Company rang a peal of 5040
changes Grand sire Triples in 3 hours and 11 minutes
as follows

James Platt	1.	Thomas Tolladay	5.
Joseph Ladley	2.	George Smith	6.
George Potter	3.	Will ^m Benj ^m White	7.
William Atherton	4.	Will ^m Holloworthy	Tenor

Called by Mr W^m Atherton.

St. Stephen's, Coleman Street.

On Monday December 3rd 1827 This Society rang
a peal of 5040 changes Grand sire Triples in 3 hours
and 5 minutes

James Platt	1.	Will ^m Benj ^m White	5.
Joseph Ladley	2.	George Smith	6.
William Atherton	3.	Samuel Thomas	7.
Thomas Tolladay	4.	Thomas Gray	Tenor

Called by Thomas Tolladay.

St. Mary, Islington.

On Monday, July 21st 1828 This Society rang a
peal of 5040 changes Grand sire Triples in 2 hours
& 58 minutes

James Platt	1.	Thos. Tolladay	5.
George Smith	2.	Fra ^s Mathew	6.
J. Har	3.	Sam ^l Thomas	7.
H. B. White	4.	J. Egan	Tenor.

Called by Mr Tolladay.

St Andrew's Holborn.

On Monday, Dec^r 1, 1828 This Society rang a peal of 5040 Changes Grandine Triples in 3 hours and 25 minutes, viz.

James Platt	1	Thomas Tolladay	5.
Joseph Ladley	2	W. B. White	6.
John Taylor	3.	Fra ^s Mathew	7.
Daniel Beakley	4.	W. Holworthy	Tenor.

Called by T. Tolladay.

Christ Church, Surrey (Blackfriars Road)

On Monday March 16th 1829 This Society rang a peal of 5040 Grandine Triples in 3 hours & one minute

Edward Griffiths	1.	Thomas Tolladay	5.
Thomas Tollitt	2.	Edward Leyer	6.
J. Taylor	3.	Lam ^r Thomas	7
Joseph Ladley	4.	George Smith	Tenor

Called by Tho^r. Tolladay.

St Stephen's, Coleman Street

On Wednesday April 1st 1829 This Society rang a peal of 5040 Grandine Triples in 2 hours and 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ minutes

James Platt	1	Thomas Sears	5.
Thomas Tollitt	2	Tho ^r . Tolladay	6.
Charles Brown	3.	Edw. Lansdell	7.
F. Lansdell	4	Lam ^r Thomas	Tenor

Called by T. Tolladay.

Mitcham in Lurey

On Sunday, 4 April 1829 This Company rang
a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2 hours and
52 minutes

W. Creswick	1.	Fra ^s Mathews	5.
Joseph Ladley	2.	Tho: Tolladay	6.
George Smith	3.	Edward Lansdell	7.
Charles Brown	4.	J. Harper	8.

Conducted by Fran: Mathew.

St. Peter's Walworth.

On Sunday 24 May 1829 This Society
rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in
2 hours + 45 minutes

Thomas Pollitt	1.	George Smith	5.
J. Yeaton	2.	Tho: Tolladay	6.
Tho: Thomas	3.	Lam: Thomas	7.
Charles Brown	4.	W. Lawyer	8.

Conducted by Tho: Tolladay.

St. Mary's Lambeth

On Sunday, 31 May, 1829 This Society
rang a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples
in 3 hours + 5 minutes.

Edward Griffiths	1.	T. Tolladay
Thomas Pollitt	2.	J. Jagers
W. Thomas	3.	
T. Pearce	4.	

Called by T. Tolladay.

St. Clement Danes

On Wednesday, Aug 19th 1829 This company rang a peal of 5040 Grand sire Tripples in 3 hours and 12 minutes

Thomas	1.	Thomas Tolladay	5.
Tho ^s . Pollitt	2.	Edw ^d . Lansdell	6.
Sam ^l . Collins	3.	William Davis	7.
George Smith	4.	W. Holworthy	8.

Conducted by T. Tolladay.

St. Peter, Walworth.

Monday, October 12, 1829, The company rang a peal of 5040 Grand sire Tripples in 2 hours + 58 minutes.

Tho ^s . Pollitt	1.	Sam ^l . Collins	5.
Tho ^s . Tolladay	2.	Sam ^l . Yeaton	6.
Wm ^l . Beakley	3.	Fras. Mathew	7.
Charles Brown	4.	Jos ^l . Tansley	8.

Call^d. by Tho^s. Tolladay.

St. Giles Camberwell

Monday, October 12, 1829 This Society rang a peal of 5040 Grand sire Tripples in 2 hours + 40 minutes

Tho ^s . Pollitt	1.	George Barton	5.
Tho ^s . Tolladay	2.	Sam ^l . Yeaton	6.
Fras ^s . Mathew	3.	Sam ^l . Collins	7.
Cha ^s . Brown	4.	Henry Tansley	8.

Call^d. by Tho^s. Tolladay.

Braughing

These eight Bells were of first time Sept^r 25, 1745
and the first complete Peal of 5040 Triples were rung
in 3 hours + 10 Minutes Sept^r 30th 1746 By.

Jn ^o Scripps	1.	Tho ^s Raymond	5.
W ^m Welch	2.	W. Welch	6.
Geo. Wallis	3.	W. Chamberlain	7.
Tho ^s Hubbard	4.	Isaac Uncle	8.

All of this Parish

Given by William Freeman, Esq.

Rung by the Society of Braughing Youths
April 23, 1778 a Complete Peal of 10,080 Changes
Bob Major, which was performed in 6 hours
and 34 Minutes. By

Laurence Tottingham	1.	Joseph Walker	5.
Lam ^o Welch	2.	James Walker	6.
Joseph Figgott (aged 17)	3.	W ^m Payer	7.
John Hubbard (aged 19)	4.	Geo. Beadle	8.

On May 11th 1829 was rung by the Braughing
Youths a complete Peal of 6160 Changes Bob
Major in 4 hours. By

Tho ^s Lawrence	1.	W ^m Bailey	5.
Jn ^o Loois	2.	Geo. Taylor	6.
Hen ^y . Bayford	3.	Jas. Bayford	7.
W ^m Lawrence	4.	W ^m Carter	8.

The peal was conducted by W^m Carter

Braughing

May 10, 1779 was rung by the Braughing youths a complete peal of 12,240 Bob Major which was performed in 7 hours and 24 minutes.

Laurence Tottingham	1.	Jr ^o : Hubbard	6.
Thos. Whyman	2.	Jas. Walker	7.
Wm. Inyon	3.	Jos. Walker	8.
Wm. Hay	4.	Composed & called	
Geo. Beadle	5.	By James Walker	

It was long each man did stand with zeal
And ardent Union performed the peal.

St Mary's Oldham

On Monday, the 4th of January 1784 was rung in the old tower of St Paul's Church 14,480 changes of Bob Major in 8 hours & 24 minutes performed by.

Thomas Hay (Composer and Conductor)	1.	James Ogden	5.
John Hayward	2.	Joseph Mills	6.
William Dawson	3.	Joseph Jackson	7.
Daniel Mills	4.	James Mills	8.

October 1, 1793 at Aston parish church
15,360 of Bob Major in 9 hours 31 minutes.

William Borin	1.	Thos. Willmott	5.
Thos. Smith	2.	Jos. Sylvester	6.
Jas. Gratt	3.	Wm. Hassall	7.
Benj. Bayliss	4.	Joshua Short	8.

Composed and conducted by Joshua Short
Height of tower 21 cub.

Braughing

May 10th 1779 was rung by the Braughing youths
a complete peal of 12,240 Bob Major which was
performed in 7 hours and 24 minutes

Laurence Nottingham

Wm. Gray

Wm. Hooy

George Beadle

Composed and called by James Walker

It was long each man did stand with zeal

And ardent Union performed the peal

St Mary's Oldham

On Monday the 4th of January 1784 was rung in the
old tower of St. Paul's Church 14,480 changes of
Bob Major in 8 hours and 24 minutes. Performed by

Thomas Kay (Composer) 1
+ Conductor

John Hayward 2

William Dawson 3

Daniel Mills 4

James Ogden 5.

Joseph Mills 6.

Joseph Jackson 7.

James Mills 8.

October 1. 1793 at Aston parish church
15,360 of Bob Major in 9 hours 31 minutes

William Bonin 1.

Thos. Smith 2.

Jas. Pratt 3.

Benj. Baylis 4.

Thos. Hillmott 5.

Jos. Sylvester 6.

Wm. Bassall 7.

Joshua Short 8.

Composed and conducted by Joshua Short

Weight of Cens 21 cwt.

All Saints, Heriford

On Munday 22nd Dec: 1724, 5040 Changes, the
Whole Peal of Triples was rung by

H. Partridge	1.	Jo: Miles	5.
J: Horton	2.	Ed: Gregory	6.
J: Jw.	3.	F.	7.
	4.	R. Clayton	8.

Trabittma

The Heriford College Youths.

Names of the members who signed the roll
at the first meeting on September 5th 1767.

Isaac Spencer, Sen^r

John Procomb

Thomas North

William North

William Randall

Isaac Spencer, Jun^r

Thomas Keep.

John Hanley

Thomas Shenic

Edward Baker

William Wilds

Robert Follard Jun^r?

John Powell

William Johnson

Tramer.

The following are copies of the entries in
the peal book.

Yours faithfully
J. W. Mason

Yours truly
C. H. Manning

Yours truly
A. S. Roberts

Yours Faithfully
G. Lindoff

Yours Faithfully
J. J. Parker

Yours sincerely
J. B. Wesley

Yours faithfully
H. Beech

Yours Faithfully
G. T. Daltry

G. B. White James

H. Law James

Yours sincerely
W. B. L. Bowen

As Rights

Arthur Craven

Yours truly
A. H. L. L. L.

Very Respectfully Yours
James S. Wilde

Yours faithfully
J. B. L. L.

COMPOSERS.

All Saints Heriford

November 5th 1767 This Society rang a peal of 5040 changes Bob Major in 3 hours + 26 minutes

Thomas Keep	1	William Randall	5
William North	2	Isaac Spencer Jun ^r .	6
Isaac Spencer Sen ^r	3	John Procomb	7
Thomas North	4	John Hanley	8

All Saints Heriford

December 3 1767 This Society rang a peal of 7056 changes Bob Major in 4 hours + 52 minutes

Edward Baker	1	William Randall	5
William North	2	Isaac Spencer Jun ^r	6
Isaac Spencer Sen ^r	3	John Procomb	7
Thomas North	4	John Hanley	8

All Saints Heriford

January 25 1769 This Society rang a peal of 5120 Changes Oxford Treble Bob Major which was performed in 3 hours and 29 minutes

Joseph Melshie	1	William Randall	5
William North	2	Isaac Spencer J ^r .	6
Isaac Spencer Sen ^r	3	John Procomb	7
Thomas North	4	John Hanley	8

Conducted by Mr. Thomas North.

Essex

August 20th 1769 Samuel Whitehead Esq of
Bedwell having made a present to the parish of
Essex of a new Treble Bell in addition to
their former peal of five bells, the members of
this Society whose names are under written
rang this day thereon a complete peal of 720
changes of plain Bob Minor being the first
ever rung there

John Willshire	1.	William Randall	4.
Isaac Spencer Sen ^r	2.	John Locombe	5.
Robert Silversides	3.	Isaac Spencer J ^r	6.

October 29th 1769 was rung at the same
place by the members of this Society 720
changes Oxford Treble Bob

John Willshire	1.	Thomas North	4.
Isaac Spencer Sen ^r	2.	John Locombe	5.
William Randall	3.	Isaac Spencer J ^r	6.

All Saints, Hertford

Saturday January 25 1772 This Society rang a
complete peal of 5040 changes Bob Major in 3 hours
& 18 minutes which was the first peal upon the
new Bells Called by Mr Silversides

William Hillier	1.	John Willshire	4.	John Locombe	7.
Thomas North	2.	Robert Silversides	5.	William North	8.
William Randall	3.	Thomas Green	6.		

All Saints Heriford

Thursday March 2 1773 This Society rang a complete peal of 5040 changes Bob Major on occasion of Henry Dunsley, Esq. one of their (then) present stewards being sworn an Alderman of the Borough of Heriford This peal was performed in 3 hours & 15 minutes as follows

William Hillier	1.	Thomas North	5.
Thomas Kemp	2.	Thomas Phenix	6.
William Randall	3.	John Hocomb	7.
William Wilds	4.	Robert Silversides	8.

Conducted by Mr Robert Silversides

All Saints Heriford

On Friday January 18 1782 The underwritten members of this company rang a peal of 5040 changes Bob Major which was performed in 3 hours & 16 minutes

William Taylor	1.	Thake Hallbras	5.
William Wilds	2.	William Randall	6.
Thomas North	3.	John England	7.
Matthew England	4.	Robert Silversides	8.

Conducted by Mr Silversides

On Monday May 20 1782 This Society rang a peal of 5280 changes Oxford Treble Bob in 3 hours & 24 minutes

William Taylor	1.	Matthew England	4.	R. Liverman	7.
Thomas North	2.	Thake Hallbras	5.	John Bramant	8.
William Wilds	3.	William Randall	6.		

Conducted by Mr Silversides

St Andrews, Hereford

Monday, April 21 1783 This Society rang a peal of 6176 Changes Coxford Treble Bob in 4 hours + 2 minutes

William Taylor	1.	Thake Hallras
Thomas North	2.	Thomas Blakemore
William Wilds	3.	John England
Matthew England	4.	Robert Silversides

Conducted by Mr Tho. Blakemore.

Saint Andrew's Hereford

Saturday February 21 1784 This Society rang a peal of 6160 changes Bob Major in 4 hours + 1 minute Composed by Mr Thomas North +. Conducted by Mr Robert Silversides

William Taylor	1.	Thake Hallras
Thomas North	2.	William Randall
William Wilds	3.	Robert Silversides
Matthew England	4.	John Hanley.

Saint Andrew Hereford

On Sunday December 31. 1788 This Society rang a peal of 5040 Changes Bob Major in three hours + 23 minutes as follows.

Joseph Fosier	1.	Samuel Randall
Matthew England	2.	William Randall
William Taylor	3.	John England
Samuel French	4.	Thomas Dye

Conducted by Mr William Randall.

St. Alban's, Abbey.

Thursday, 19th Dec: 1765 was rung here a complete peal of 5040 Bob Major in 3 hours + 20 minutes being the first ever completed in this church. The bobs called by Mr. William Kentish J^r.

Thomas Parks	1.	William Kentish, Sen ^r	5.
John Kent	2.	William Kentish Jun ^r	6.
Robert Fisher	3.	Thomas Kentish	7.
Richard Mason	4.	Nathaniel Turner	8.

St. Peter's St. Albans

Tuesday, 26 May 1767 was rung here Mr. John Hollis Peal of 5040 Grand sire Triples in 3 hours + 10 minutes being the first ever completed here. The Bobs called by Mr. T. Kentish.

John Kender	1.	William Lockey
Thomas Kentish	2.	William Kentish Jun ^r
William Kender	3.	Thomas Parks
Richard Mason	4.	William Agglinton

St. Peter's, St. Alban's

Sunday, March 4, 1810 was rung here by the St. Alban's College Youths a complete peal of 5040 Grand sire Triples in 3 hours and 16 minutes by the following persons

Joseph Pearce	1.	Joseph Howard
John Roberts	2.	Thomas Newson
William Gladman	3.	William Agglinton
Joseph Taylor	4.	William Davis

Conducted by Mr. William Agglinton

Maidstone

Apr. the 21 MDCCXCIV was rung in this place
in 3 hours and 46 minutes 5000 of Maidstone
New Bob Major Royal. N.B. The 789x10 behind
the right way 300 times

Jn ^r . Moore	1.	Tho. King	6.
Rob ^t Fassell	2.	Tho.	7
W ^m Waller	3.	Thos. Twinmock	8
W ^m Killick	4.	Jn ^r . Stone	9
Edw ^d . Jury	5.	Ge. Hylands	10

[It is supposed that this Method was invented
by Mr. Thomas King - note by Osborn]

Hatfield

Sunday, Nov. 14th 1790 was rung by the Hatfield
College Youths a complete peal of 5040 Changes
Plain Triples which was performed in 3 hours +
25 minutes by the following members viz^t:

John Walker	1.	Thomas Sanders	5.
William Eggram	2.	William Sanders	6.
Thomas Stocks	3.	George Field	7.
William Eggram	4.	William Ellis	8

The peal was called by Mr. William Sanders.

Hatfield

Monday 9 July 1810 was rung by the St. Albans
College Youths a complete peal of 5040 Grandeur
Triples in 3 hours + 15 minutes being the first
in the method ever rung in this place

George Spiggins	1	Joseph Taylor	4	W ^m . Agglinton	7.
John Roberts	2	Joseph Howard	5	W ^m . Davis	8.
William Newson	3	Thomas Newson	6		

The above peal was conducted by M^r. Agglinton

St Mary-le-Port, Bristol.

February 12 17 was rung by the Bristol Scholars a peal of 5120 changes Union Treble Bb in 3 hours + 45 minutes being the greatest performance ever done in the city

William Francon	1.	George Evans	5.
William Fryer	2.	Richard Thom	6.
Joseph Jones	3.	John Thom	7.
William Poole	4.	Thomas Bennett	8.

Called by John Thom.

Almondsbury, Gloucestershire

August 10 1783 was rung by the Bristol Society 5040 changes Grandine Triples in 3 hours + 28 minutes being the first peal on the bells and was called by Cha^r. Purser.

Richard Good	1.	John Daniel	5.
William Davis	2.	William Williams	6.
John Leonard	3.	William Rose	7.
Cha ^r . Purser	4.	Thomas Hore	8.

All Saints Bristol

February 12th 1791 was rung by the Bristol Youths 5040 Grandine Triples in 3 hours + 27 minutes

Samu ^l . Huntingdon	5.	Benjamin Perkins	5.
Samuel Allen	2.	William Hands	6.
William Carey	3.	Joseph Bland	7.
Isaac Atwood	4.	Parsons Hookins	8.

Called by W. Hands.

St. James, Bristol

February 17th 1800 was rung by the Bristol
Scholars Hollis' peal of 5040 Grandson Triples
in 3 hours & 18 minutes

William Clarke	1.	William Robert	5.
John James	2.	William Washer	6.
John Summers	3.	John Green	7.
John Daniel	4.	Fra ^s Good and J. Adams	8.

St. James, Bath.

Monday, December 9 1754 was rung by the
Bath Society a peal of 5040 changes Union
Triples in 3 hours

James Albion	1.	Martin Dibble	5.
Thomas Taylor	2.	John Lucas	6.
Richard Lansdown	3.	Anthony Morley	7.
Isaac Sims	4.	John Smith	8.

John Lucas called of Bobs.

Hitchin

On Wednesday Feb. 20 1782 was rung a
complete peal of 5040 Plain Bob Triples in 3
hours and 28 minutes By the Ringers of this
Town.

John Jeeves	1.	Francis Corrie	5.
Isaac Spencer	2.	Phillip Allen	6.
William Estwick	3.	Charles Rumwall	7.
John Waters	4.	Richard Merjar	8.

St Laurence, Reading.

July 8th 1934 The whole peal of Grandson's Triples
5040 changes was rung in 3 hours & 10 minutes by
them whose names are here mentioned.

Hervey Samples	1.	Thomas Thurfield	5.
Gyles Newbury	2.	Henry Teaty Bob Collier	6.
Joseph Philip	3.	John Hrees	7.
Robert Booth	4.	W. Ford & Abram Bishop	8.

St Mary, Reading

Dec^r: 24 1940 The whole peal of Union Triples
5040 changes were rung in 3 hours & 10 minutes
being the first ever done in this parish, by the
persons here mentioned

Giles Newbury	1.	William Ford	5.
Robert Booth	2.	Henry Teaty	6.
Benjamin Ford	3.	John Lucas	7.
William Lutman	4.	John Brown	} Tenor.
		James Hill	

St Marys, Reading.

March ye^r: 3 1945 The Reading Youths went
for a Peal of Bob Major, 10080, with 8 men only
and after ringing 8176 changes in 5 hours and
59 minutes had the misfortune to break the
3rd rope every man being in perfect strength.
Their names

William Avery	Henry Adams
	Thomas Langford
	Thomas Buckridge
	John Lucas.

Wrexham

June 27 1803 A peal of 5021 changes Grand sire Calers was rung by the Union Society, Shrewsbury, in 3 hours and 13 minutes and was the first peal of Calers on these Bells, or within the Principality of Wales

Richard Cross	1.	James Lee	6.
Reverend S. Lee	2.	Thomas Hill	7.
James Haristhorn	3.	Charles Bigg	8.
James Dovey	4.	Joseph Riley	9.
Robert Rawlins	5.	Samuel Laurence	10.

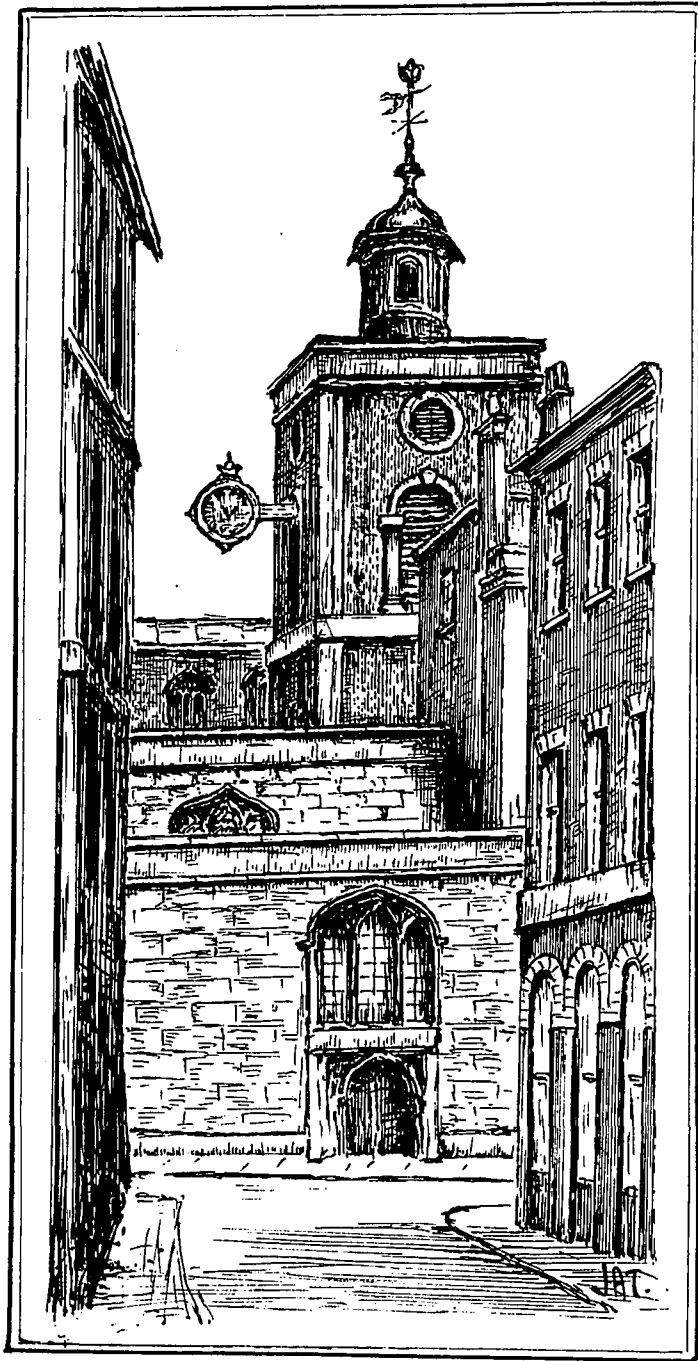
Conducted by Mr. Cross.

Gravesend

A.D. 1786. On New Years Day was rung by the Society of Union Youths of Gravesend a complete peal of 5040 changes Grand sire Triples which was completed in 3 hours and 13 mts. as follows.

Sam ^r . Strutton (aged 19)	1.	Thomas Fry	5.
W ^m . Eversfield (aged 18)	2.	William Gailand	6.
Robert Evans (aged 19)	3.	Th ^o . Middleton (aged 19)	7.
George Simmonds	4.	Haffer Coy	8.

William Eversfield Bob Caller



MR. ELIJAH ROBERTS,
THE CHANGE-RINGER.

In the manly and scientific art of "change-ringing" Elijah Roberts, we are told by one who ought to know, and with whose account we confess ourselves unqualified to meddle, "is the most accomplished and unparalleled change-ringer upon the hand-bells the world has hitherto produced. Mr. Roberts has repeatedly challenged and is still open to ring changes with any man in the world. He is now residing at the Derby Arms, Whitechapel, Liverpool. He commenced the study and composition of changes when about twelve years of age. In the year 1821 (then in his seventeenth year) he rung his first peal, which consisted of courses in various methods, commencing with changes on seven bells—namely, Grandsire triples, plain bob triples, Steadman's triples, triple bob triples. Changes on eight bells—Grandsire major, plain bob major, treble bob major. Changes on nine bells—Grandsire caters, plain bob caters, Steadman's caters, treble bob caters. Changes on ten bells, or Grandsire royal—Plain bob royal, treble bob royal. Changes on eleven bells—Grandsire cinques—Plain bob cinques, Steadman's cinques, treble bob cinques. Changes on twelve bells—Grandsire maximus, plain bob maximus, treble bob maximus; and finishing with a course of double-treble bob major on sixteen bells, the whole containing 5186 changes, in three hours and twenty-seven minutes: rung at Birmingham. His next peal was rung on October 14, 1827, comprising 5040 changes of treble bob maximus, with the Kent variation, in three hours and twenty-two minutes: rung at Birmingham. His third peal was rung on the 9th of April, 1830, consisting of 4526 changes of Kent treble bob maximus, occupying four hours and fifty-one minutes: rung at Birmingham. His next performance was, rung on the 30th of June, 1833, being a very intricate peal of that much-admired and musical method, Steadman's cinques, with the bells in the tittum and every musical position, comprising 5016 changes in three hours and twenty-four minutes: rung at Birmingham. His next peal was



MR. ELIJAH ROBERTS, THE CHANGE-RINGER.

ringed at Liverpool, on the 23rd of March, 1837, comprising 19,440 changes of Kent treble bob maximus, being the full extent of changes with the large

bells at home, occupying him thirteen hours and forty-three minutes. Thus Mr. Roberts has, solely and unassisted, surpassed by many thousands of changes the longest peals that have ever been rung on twelve bells by any twelve men in the world. Besides ringing the above peals, Mr. Elijah Roberts has composed, conducted, and rung upwards of 100 peals, on eight, ten, and twelve bells, in various churches of the United Kingdom.

On the body of Elijah Roberts, 55 years of age, a licensed victualler, living at 25, Whitechapel. The deceased had been drinking, and on Thursday afternoon, between three and four o'clock, he was observed in an excited state to enter the water closet. Immediately afterwards a noise was heard, and upon the servant forcing open the door he was found sitting upon the floor, and having a large wound in his throat. In the closet was a quantity of blood, and two razors were found near the place where the deceased had been sitting. Surgical assistance was procured, but it was then found that he was dead. The jury found that the deceased committed suicide, whilst labouring under temporary insanity.

must give new
ing science in
always admire

Peals rung by
The St. Martin's Birmingham
Youths
During the Eighteenth Century.

The first nineteen are from the Society's
peal book, the rest from various sources
including the collection made by John
Hopkins and sent by him to Osborn; and
the private peal book of William Martin
which is not now extant.

On Monday, Sep. 16, 1755 a complete peal of 5040 Bob Major was rung at St Phillips Birmingham by the Society of Saint Martin's youths in 3 hours & 37 minutes.

John Thompson	1.	Abraham Fletcher	5.
Joseph Thompson	2.	Samuel Brooke	6
William Thompson	3.	Humphrey Peck	7
John Archer	4.	Andrew Peake & } William Smith	8.

On Sunday Nov. 19 1758 a complete peal of 5040 Grandine Colors was rung at St. Martin's Birmingham by the Society of St. Martin's youths in 3 hours & 22 minutes

Joseph Neale	1.	Abraham Fletcher
John Thompson	2.	Humphrey Peck
William Thompson	3.	Andrew Peake
John Archer	4.	James Bullen
Thomas Hadley	5.	John Smith

Composed & called by A Peake

Monday August 29, 1768, a complete peal of 6210 Grandine Colors was rung at St Martin's Birmingham by the Society of St Martin's youths in 4 hours & 26 minutes

Joseph Neale	1	Abraham Fletcher
Joseph Thompson	2	Humphrey Peck
William Thompson	3	John Archer
Samuel Brooke	4	John Smith
Thomas Hadley	5	William Guest
Phineas Smith	6	Daniel Veisey

Composed & called by John Archer

In the year 1772 the Peal of 12 Bells at St. Martin's Birmingham were first opened and on Thursday, June 3, 1773 a complete peal of 5324 Granderie Cinques were rung upon them by the Society of St. Martin's youths in 3 hours + 50 minutes

Robert Peck	1.	Phineas Smith	8.
Richard Newman	2.	John Foster	9.
Daniel Veisey	3.	Samuel Brooke	10.
Thomas Corbin	4.	Thomas Midlam	11.
John Smith	5.	James Nock +	} 12.
John Smith	6.	John Niles	
Thomas Hadley	7.		

Composed + called by P. Smith.

On Friday, Nov. 5, 1773 a complete peal of 5040 Bob Royal was rung at St. Martin's Birmingham by the St. Martin's youths in 3 hours + 20 minutes, viz.

Robert Peck	1.	Daniel Veisey	6.
John Littlewood	2.	John Archer	7.
John Smith	3.	Phineas Smith	8.
Thomas Hadley	4.	Samuel Brooke	9.
Joseph Neale	5.	Thomas Midlam	10.

Composed + called by Phineas Smith.

On Monday, October 25, 1779, a complete
 peal of B♭ Maximus, 5280, was rung at St.
 Martin's, Birmingham, by the St Martin's youths
 in 3 hours + 36 minutes, viz -

Joseph Neale	1.	John Bristow	8
Arasmus Wilson	2.	Daniel Veisey	9
Richard Newman	3.	Samuel Green	10
Joseph Littlewood	4.	Phineas Smith	11
Stephen Hill	5.	James Dovey +	} 12.
Thomas Hadley	6.	John Miles	
Philip Heath	7		

Composed + called by P. Smith.

On Saturday May 20 1780 a complete
 peal of 5220 Treble B♭ Royal was rung
 at St. Mary's Coventry by the Society of
 St Martin's Youths in 3 hours + 41 minutes

Joseph Neale	1.	Thomas Midlam	6.
Joseph Littlewood	2.	Daniel Veisey	7.
John Smith	3.	Phineas Smith	8.
Stephen Hill	4.	John Miles	9.
William Newman	5.	James Hocke	10.

Composed + called by Phineas Smith.

On Sunday, March, 31, 1782, a complete
Peal of 5040 Bob Major was rung at the Chapel
at Beodley by the Society of St. Martin's youths
in 3 hours + 25 minutes

John Smith	1.	Robert Farmer	5.
Joseph Littlewood	2.	John Miles	6.
William Newman	3.	John Constable	7.
Strasmus Wilson	4.	Alexander Saunders	

Called by John Miles.

On Monday October 7, 1782 a complete Peal
of 5040 Treble Ten in was rung at St. Martin's
Birmingham by the St. Martin's youths in
3 hours + 46 minutes

Thomas Hadley	1.	William Newman	6.
Alexander Wilson	2.	John Miles	7.
Joseph Littlewood	3.	Daniel Vesey	8.
Samuel Brooke	4.	Phineas Smith	9.
Richard Newman	5.	Thomas Midlam	10.

Composed + called by P. Smith

On Thursday October 24th 1786 a complete
Peal of 5120 Treble Bob Eight in was rung at
St Peter's Aston by the Society of St. Martin's
Youths in 3 hours + 33 minutes.

William Kendall	1.	Daniel Vesey	5.
Thomas Hadley	2.	John Miles	6.
William Newman	3.	Phineas Smith	7.
John Coo	4.	Samuel Lawrence	8.

Called by Samuel Lawrence.

On Tuesday July 14 1789 a complete peal
of 5056 Oxford Treble Bob Major was rung at St
Phillips Birmingham by the Society of St Martin's
Youths in 3 hours + 28 minutes

Joseph Neale	1.	Daniel Veisey	5.
John Miles	2.	Phineas Smith	6.
William Cotton	3.	William Bennett	7.
Alexander Saunders	4.	Charles Shuter	8.

Composed + called by Charles Shuter

On Monday Feb. 16 1789 a Complete Peal of
14 224 Bob Major was rung at St Peter's Aston
by the St. Martin's Youths in 8 hours + 45 minutes.

William Martin	1.	John Black	5.
William Brooke	2.	William Cotton	6.
John Mackenzie	3.	William Bennett	7.
John Haycock	4.	Charles Shuter	8.

Composed + called by Charles Shuter.

On Tuesday December 5, 1789 a Complete
peal of 8027 Grandson Caters was rung at
St Martin's, Birmingham, by the Society of St
Martin's Youths in 5 hours + 25 minutes.

William Martin	1.	Samuel Lawrence	7.
John Mackenzie	2.	William Bennett	8.
William Cotton	3.	Charles Shuter	9.
Joseph Benion	4.	John Smith +	} 10.
Edward Harcourt	5.	Francis Mackenzie	
John Black	6.		

Called by Cha^s Shuter.

On Monday, October 25, 1792 a Complete Peal of 5292 Nedman Colours was rung at St. Phillip's, Birmingham by the Society of St. Martin's Youths in 3 hours + 27 minutes

Charles Shuter	1.	Daniel Vesey	6.
William Martin	2.	Alexander Saunders	7.
Joseph Littlewood	3.	Phineas Smith	8.
William Bennett	4.	Samuel Lawrence	9.
William Cotton	5.	Robert Farmer	10.

Called by Charles Shuter.

On Monday April 8 1793 a Complete Peal of 6000 Oxford Treble Bells Masimus was rung at St. Martin's, Birmingham by the Society of St. Martin's Youths in 4 hours + 23 minutes

William Martin	1.	William Cotton
Arasmus Wilson	2.	John Miles
William Newman	3.	Robert Farmer
Joseph Littlewood	4.	Alexander Saunders
Daniel Vesey	5.	Thomas Siddam
William Bennett	6.	Charles Shuter

Called by Charles Shuter.

On Saturday January 4 1794 a Complete Peal of 8000 Grand sire eight in was rung at St. John's Church by the St. Martin's Youths in Five Hours

James Taylor	1.	Samuel B. Smith	5.
Benjamin Ingh	2.	Thomas Betts	6.
William Bennett	3.	Pilus Fielding	7.
William Cotton	4.	Alexander Saunders	8.

Composed + called by Pilus Fielding.

On Sunday March 2. 1800 Mr. Hollis Original
and complete peal of 5040 Grandine Tripples
was rung at St Peter's, Aston by the St Martins
Youths in 3 hours + 25 minutes

Joseph Riley	1.	Robert Farmer	5.
William Bennett	2.	William Cotton	6.
Thomas Wilson	3.	Alexander Saunders	7
Daniel Vesey	4.	Charles Bingham	8

Called by Joseph Riley.

On Monday, September 8th, 1800, Mr. Hollis
Original + complete peal of 5040 Grandine
Tripples was rung at the church at Burton
upon Trent by the Society of St Martins Youth
in 3 hours + 12 minutes

Joseph Riley	1.	Alexander Saunders	6
William Bennett	2.	Thomas Midlam	7
Robert Farmer	3.	Charles Bingham	} Tenor
Daniel Vesey	4.	Joshua Short	
William Cotton	5.		25 ^{cts.}

Called by Joseph Riley

On December 28. 1786 a Complete Peal of
5040 Grandine Caters was rung at St Mary's
Warwick by the Society of St. Martin's Youth
in 3 hours + 25 minutes

William Martin	1.	John Black	5.
Samuel Lawrence	2.	John Mackenzie	6.
William Cotton	3.	Charles Shuter	7.
William Bennett	4.	James Nock	8
Edward Harcourt	5.	Francis Mackenzie	} 10
		John Haycock	

Called by John Mackenzie. This is the first peal there.

Tuesday August 17. 1773 was rung a complete peal of 5040 Grandeur Caters in 3 hours & 10 minutes by the St Martins Company at St Philips

Birmingham

Robert Peck	1.	Thineas Smith	7
Joseph Littlewood	2.	Joseph Neale	8
Richard Newman	3.	James Hock	9
Thomas Corbin	4.	Thomas Fraung	} 10
William Kendall	5.	and	
John Miles	6.		

Conducted by Mr. P. Smith.

On Monday October 23, 1773, was rung at St Philips Birmingham by the St Martins Company a peal of 6246 changes Grandeur Caters in 3 hours & 50 minutes as follows.

Robert Peck	1.	John Miles	6.
Joseph Littlewood	2.	Thineas Smith	7.
Richard Newman	3.	Joseph Neale	8.
Samuel Brook	4.	James Hock	9.
William Kendall	5.	John Constable & Henry Beekamy	} 10

Composed & Called by Mr. Thineas Smith

On Wednesday December 22 1773 Mr. Halls complete peal of 5040 Grandeur Triples was rung at St Martins Birmingham in 2 hours & 55 mins.

by the following persons

John Green	1.	John Miles	5.
Thineas Smith	2.	Joseph Neale	6.
Joseph Littlewood	3.	Thomas Tidlam	7.
William Kendall	4.	Robert Peck	8.

Conducted by Mr. Thineas Smith

On Monday July 15th 1776 Mr. Hollis complete
peal of 5040 changes Grand sire Tripples was rung
at St Peter's Aston by the St. Martins Company
Birmingham in 3 hours + 4 minutes.

Robert Gock.	1.	John Miles	5.
Phineas Smith	2.	Joseph Heale	6.
John Archer	3.	Thomas Midlam	7.
Daniel Vesey	4.	James Hock	8.

Conducted by Mr. Phineas Smith.

Tuesday, July 30 1776 was rung at St Johns
Deritend a peal of 5040 Bob Major in 3 hours
+ 5 minutes by the St Martins Society, Birmingham.

John Green	1.	John Miles.
Joseph Littlewood	2.	Stephen Hill
Joseph Heale	3.	Thomas Midlam
John Archer	4.	James Dovey.

Conducted by John Miles.

Sunday September 8. 1776 was rung at St
John's Deritend Mr. Hollis complete peal of 5040
Grand sire Tripples in 3 hours + 4 minutes by
the St Martins Company Birmingham.

John Archer	1.	Richard Newman	5.
John Miles	2.	Joseph Heale	6.
William Thompson	3.	James Hock	7.
Phineas Smith	4.	Thomas Haring	8.

Conducted by John Miles.

Sunday October 10 1776 was rung at St. Peter's Aston a peal of 5040 Bob Major in 3 hours + 18 minutes By the following persons of the Birmingham Company.

William Scott	1	John Miles	5.
Thomas Hadley	2	Joseph Heale	6.
John Archer	3	Phineas Smith	7.
Joseph Llewwood	4	Thomas Midlam	8

Conducted by Phineas Smith.

Sunday May 4th 1783 was rung at St. Mark's Kings Norton a peal of 5040 Bob Major in 3 hours + 25 minutes By the St. Martin's Company Birmingham.

John Smith	1.	Daniel Vesey	5.
Arasmus Nelson	2.	John Miles	6.
William Newman	3.	Phineas Smith	7.
Richard Newman	4.	Thos Midlam	8.

Conducted by Phineas Smith.

Monday, January 8, 1798 was rung at St Peter's Aston a peal of 5120 Oxford Treble Bob, By the St. Martins Company, Birmingham in 3 hours + 21 minutes

John Miles	1.	Benjamin Tugh	5.
William Brook	2.	William Colton	6.
William Nelson	3.	William Bennett	7.
Robert Farmer	4.	Thomas Babb	8.

Composed + Conducted by Mr. John Miles

Sunday 9 October 1785 was rung at St. Martins Birmingham, Mr. Hollis celebrated peal of 5040 Grand sire Tripples in 3 hours + 20 minutes as follows

William Martin	1.	Edward Harcourt	5.
John Black	2.	William Colon	6.
William Bennett	3.	Charles Shuter	7.
John Mackenzie	4.	Cockey.	8.

Called by Mr. John Black.

Sunday 12 February 1786 was rung at Kings Norton Mr. Hollis celebrated peal of 5040 Grand sire Tripples in 3 hours + 22 minutes

William Martin	1.	William Bennett
Charles Shuter	2.	John Black
Richard Horton	3.	Alexander Saunders
John Mackenzie	4.	John Smith.

Conducted by Mr. Charles Shuter.

Sunday 1. October 1786 was rung at St. Peter and St. Paul's Church, Aston a peal of 6016 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Major, in 3 hours + 58 minutes as follows

William Martin	1.	John Black
William Bennett	2.	William Colon
William Beard	3.	Samuel Lawrence
John Mackenzie	4.	Charles Shuter

Conducted by Mr. Sam^l Lawrence.

Sunday 26 November 1786 was sung at
St. John's Chapel, Deritend, 6128 changes Psalms Major in
3 hours and 50 minutes by the following persons

John Smith	1.	John Black	5.
William Bennett	2.	William Colon	6.
William Martin	3.	Robert Farmer	7.
John Mackenzie	4.	Samuel Laurence	8.

Conducted by Mr. Sam^l. Laurence

Monday 27 November 1786 was sung at St
Martin's Birmingham, 6570 Grandine Caters
in 4 hours + 40 minutes

William Martin	1.	John Black	6.
John Mackenzie	2.	Samuel Laurence	7.
William Cotton	3.	William Bennett	8.
Joseph Benion	4.	Charles Shuter	9.
Edward Harcourt	5.	John Heacock + Fran ^s Macdonald	10. } Tenn

Conducted by Mr. C. Shuter.

Tuesday 5 December 1786 was sung at St. Martin's
church Birmingham 8027 Grandine Caters in
5 hours + 25 minutes

William Martin	1.	Samuel Laurence	7.
John Mackenzie	2.	William Bennett	8.
William Colon	3.	Charles Shuter	9.
Joseph Benion	4.	John Smith	10.
Edward Harcourt	5.	Fran ^s Mackenzie	} 10.
John Black	6.	Thomas Shaw	

Conducted by Mr. Charles Shuter.

Monday, 4 June 1787 was rung at St. Phillips Birmingham, a peal of 5040 Bob Majors in 3 hours & 20 minutes by the following persons

John Heacocks	1.	John Black
William Martin	2.	William Colon
Edward Harcourt	3.	William Bennet
John Mackenzie	4.	Charles Shuter

Conducted by Mr Charles Shuter.

Monday 17 September 1787 was rung at St. Peter's Aston a peal of 6074 Changes of Bob Majors in 4 hours & 2 minutes, as follows, viz.

William Martin	1.	John Black
John Mackenzie	2.	William Colon
William Bell	3.	William Bennet
Joseph Benion	4.	Charles Shuter

Conducted by Mr John Mackenzie.

Monday 1 October 1787 was rung at St. Phillips Birmingham a peal of 5248 Changes of Bob Major in 3 hours & 21 minutes by the following persons.

William Martin	1.	John Black	5.
Joseph Benion	2.	William Colon	6.
William Bennet	3.	William Bell	7.
John Mackenzie	4.	Charles Shuter	8.

Conducted by Mr Charles Shuter

Tuesday 12 July 1789 was rung at Saint
Peter's church Aston, a peal of 5040 changes
Bob Major in 3 hours + 19 minutes by the following
persons

A London man	1.	John Blacke	5.
Josiah Fieldhouse	2.	William Brooke	6.
William Martin	3.	William Bennet	7.
Charles Shuter	4.	William Smith	8.

Conducted by Mr. William Smith

October 8th 1786 a Complete Peal of 5184
Bob Major was rung at Solihull church
Warwickshire By the St. Martins Youths in
3 hours + 10 minutes

John Haycock	1.	Jonathan Blacke	5.
Edward Harcourt	2.	William Coion	6.
William Bennet	3.	Jon: Mackenzie	7.
Jonathan Barton	4.	Samuel Laurence	8.

Composed + called by Samuel Laurence.

St Marys Cambridge

December 24th 1770 was rung by the Cambridge Jouths
a true peal of 5610 Grandure Binges in 3 hours
and 58 minutes This was the first peal on the 12 Bells

William Young	1	Thomas Jones	7
John Laughion	2	John Horkin	8
John Sanders	3	Hm. Greaves	9
John Incarsole	4	Joseph Crowther	10
William Robson	5	Charles Day	11
Joseph Gee	6	Richard Hindnell	12.

The peal was conducted by Charles Day.

June 29th 1773 was rung by the Cambridge Jouths
a peal of 5220 Bob Royal in 3 hours and 29 mts.

Richard Hindnell	1	John Incarsole	6
John Hazzard	2	William Greaves	7
John Laughion	3	William Young	8
Joseph Gee	4	John Sanders	9
Thomas Jones	5.	Charles Day	10

Conducted by Mr. Charles Day.

November 10th 1774 was rung by the Cambridge
Jouths a peal of 5120 Grandure Quaters in
3 hours and 8 minutes

Richard Hindnell	1	John Bowtell	6.
John Incarsole	2.	William Greaves	7.
John Hazzard	3	Daniel Green (of Clare)	8
John Sanders	4	William Young	9
John Laughion	5	John W. Banyard	10

Conducted by Mr. W. Young.

Fulbourne Cambridgeshire May 20th 1776 New
bells opened by John Bowtell, John Incarsole
John Laughion, John Hazzard John Sanders, and
William Young.

St. John the Baptist Halesowen

On June 9 1776 was rung Halls celebrated
peal of 5040 Grandfire Triples in 3 hours

and one minute by the following persons

Thomas Warren, first

Benj. Taylor (caller) second

Benj. Fiddian, third

Will Rose, fourth

Benj. Smith, fifth

Wm. Warren, sixth

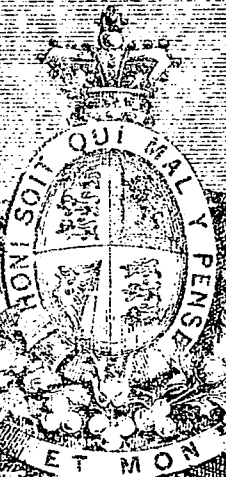
Thos. Rose, seventh

Geo. Warham, tenor.



"INK-PHOTO" SPRAGUE & CO. LONDON.

MR HENRY JOHNSON SEN^R



THE
Royal Cumberland Youths' Society
OF
Change Ringers.

(Late London Scholars).

Established 1745.

This is to Certify that
Mr. _____
was duly elected a Member of this
Society on the day 18

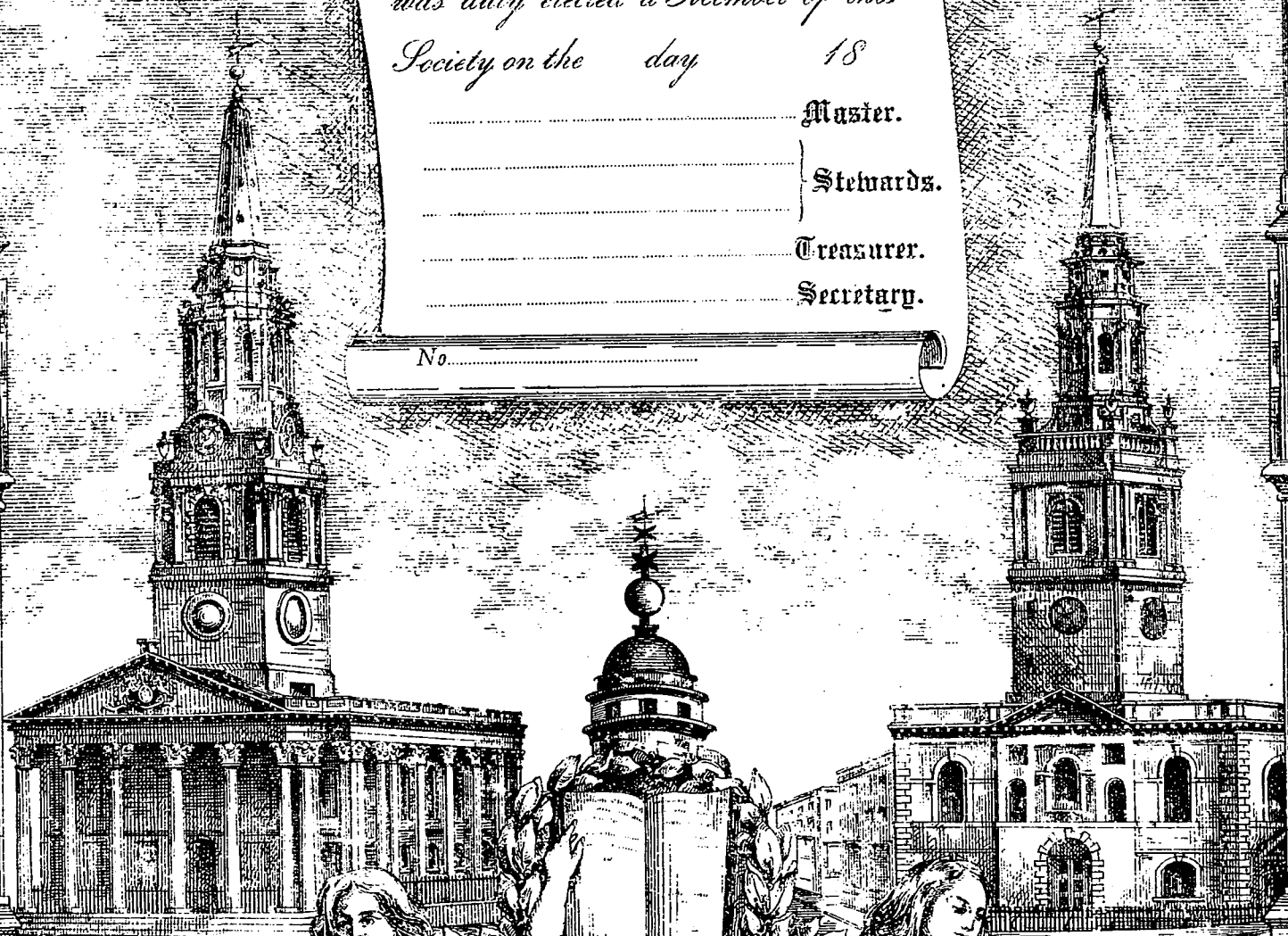
_____ Master.

_____ Stewards.

_____ Treasurer.

_____ Secretary.

No. _____



"Derben,"
Launton,
Ricester, Oxon.

10. Aug. 1940.

Dear Mr. Trollope.

Herewith copy of Berks v. lls.
Part. I.

I would like to take this opportunity of congratulating you on your recent articles in the "Ringing World". To me the war-time "RW" is far more interesting than in pre-war days; and is doing much good work in keeping the Exercise together.

With kind regards.

Yours faithfully
J. Sharpe.



Double Eastern Bell

Published Dec. Jan 19 1913

as a new method with some
his name by J. P. Galt

Per copy at full rate Jan 5 1913
as by the name of Galt

Copy of Galt J. P. Galt

Copyrighted Jan 22 / 1913 etc etc

P.L. of said N. method is not
"double" and it is not a "Camel" method

"Camel" is a superior one of the very
best methods known away from the
standard methods

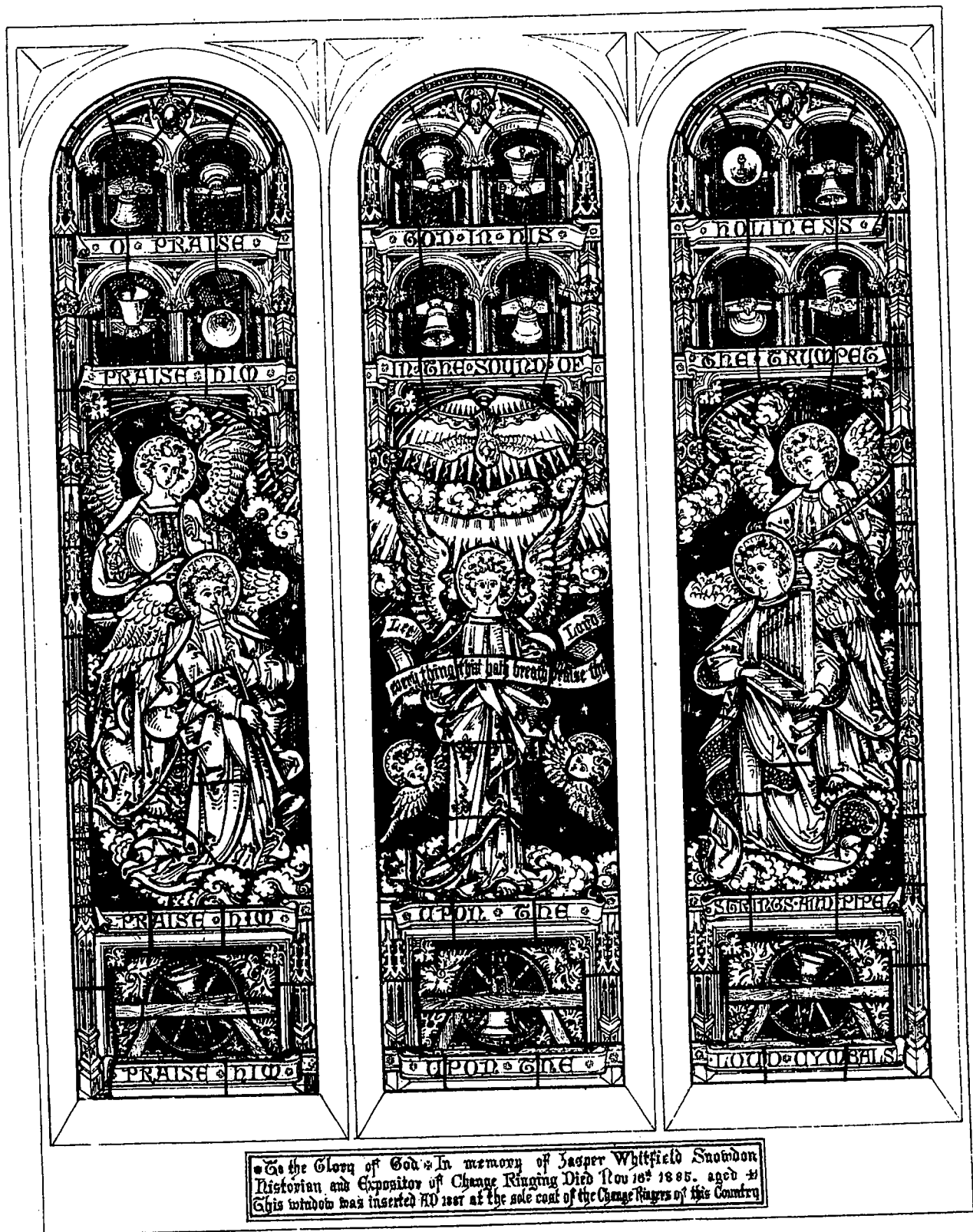
C. H. Hunter Galt's Mar 19 1913

aged 80

London Tenn. the copy was 49 cts
39p. 0.

Peals Rung by the Birmingham St Martin's
Youths, during the Eighteenth Century.

					Conductor
1755	Sept 16	5040	Plain Bob Major	St. Philips	
1758	Nov. 19	5040	Grandsire Caters	St. Martins	A Peake
1768	Aug 29	6210	do	do	John Archer
1773	Aug 17	5040	do	St. Philips	Phineas Smith
	Dec. 23	6426	do	do	do
	Nov. 5	5040	Plain Bob Royal	St Martins	do.
	Dec. 22	5040	Grandsire Triples	do	do.
1776	July 15	5040	do	St Peter & St Paul Aston	John Miles
	30	5040	Plain Bob Major	St. John, Deitend	do.
	Sept. 8	5040	Grandsire Triples	do	do
	Oct. 10	5040	Plain Bob Major	Aston	P. Smith.
1779	June 3	5324	Grandsire Cinques	St Martins	do.
1779	Oct. 25	5280	Bob Mascimus	do	do.
1780	May 20	5220	Fittum Bob Royal	Coventry	do.



The Change-Ringers' Memorial Window,
 TO
 JASPER WHITFIELD SNOWDON,

In the PARISH CHURCH, ILKLEY, Yorkshire.

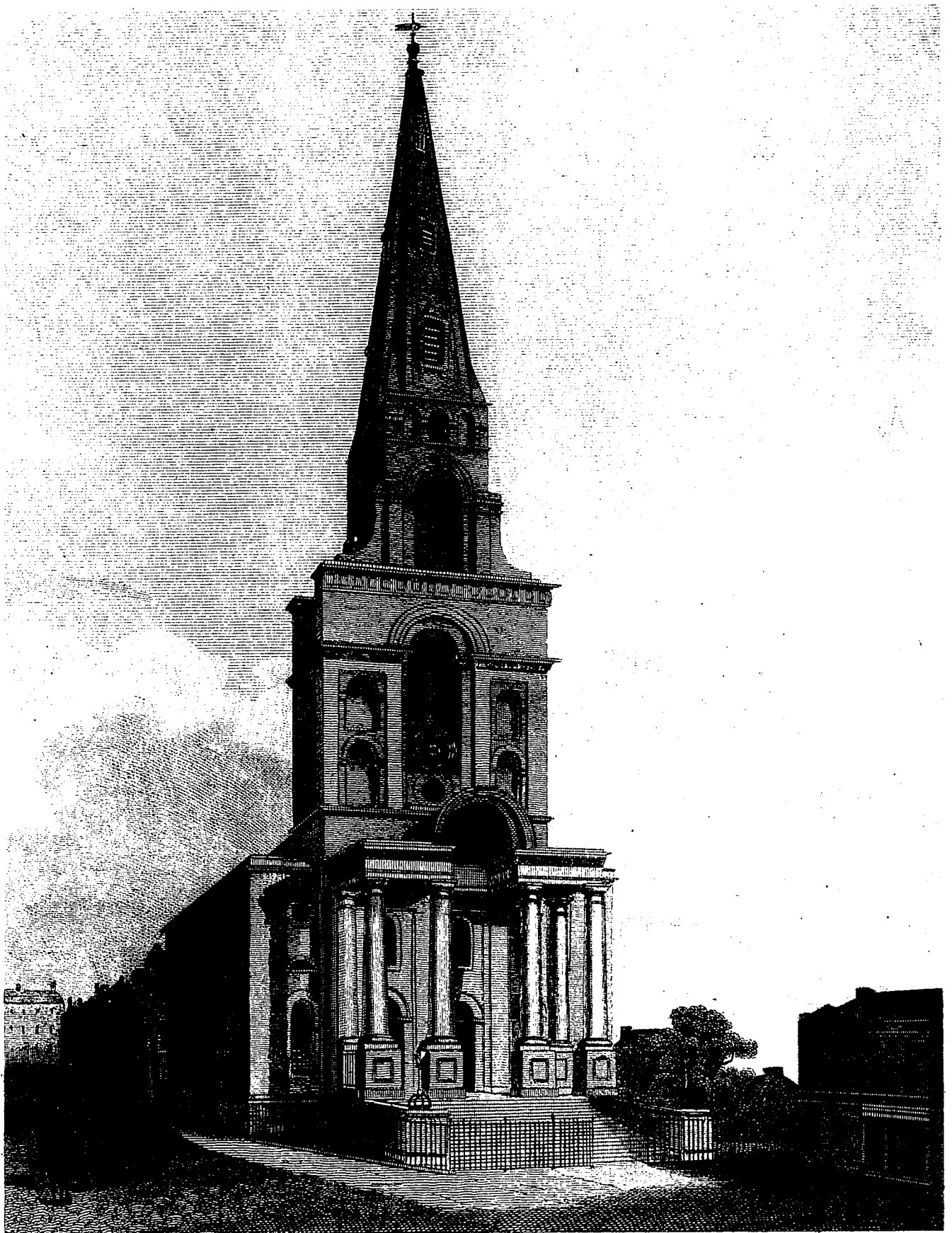
UNVEILED BY CANON WIGRAM, JUNE 11TH 1887.

LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS.

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Mr. Wilkinson and the Shipley Company, Yorks.	0	15	0
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Mr. Wm. Snowdon, President of Yorks. Ass. of Change Ringers,	1	1	0
Mr. F. Sworder, Bishop Stortford	0	2	0
Mr. R. Hill, Southport	0	2	6
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Mr. F. W. J. Rees, Bengal Civil Service	1	1	0
The Gargrave Society, Yorks.	1	0	0
The Manchester Cathedral Society	0	10	0
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Mr. D. Brearley, Sheffield	0	3	6
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Mr. Geo. Holmes, Sheffield	0	2	6
Mr. W. Booth, Sheffield	0	2	0
St Mary's Society, Woolwich	0	7	6
The Daresbury Society, Warrington	0	4	6
Mr. M. A. Wood, Bethnal Green, London	0	2	6
Mr. H. Burstow, Horsham, Sussex	0	2	6
Mr. J. J. Brierley, Saddleworth, Yorks.	0	2	6
Mr. J. Pelitt, Keystone, and Mr. R. Dunkely, Bythorn	0	2	6
All Saint's Society, Sheffield	0	10	0
The Widford Company, Chelmsford, Essex	0	3	6
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St. Peter's Society, Caversham, Reading	0	12	6
The Worcester Society	0	5	0
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Mr. W. Southwick, Hull	0	2	6
Mr. J. Pollard, Hull	0	2	6
Mr. R. B. Reed, Hull	0	2	6
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Mr. H. Jenkins, Hull	0	1	6
Mr. H. Harrison, Hull	0	1	0
Mr. J. Dixey, Hull	0	1	0
Mr. F. Drabble, Hull	0	1	0
Mr. J. Allison, Hull	0	1	0
Mr. J. Baxter, Leamington	0	2	0
The Sussex Association :—			
Alfriston Branch	£0	2	0
Arundel „	0	6	0
Battle „	0	2	6
Brighton (S. Peter's) Branch	0	10	6
„ (S. Nicholas') „	0	10	6
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Fletching Branch	£0	3	0
Heene „	0	6	0
Henfield „	0	2	6
Horsham „	0	3	0
Hurstpierpoint Branch	0	5	0
Newick Branch	0	2	6
Rye „	0	2	6
Rype „	0	2	6
Warnham „	0	5	0
Mr. Geo. F. Attree, Hon. Sec. Sussex Ass.	0	10	6
4 3			
The Ancient Society of College Youths	£1	1	0
Members of the above, in addition :—			
Mr. J. Dwight	0	1	0
Mr. W. Cooter	0	1	0
Mr. G. Muskett	0	1	0
Mr. G. Dorrington	0	1	0
Mr. J. Comb	0	1	0
Mr. W. Greenleaf	0	1	0
Mr. J. Pettit	0	1	0
Mr. S. Joyce	0	1	0
Mr. W. Tanner	0	1	0
Mr. E. Clark	0	1	0
Mr. W. Prime	0	1	0
Mr. Y. Green	0	1	0
Mr. W. Smith	0	1	0
Mr. F. Newman	0	1	0
Mr. R. Turner	0	1	0
Mr. H. Springall	0	1	0
Mr. C. Relton	0	1	0
Mr. J. Bonney	0	1	0
Mr. A. Cutmore	0	1	0
Mr. W. Judd	0	1	0
Mr. S. Baker	0	1	0
Mr. D. Sutton	0	1	0
Mr. J. Shade	0	1	0
Mr. E. Wallage	0	1	0
Mr. T. Page	0	1	0
Mr. G. Page	0	1	0
Mr. J. Davidson	0	1	0
Mr. T. Jackson	0	1	0
Mr. L. Green	0	1	0
Mr. F. Dawe	0	1	0
Mr. J. R. Haworth	0	1	0
Also per Mr. J. M. Hayes.			
Mr. Howe	0	1	6
Mr. Battrum	0	1	6
Mr. R. Woodley	0	1	0
Mr. E. Carter	0	2	0
Mr. J. Hayes	0	1	0
Mr. Winney	0	2	6
Mr. French	0	1	0
Mr. E. E. Vinen	0	2	0
Mr. Rowbottom	0	2	0
Mr. McLaughlin	0	1	0
Mr. Mash	0	1	0
Mr. Tyack	0	1	0
Mr. Gover	0	1	0
Mr. Garad	0	1	0
3 11			
The Rayleigh Society, Essex	0	5	0
St. Oswald's Society, Guiseley, Yorks.	0	10	0
St. James' Society, Hull	0	7	0
St. Margaret's Society, Horsmonden	0	4	0
Mr. Geo. Bolland, Tong, Yorks.	0	5	0
Christ Church Society, Southport	0	10	0
Henry Smith, Drighlington, Yorks.	0	0	0
Holy Trinity Ringers, Old Hill, Staffs., per Mr. A. H. Bassano	0	10	0

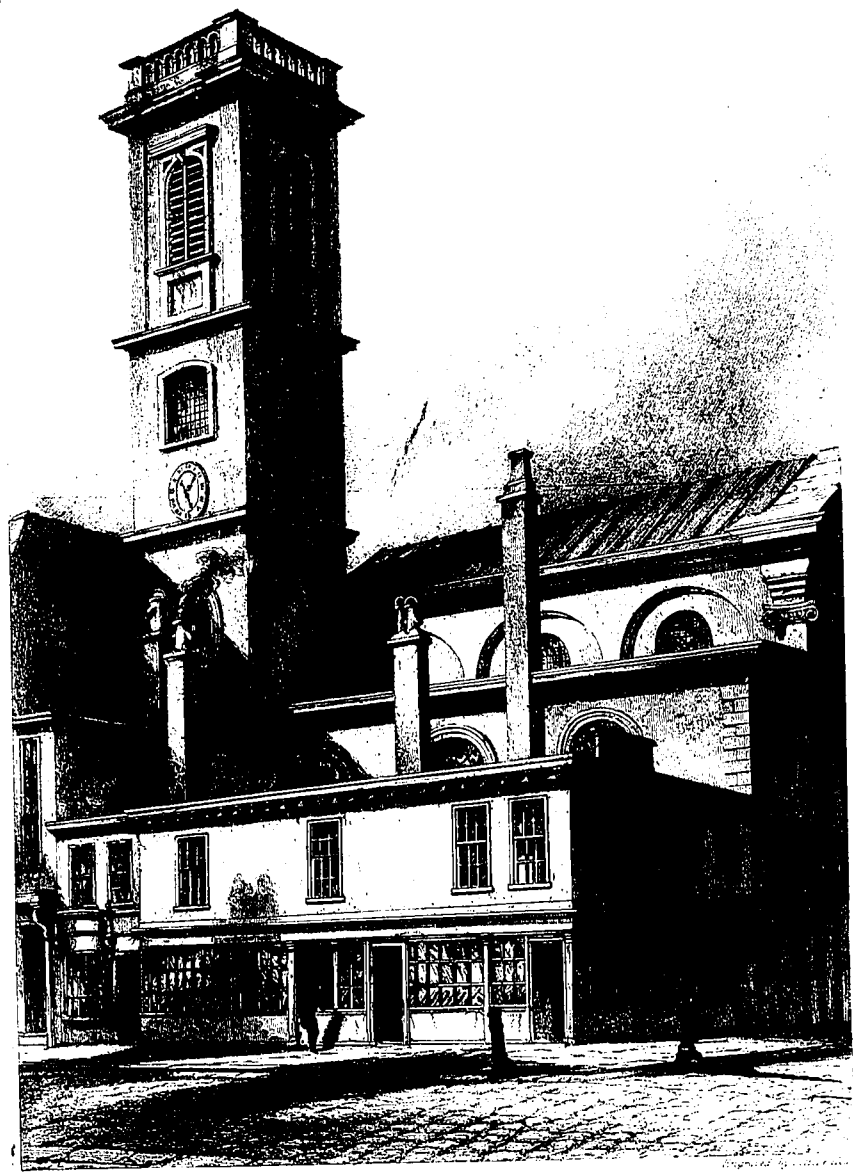


R. R. Schwebelie del.

R. Smart sculp.

CHRIST CHURCH, IPSWICH

This Parish was a Hamlet, belonging to St Dunstan's Stepney, but was found expedient to separate it in 1728. The Church is one of the fifty New Churches by Queen Anne. The foundation was laid in 1723, and finished 1729. The Building is of Stone, and altho' of peculiar proportions has a handsome and dignified appearance. The Rector is the Rev.^d West Whetdale M. A. who succeeded



THE TOWER OF THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN
IN THE CITY OF BRISTOL
AS IT APPEARED IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY



28 St. John's Street
York.

7.11.39.

Dear Sir,

I am writing a few lines to you, to see if you have any information in your great collection, concerning the York Minster members of the Ancient Society of College Youths of past days, and, more in particular have you the account of a Peal of 5021 Grandsire Caters, rung at York Minster in the year 1803, the Peal Board, recording this was destroyed in the great Fire of 1840, a fellow, ringer W. A. C. Earnley has told me that Mr. Arthur (the late) Knights told him that Mr. Double Jay Crofts, stood in this Peal.

I have to my hand the following: - Hand Bell Peal at York by members of the A. S. C. Y. Wednesday 12th Jan: 1876, Holt's 5040 Grandsire Triples in 2h. 52m. Jos. Dixon 1-2 Conductor. Wm. Howard 3-4. Chas. Underwood 5-6. Wm. Morrell 7-8.

Hand Bell Peal at York, by the York members of the A. S. C. Y, Sat: 29th. 1876, 5.000 K. J. B. Royal, in 3h. 17m. J. Dixon, Conductor 1-2. Geo. Breed 3-4. C. Underwood 5-6. Wm. Howard 7-8. Wm. Morrell 9-10.

On York Minster Tower Bells, on front 8, Tues. 14th. Nov. 1876 for a Wedding, 5.140 K. J. B. ~~Royal~~ Major in 3h. 9m. Matthew West 1; Wm. Bean 2; Wm. West 3; C. Underwood 4; Wm. Howard 5; Wm. Morrell 6; J. Dixon, Con: 7; Wm. Horner Howard 8.

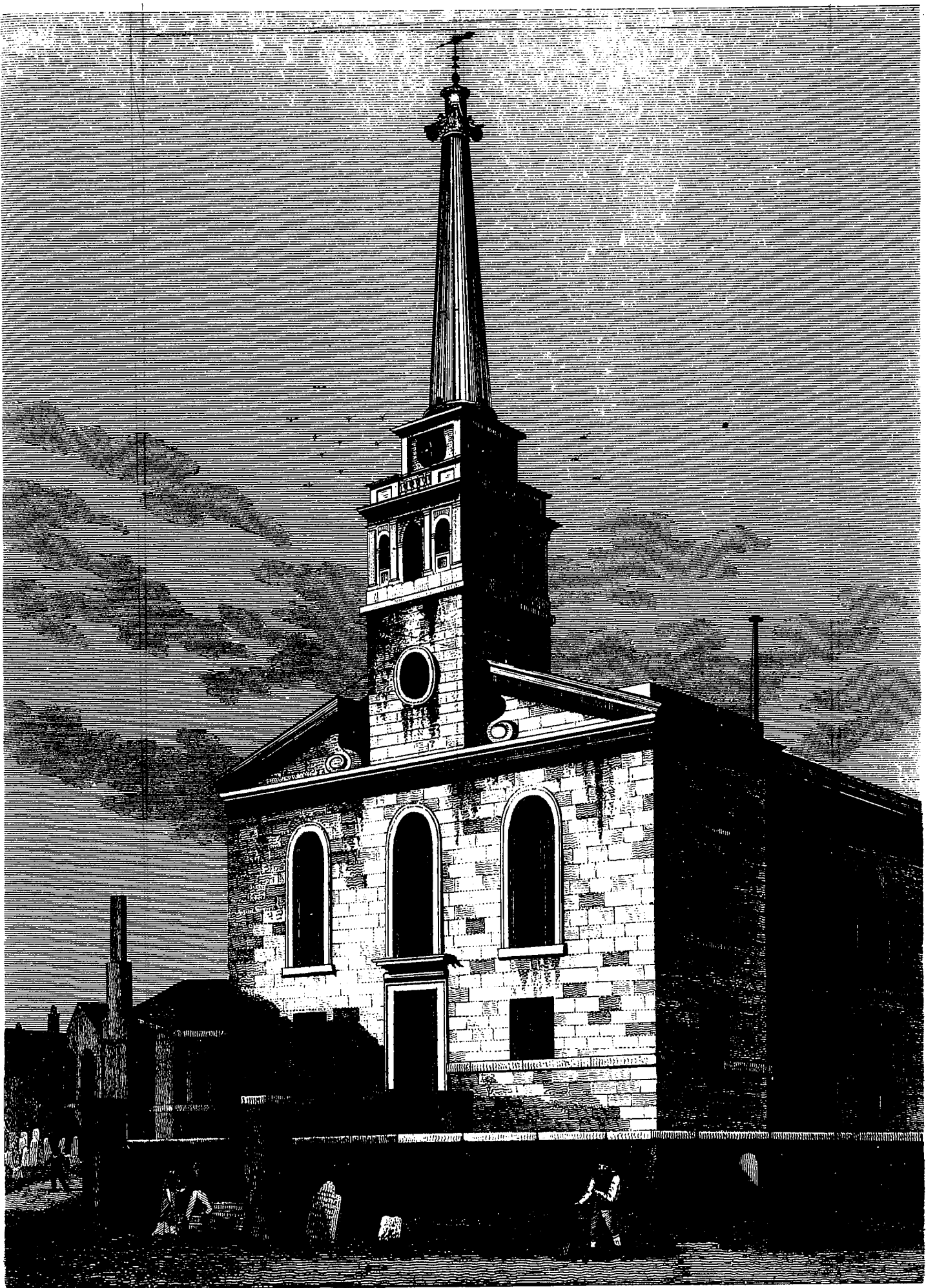
Hand Bell Peal at York, by Y. M. of the A. S. C. Y, Mon. 26th. Feb. 1877, 5.039 Grandsire Caters in 3h. 5m. J. B. Con 1-2; G. Breed 3-4; C. W 5-6; W. Howard 7-8; W. Morrell 9-10. Composed by C. H. Hattersley.

I believe members of the A. S. C. Y (perhaps some of the York members included) opened the New Peal of 8 bells (from Mears) at Halifax Parish Church in



ST. GILES.

... situated in the Parish as named in the Street connecting Oxford Street with Holborn the foundation of this Church was



Drawn by G. Shepherd and Engraved by W. Wise, for the Architectural Series of London Churches.

v. 9th March, 1939, at 5 p.m.

DONALD THALL

Thursday last were present at
J. Giles (Norwich) municipal park
of ~~the~~ Cape Hill (6372) change of
that interests notes of Trade B.A.
to 4 hrs 9 mins. The piece was
conducted by Mr. R. Chesnut and
being sung by that engineering company
The St. Peter's project we have
no doubt of its being a masterly
performance; the B.A. was called
in six places and not in the usual
method of that extensive piece

Norfolk Church Apr 17. 1870

Mr. Samuel Thurston having
challenged any man in England to
wrestle with him for one hundred pounds
the Company of Surgeons belonging to
St. Peter's of Marston Norwich in
order to prevent any person from
being imposed upon by fallacious
pretences feel it incumbent on them
to accept the challenge although
at first they were inclined to permit
by writ the intent except it were
They therefore answer to Mr. Thurston
that they have appointed one of their
Company to meet him at any
place he shall desire not less than one
hundred miles from Norwich

and in order to secure the
utmost impartiality. They propose
that eleven men shall be selected
from London to pay with each
party and to decide on their
respective merits. All expenses to
be paid by the losing party in
addition to the wages.

Norfolk Chronicle Apr ²⁴ ~~19~~ 1873.