

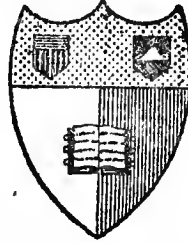
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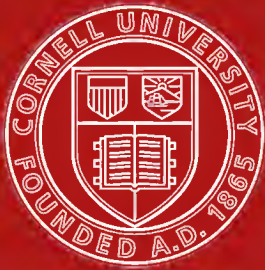
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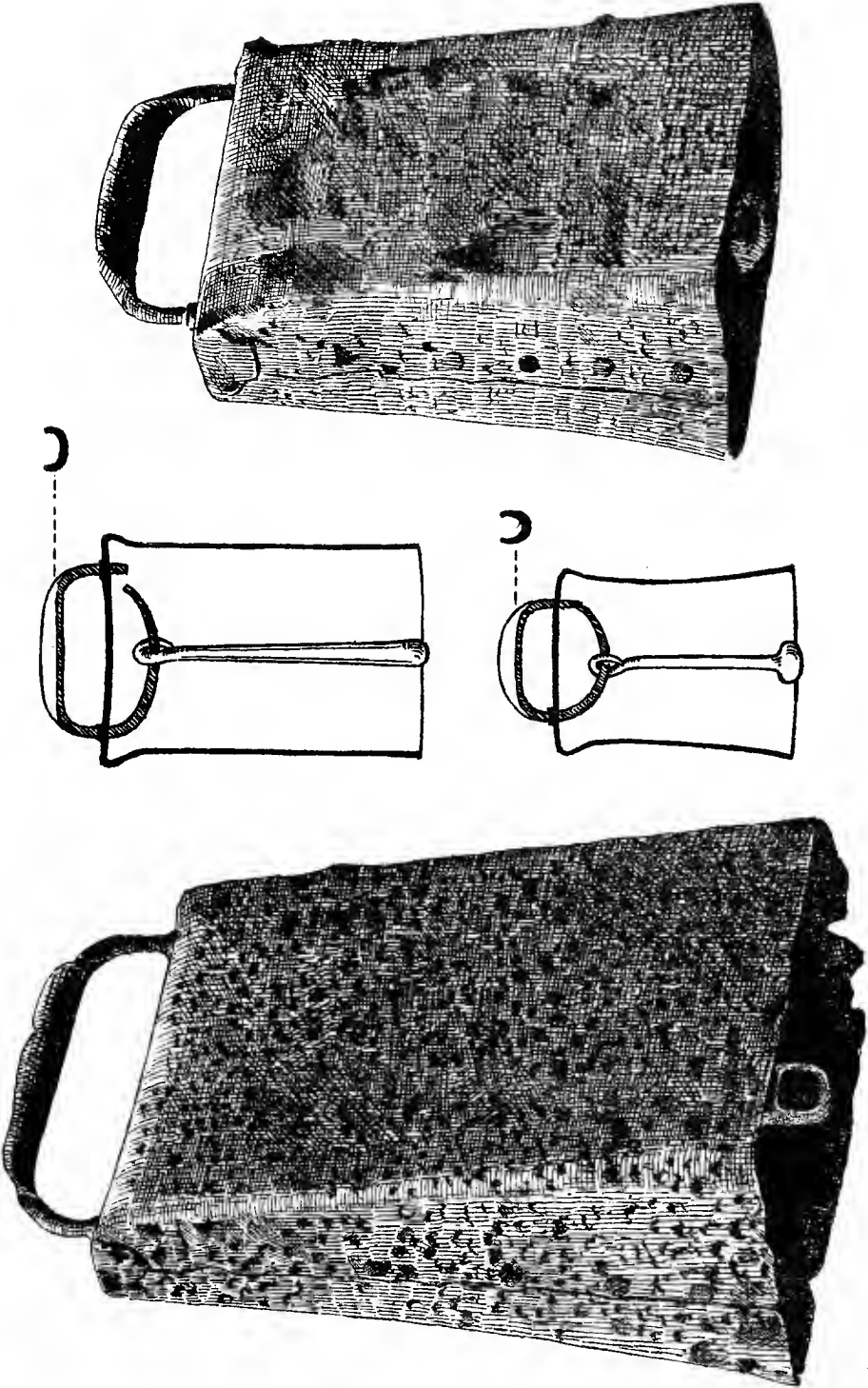
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THE
CHURCH BELLS OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

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ANCIENT HAND-BELLS.



4

THE CHURCH BELLS
OF
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

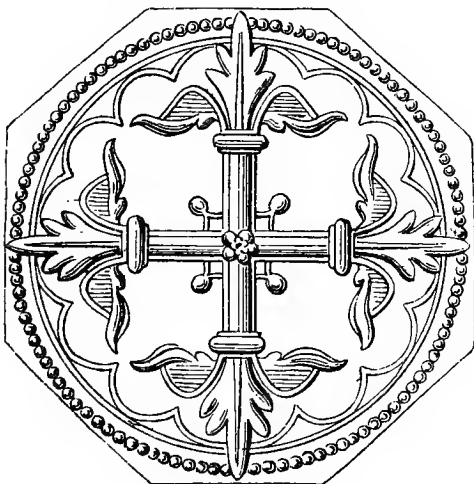
*Their Inscriptions, Founders, Uses, and Traditions ;
&c.*

BY

ALFRED HENEAGE COCKS, M.A.,

F.Z.S., F.R.G.S.,

(JOINT) HON. SEC. BUCKS ARCHITECTURAL AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.



(At Wingrave.)

LONDON :
JARROLD & SONS, 10 & 11, WARWICK LANE, E.C.

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“CELORVM CHRSTE PLATIA TIBI REX SONVS ISTE.”

TO THE MEMORY
OF
MY MOTHER.

+ JANUARY 12,

1894.

" Sometimes with secure delight
The upland hamlets will invite,
When the merry bells ring round,
And the jocund rebecks sound "—

" Oft on a plat of rising ground,
I hear the far-off curfeu sound
Over some wide-water'd shore,
Swinging slow with sullen roar."

A South Bucks Poet. + 1674.

" Ye distant spires, ye antique towers "—

" The curfew tolls the knell of parting day."

Another South Bucks Poet. + 1771.

" How soft the music of those village bells,
Falling at intervals upon the ear
In cadence sweet ! now dying all away."

" Displaying in its varied side the grace
Of hedgerow beauties numberless, square tower,
Tall spire, from which the sound of cheerful bells
Just undulates upon the listening ear."

" I heard the bell toll'd on thy burial day."

A North Bucks Poet. + 1800.

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“PAROECIE CAMPANA ECCLESIE TVBA.”

ADDENDA & CORRIGENDA.

- Page 13, lines 17, 18. The initial cross on the Hexton bell is the lower cross on Plate 1V.
- „ 16, line 6 from bottom. The second use of the stop formed from the tail of a Q, and represented by “5,” should be the reverse way up = “5.”
- „ 32, line 8. For “Plate XII.” read “p. 40” ; and line 10, *dele* “two.”
- „ 39, last line but one. For “third” read “tenor.”
- „ 52, line 13 from bottom. For “Chalgrove” read “Chalgrave.”
- „ 57, line 6. For “Stamford” read “Stanford.”
- „ 66, foot-note, last two lines. The situation is “completely mixed.” The sentence should read, “The parish of Ross, Herefordshire, separates Bridstow (on the W.) from Weston-under-Penyard (on the E.)”
- „ 67, foot-note. The Dean of Winchester referred to, is the Ven. G. W. Kitchin.
- „ 85, line 9 from bottom. *Dele* “each repeated twice.”
- „ 99, line 8 from bottom. For “Maltese cross” read “cross *palée*.”
- „ 100, line 3. For “thirty-three” read “thirty-four” ; and line 9, for “and North Marston,” read, “North Marston, and the bell in the clock-tower at Wendover” ; and line 14, for “1763” read “1762.”
- „ 118, line 7. For “and 76” read “75, 76, etc.”
- „ 127, line 16. After “treble” add “and fourth.”
- „ 163, line 1. The fleur-de-lis is No. 7 (not No. 5).
- „ 165, line 10. For “figures . . . are” read “figure 5 . . . is.”
- Pedigree, facing p. 211. Transfer connecting-lines from “Paule Audley” and from “Edward Gale,” to their wives, “Susanna” and “Ann.”
- Page 226. Between lines 19 and 20 insert, “1669: the saunce at Drayton Parslow, with merely the date.”
- „ 227, line 5 from bottom. Mr. A. Clear has kindly supplied the following from the churchwardens’ accounts of S. Peter’s church, S. Albans, Herts, for 1678-9:
- | | | |
|---|-----|--------------|
| Paid to Anthony Chandler for Casti·g y ^e Great Bell | ... | 17 . 18 . 10 |
| Paid to John Dixson for carrying y ^e Great Bell to Draiton | | 3 . 0 . 0 |
- „ 233, line 3. Between “1700:” and “The” insert “The third at Old Bradwell, like the North Marston bell of the previous year.”
- „ 260, line 26. For “Steeple Claydon has” read “Steeple Claydon and Twyford have each.”

Page 263. John Murphy's business in James Street, Dublin, is continued by his late foreman, Mr. Byrne.

„ 271, foot-note. The author of *The Burnynge of Paules Church* was Bishop Pilkington.

„ 279, line 14. Oak-apple Day. The anachronism is corrected on p. 553, *foot-note*.

„ 281. In June, 1895, another hand-bell of very similar make to the others, was found at Hedsor, about 6 ft. 8 in. below the present surface, in a Pile-dwelling of Romano-British date, which was partially explored by myself and other members of the Bucks Archæological Society. This example measures only $2\frac{5}{8}$ in. in height, or, including the loop-handle, $3\frac{7}{8}$ in. The handle has a second, narrower ribbon of iron overlying the principal one. The clapper is a flat piece of iron without ball, and having the upper end turned over to form an eye, too small to hook over the crown-staple; and as it was found loose inside the bell, it was evidently connected with the crown-staple by an intermediate link, or baldrick, of leather, or other perishable material. A report on the Pile-dwelling is published in the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries*, xvi. 7, which it is proposed to reproduce in the *Records of Bucks*.

„ 304, Aston Clinton. The Rev. T. J. Williams, Rector, has kindly informed me that, on 12th November, 1438, John Seynesbury, Rector of Ewelme, Oxon. (probably a commissary, or other official), complained to the Bishop that the Rector of Aston Clinton omits the "pulsation," or ringing of the bells, on the arrival of the Bishop.

Browne Willis mentions that the tenor was inscribed "in modern karakters," *Non sono animabus mortuorum sed viventium*, and he supposed it to date about 1622. The weights of the existing bells (according to Messrs. Mears and Stainbank) are: Treble, $5\frac{1}{2}$ cwt., note D \sharp ; II., 6 cwt., C \sharp ; III, 7 cwt., B; IV., 8 cwt., A \sharp ; V., 10 cwt., G \sharp ; Tenor, 13 cwt., F \sharp .

„ 307. It should have been noted that the weights given by Sheahan for the Aylesbury bells are, with the exception of the tenor, probably far too heavy. Compare with the weights just quoted.

„ 377, line 17. For "5 and 8" read "7 and 8."

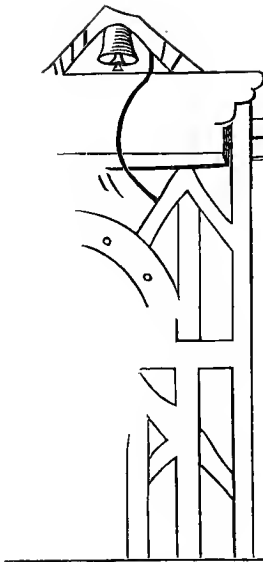
„ 405, line 7 from bottom. For "as Usual . . . o—I—o" read "as Usual . . . I—I—o".

„ 422, line 3. For "treble stocks" read "treble straps".

„ 426, Little Horwood. In the course of the "restoration" of the church, in 1889, a small bell, presumably the sacring bell, was discovered in a cavity in the chancel. Thanks to Mr. A. Clear (of Winslow), it was recovered from the finder, and is now in the care of the Vicar. In *Bell News* (Vol. XIV., No. 710, Nov. 16, 1895) it is stated that the bells were re-opened on Oct. 10, 1895, after being rehung in the old frame by Messrs. Webb and Bennett, of Kidlington, Oxon. The tenor, which was stated to have been cracked "about 60 years ago," was recast; and the saunce sold (for 30 shillings, Mr. Clear informed me!). The other four bells were turned, and the treble hung on the same level as the others.

„ 436, line 20. For "broken, wheel," read "broken; wheel,".

- Page 437. The date on the 3rd bell at Kingsey is unintentionally printed unevenly.
- „ 438, Lane End. Messrs. Mears and Stainbank state the weights and notes of these bells to be : Treble, 3 cwt. 9 lbs., note G \sharp ; II., 3 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lbs., note F \sharp ; III., 4 cwt., note E ; IV., 4 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lbs., note D \sharp ; V., 5 cwt. 3 lbs., note C \sharp ; Tenor, 6 cwt. 6 lbs., note B.
- I have to thank Mr. W. E. Yates (of Gt. Marlow Belfry) for copying this for me.
- „ 442, line 11. The stop represented by “5” should be reversed the second time = “5”.
- „ 463. Heading, for “GREAT MARLOW” read “MAIDS’ MORETON.”
- „ 497, line 10 from bottom. Add “1692” after “June.”
- „ 498, line 2. Insert “(Novembr)” before “5.”
- „ 504, foot-note. Probably the Madam Wallop here mentioned, was Alicia, a daughter of William Borlase, Esq., M.P. for Marlow, 12 and 13 Car. II. She was the mother, not the wife, of first Lord Portsmouth.
- „ 514, Marsh Gibbon. I have to thank the Rev. E. R. Massey, the present Rector, for the following additional particulars as to the local Uses of the Bells. The Pancake Bell is interpreted to say, “Turn ‘em, Don’t burn ‘em.” The curfew used only to be rung in the winter half-year, and the 4 a.m. bell was also rung. There is a tradition that a gentleman who had lost his way when Marsh field was unenclosed, was at last guided to the village by the sound of the church bell ; and that out of gratitude he left a sum of money in order that a bell might be rung at the times above mentioned. On the day of a funeral, a bell was formerly tolled, not only at 9 a.m., but also at noon, and again at 3 p.m., unless the funeral took place before that hour. There was formerly ringing on the Eves of Old Christmas and the New Year at midnight, and at 7 the next morning. Until lately it was the custom on November 5, for the ringers, after the ringing, to fire a gun over the rectory, after which they required a shilling from the rector.
- „ 544, line 6 from bottom. For the cross \ddagger (on the 5th bell), read \ddagger ; *i.e.*, a Calvary cross similar to the others.
- „ 563. The date on the 4th bell is unintentionally printed unevenly.
- „ 581. To heading, add “— FENNY STRATFORD.”
- „ 596, line 9 from bottom, and page 597, line 3. In the inscriptions on the 4th, and Saunce, bells, the figures should be the same as used p. 618, on the saunce at Nether Winchendon.
- „ 600. In the 3rd bell inscription, “JUENS” is unintentionally printed unevenly.
- „ 620, line 2. After “Elizabeth,” insert “who married the second Earl of Chesterfield,”
- „ 634, foot-note. For “xvi” read “xix.”
- „ 651. Heading. *Dele* “—HIGH WYCOMBE”. And line 22, for “ix.” read “xiii.”
- „ 653, foot-note. *Dele* “before that year” in second line, and insert after “rate” in first line.



FROM A PAINTING OF THE LEGEND OF S. CHRISTOPHER,
ON THE NORTH WALL OF AMERSHAM CHURCH, DISCOVERED 1871.
FROM A SKETCH BY THE LATE REV. BRVANT BURGESS.

BIBLIOGRAPHY.



In the Record Office ; Land Revenue Records, Church Goods, &c. Bundle 1392, File 9; dated 'xij^{mo} die m̄cij 1555':—

The Declaracen of fy^r ffraunncē Dawtrey
 Knyght concernynge the Leade and Bellē
 w^r in the late office of John Danyftre
 Recyuo^r. of the Shyres and Covnties here
 vnderwrytten./ whoes wyff the fame fy^r
 ffrauncē maryed who was Executrixē to her
 late husband John Danestfe.

Refers to certain religious houses in Berks, Bucks, and Oxon. The following are the Bucks houses: Lavenden, Snelfhall (v. Whaddon), Mursley, (in Ivinghoe, v. also Mursley), Ankerwyk (v. Wraysbury), Marloo (v. Little Marlow), and Mendenhame.

In the same Bundle as the last, File 10:—

W̄in the Office of John Carleton Receyvo ^r of—	{ Barke ^s Buck & Oxford }	{ The Declaracon of Joife Carleton wydowe Executrixē of the Laft will and testament of John Carleton Esquyre. concernynge the leade & Bellē mad the vijjth day of Marche An̄n phillippi & Marie. Rē et Regine }	} ij ^{do} & iij ^{cio} ./
---	--	--	--

The following are the Bucks houses referred to: Notteley (v. Long Crendon), Bytlesden, Burneflme, Aylesbury, Affherydge (v. Pitstone), Miffenden. Certain of the Oxford houses are mentioned, p. 467.

In the Record Office are Inventories of Goods belonging to various Churches in Bucks, taken 6 & 7 Edw. VI. (= 1552 & 3). (Exch. Q. R. Miscell.) The Indentures show the following rings ("S" = Sanctus bell):—

5	4	3	2	1	p
Buckingham S Chalfount Sainte Peter S Chessham Magna Edelysborowgh S Iwyngho S Grete Lynford S Greate Myssenden den S Olney S Prynces Rysborowe Sulberye S (<i>Perhaps 6 bells; see p. 568.</i>) Westen Turwyld Chepyng Wicombe S [?Woo]born	Aston Clynton S Birton S Bledlowe Boveney (r of them gone) Browgton S Cheddyington Chollysbury Stepclecydon Crendon S Denton Dochett S Haddenham S Hardwyke S Horton S Horwood magna S Langley marez Mentmor Myssenden parva S Northemars-ton S Paddbury S Penne (? S) Picblestborne S Quaynton S Monken Resborowe Slapton (? S) Stukeley S Stoke Pogeze Stow S Swanborn S Thornborow S Twyfford S Tyngweek S Uppon Wadesdon S Whaddon S Whytt Churche S Wyngraue SS Wynge S Wynsloe Weste Wicombe Yver S	Adington S Adstock S Abbottes Aston S Astone Samford Asshendon S Borestall Bradnam S Brill S Chersley S Estclaydon S Chylton S Coddington S Daorton S Drayton Bewchamp S Drayton paslow S Donygton S Ellisboroughe Falley Fulmer [?Got]hurste S Grenboroughe S Grendon vnderwood S Haulton S Hañulden Hampden magna Hichynden S Hillsden S Hoggeston S Littill Horwood S Huccott Ilmere S Kymbell Magna Kyngeye The Lye Lynchelade S Lurgysall S Maydyssmurtone Marlowe magna S Marshe S Masseworth Medmenham Moryssley S Nettleden Okeley S Ovynges Pychecoote S Radenedge Ratlyfe Shobyndon S Stok manyld Thornton (?S) Over Wynchendon S Wolston parva Wutton underwood Wyrardysbury Yckeford S ? S	Acle Barton Harteshorne S Caversfylde ? Chetwood S Cublyngton S Edgecott S ffoscot Litle Hampden Hartwell Harryge Hedyssoere (r of them gone) Hecham Hulswyck (<i>v. Monks' Risborough</i>) Parva Kymbell S Lyllingstone Dorrell Preston S Shalston S Water Stratford S Turwesstone Westbery S Wrexham Wyllyn	Byleesden (only S) ffletmarston	Bechampton Bucklond Lytle Marloo Saunderton Thingest Turfilde NetherWynchindon S
13/5=65+9s	41/4=164+28s	57/3=171+36s	22/2=44+9s	2/1=2..	7/?+1s?

135 Rings, comprising 446 bells, *plus* about 82 sanctus bells; and 7 other churches mentioned, in which the number of bells is either not specified, or the list is torn; among which 1 sanctus is mentioned.

In the Record Office are Lists (Domestic of Charles I.) of the state of the Churches, made at the "Visitacon of Churches," "Com Bucks," by order of Bishop J. Williams of Lincoln, during the summers of 1637 and 1638. The following shows the numbers of the Bells enumerated :—

6	5	4	3	2	1	p
Wicombe magna S Wingrave S	Agmonds- ham S Bletchley Brickhill magna S Burnham S Byrton S Chalfont S st Petri S Datchett Denham S Edgborough Hadden- ham S Hambleton Hardwick S Horton Iver S Ivinghoe S Langley Marish Marlow magna S Miffenden magna S Miffenden parva S Northmars- ton S Quainton S Rifborow prin S Shenly S Solbury S Stoke Man- devil Swanborne S Tingwicke Twyford S Wavenden Wendover S Weston Turvil Whitchurch S Wicombe, West Wooborne Episcopor/ 34/5 = 170 + 22s	Beaconsfield S Bledloe S Bowbrickhill Broughton S Chalfont S st Egidii S Cheddington Cheinies Chichley S Claydon, Steeple Dinton S Dorney Farnam Roiall ffulmer S Kimbell mag- na Loughton S Marsh S Mafworth S Mentmore S MiltonKey- nes S Mursley S Newton long vile S Padbury S Radnage Slapton S Stoke Poges Stowe cum membris Thornborough S Upton Whaddon S Wing S Wootton un- derwood S	Adstock S Ashenden S Aston Sandford Astwood Beachampton S Boarstall S Boveney Chap- pell Bradnam Brickhill parva S Brill S Claydon, East S Claydon, Mid- dle Doreton S Drayhton Beach S Drayton Pafs- loe S Elsborough Fawley Hardmead Hilsdon S Hitchenden S Hogstone S Horsingden Hulcott Kingsey S Leckhamstead S Lillingston (dor- rell p ^r Akelei.) Marlow parva Mayds morton S Medmenham Moulshoe Nettleden Oakeley S Pen S Picklesthorne S Pitchcot S Preston Ratcliffe, "&"- Stokehamond S Stratford, Water, S Taploe S Thornton Turfeild S Winchingdon Upper, S Wyarsbury	Akeley Barton Harts- horne S Chitwood "9 wght. '* Colebrooke capella Foxcot Grove pva Hitcham Quarlington Saunderton Shallston Turweston Walton S	Bowbrickhill chappell S Caversfeild S Fingest Fleet Marston (formerly 4) Hartwell S Hedsor Hogshaw Wexham	Buckland DittonChap- pell Edgcott Grendon Hedgley HedglyBulf- trodChap- pell Ilmer Linchlade Ludgarsall Waddsdon Westbury
2/6=12+2s		31/4 = 124 + 20s	44/3 = 132 + 25s	12/2 = 24 + 2s	8/1 = 8 + 3s	11/?

131 Rings, comprising 470 bells, plus 74 sanctus bells; and 11 other churches mentioned, in which the number of bells is either not specified, or the list is torn.

* 9 cwt. shows there must then have been two "big bells," and perhaps a saunce also.

Browne Willis, of Whaddon, Bucks, born 1682, died 1760. Besides several important published works, he left MS. collections (chiefly for a History of the County) comprising 110 closely written volumes, which are preserved in the Bodleian Library, Oxford. They are quoted from, under nearly every parish, in the third part of the present work, and the following List is taken from Vol. xxiv. 2. The additions and alterations made to the original, down to 1750, are here printed in italics, so that the increase in the number of bells in the 36 years is easily seen. The use of capitals is copied from the original, as are also the repetition of a few names, slight errors in some of the totals, etc :—

Rings of Bells com. Bucks taken A^o 1714 from their supposed Bigness according to the number of them in Peals.

Chipping WY-	Astonclinton 5	Mulshoe 4	Ickford 3
COMBE 8	Ludgarshall 5	Upton 4	Ilmere 3
Denham 8	Bledlow 5	Woughton 4	Pitchcot 3
3 Blechley 8	Langley 5	Dorney 4	Sanderton 3
<i>Newport Pagnell</i>	Hambledon 5	Halton 4	Oving 3
1750 8	Wavendon 5	Little Miffenden 4	Oakley 3
	Penn 5	Kimbell Magna 4	Cherseley 3
Great Missenden 6	Chalfhonte St ^t	Fulmere 4	Ashenden 3
Winge 6	Peters 5	Radnage 4	Dourton 3
2 Olney, OLNEY 6	Merse Gibbon 5	Towersey 4	Little Brickhill 3
1 AYLESBURY 6	40 Tingwick 5	Simpson 4	Castlethrupp 3
WINSLOW 6	Twyford 5	Wotton Under	Brayfeild 3
STONYStratf ^d	Stowe 5	wood 4 <i>now</i> 5	Wolston magna 3
St MaryMagda- } 6	Stoke Goldington 28	Bradwell 4	Wolston parva 3
lens Chappell	Chedington 5		Nettleden capella 3
Whaddon 6	Stewkley 5	Thornton 3	Boveney 3
Whitchurch 6	Swanburn 5	Lekhampsted 3	58 Chesham Bois 3
Wingrave 6	Padbury 5 <i>now</i> 6	Drayton Bechamp:	
Great Brickhill 6	Slapton 5	3	Walton 2
Soulbury 6	Stone 5	Grendon Under-	Chetwood 2
Weston Under-	Horton 5	wood 3	Turweston 2
wood 6	West Wycombe 5	Ellisborough 3	Hitcham 2
Beirton 6	Mursley 5	Marlow parva 3	Hawridge 2
14 Hillesden 6	Wyrardisbury 5	Beachampton 3	Cublington 2
<i>Bucks</i> 6	Calverton 5	Adstock 3	Westbury 2
<i>Beaconsfd</i> 6	Clifton Reynes 5	Astwood 3	Shalston 2
<i>Padbury now</i> 6	Lavendon 5	Linchelade 3	Preston Biffet 2
<i>Marlow</i> 6	Tyringham 5	Chilton 3	Forscot 2

<i>Farnham</i> 6	<i>Amersham</i> 6	Stony Stratf ^d St	Est Claydon 3	Caversfeild 2
<i>Woburne</i> 5	Crendon 5 <i>N.B.</i>	Giles Chappell in	Medmenham 3	Barton 2
	<i>these are the big-</i>	Calverton pish 5	Taplow 3	Akeley 2
	<i>gest Bells in</i> 60	Abbatis Aston 5	Upper Winching-	L. Linford 2
	<i>the county.</i>	Litt. Harwood 5	ton 3	15 Colebrooke cap-
	Edgeborough 5	Mentemore 5	Radcliff 3	ella 2
	Bucks 5 <i>now</i> 6	Brill 5	Addington 3	<i>F. Stratford</i> 2
	IvinGhoe 5	Grandborough 5	Edgecott 3	
	Hanslapp 5	Shabington 5	Hardmead 3	Fingherst 1
	Waddesdon 5	Lower Winch-	Haversham 3	Hedsore 1
	Queinton 5	ington 5	Stokehammond 3	Wexham 1
	AMERSHAM 5	Stoke Mande-	Newington Blos-	L. Kimbell 1
	<i>now</i> 6	ville 5	somville 3	Horsington 1
	CHESHAM 5	Cudendon 5	Drayton Passlow	Hartwell 1
	Shenley 5	69 Datchet 5	3	Fleetmarston 1
	BEACONS-	<i>Maidmorton</i> 5	Dunton 3	Chowlesbury 1
	FEILD 5 <i>now</i> 6	<i>lately made</i>	Pitston 3	Grove 1
	Burnham 5		Mid Claydon 3	Stanton Barry 1
	NewntonLongue-	Chicheley 4	Kingsey 3	Bitlesden 1
	ville 5	<i>now</i> 6	Wormenhall 3	St Leonards 1
	Hadenham 5	Wolverton 4	Buckland 3	Tottenhoe capella 1
	Princes Risbo-	Stoke poges 4	Great Hampden 3	L. Hampden cap-
	rough 5	Milton Keynes 4	Hulcot 3	ella 1
	Great Harwood 5	Emmerton 4	Fawley 3	Lee capella 1
	Wendover 5	Thornborough 4	Turfeild 3	Latimers capella 1
	Monks Risbo-	Broughton 4	Aston Sandford 3	17 Ditten capella 1
	rough 5	Steple Claydon 4	Maidsmorton	At Eaton Colledge a very
	Great Linford 5	Lathbury 4	3 <i>now</i> 5	Large Bell, & 2 other small
	20 Sherrington 5	Loughton 4	Lillingston Day-	in different Turritts.
	Dinton 5	Chalfhonte St	rell 3	Hedgerley not known the
	Newport Pagnell	Giles 4	Waterstratford 3	number but not above 3.
	5 <i>now</i> 8	Hugendon 4	Gothurst 3	Borstall no Bell in the church
	Weston Turvill 5	Cheyne 4	Ranston 3	a small one hangs in the great
	North Crawley 5	Bow Brickhill 4	Willen 3	House wh ^o serves for y ^e pish uses
	Iver 5	Farnham 4,	Hogston 3	Quarendon no Bells.
	Marlow Magna 5	<i>now</i> 6		
	<i>now</i> 6			
	Massworth 5			Total of 8 Bells 3
	Hardwick 5			6 — 14
	Northmarston 5			5 — 69
	BppsWoburne 5			4 — 28
	<i>now</i> 6			3 — 59

Of 2 Bells 15,
of 1 Bell 17.
Total number
of Churches
with Bells 206,
without Bells 2.
Total of Bells
in the county
of Bucks in
Churches 795, not reckoned
Saints Bells where there are 79 *it*.

Rev. William Cole, M.A. MSS. preserved in the Brit. Mus. They chiefly relate to Cambridgeshire, but there are numerous notes relating to Bucks, some of which are copies from B. Willis, and others original. Rector of Bletchley (to which he was presented by Browne Willis), 1753—1768. Vicar of Burnham, 1774—1782. Died 1782.

Geo. Lipscomb, M.D. *The History and Antiquities of the County of Buckingham.* 4 vols., 4to, 1847. Numerous references to bells, chiefly copied from Browne Willis's MSS.; the inscriptions are usually given inaccurately. Died in great poverty soon after 1842, before the whole of his History was published. It is now the fashion to abuse this County History, but, though it is admittedly imperfect, we undoubtedly owe a considerable debt of gratitude to the ill-fated Doctor.

There are a few references to bells—generally mere copies from Lipscomb, in *History and Topography of Buckinghamshire*, by James Joseph Sheahan, 1862.

Records of Buckinghamshire—the Transactions of the Architectural and Archæological Society of the County, published annually since 1854, contain numerous allusions to bells, chiefly in papers describing one particular parish, and these (or most of them) are referred to in place; but the following papers relating only to bells have appeared:—

Church Bells, by the Rev. R. E. Batty, M.A. This is merely a general gossiping paper on Bells, and adds little or nothing to the History of those in the County. Vol. I.

Bell Foundries in the County of Buckingham, by T. A. Turner (now the Rev.). A valuable contribution to County History. Vol. IV.

The Bells of the Parish Churches in the Hundred of Desborough, by A. H. Cocks. Vol. V.

Various Topographical, etc., Histories mention the bells of one particular parish, and generally come to more or less grief over them; as they are referred to in place, I need not enumerate them here, but will limit myself to mentioning two exceptionally meritorious works: *The*

Architectural History of the University of Cambridge, and of the Colleges of Cambridge and Eton, by the late R. Willis, M.A., F.R.S., edited with additions by J. W. Clark, M.A., 4 vols., Cambridge, 1886; and, *Genealogical Memoirs of the Family of Chester of Chicheley*, 2 vols., 4to, by R. E. Chester Waters, London, 1878.

Sundry Newspaper Articles, in most of which, however, the statements are second or third hand, and unreliable.

Last, but not least, the numerous Histories of the Church Bells of various Counties, which need not be here enumerated *seriatim*, by Messrs. Tyssen, Ellacombe, Stahlschmidt, North, Lynam, etc.; and a paper on the *History of the Peal of Bells belonging to King's College, Cambridge*, by J. W. Clark, Esq., M.A., published in the *Communications of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society*, Vol. IV., 1881.

TABLE SHOWING THE LARGEST BELLS IN THE COUNTY.

No. of Bells.	Place.	Diameter of Tenor. Next.		Founder of Tenor. Next.		Probable Weight of Tenor	Diameter of Treble.	Order of Treble.
6	Wing	55¼	47¼	Warner, 1863	Taylor, 1842	29¼	34¾	5
6	Gt. Missenden	54	49½	J. Mears, 1840	E. Knight, 1623	28	34½	6
8	Buckingham	53½	48¾	Chapm ⁿ & Me ^s , 1782	Chapm ⁿ & Me ^s , 1782	27*	32½	9
6	Olney	52¼	47¼	H. Bagley, 1682	Russell, 1733	26	35	4
8	Denham	51¾	46¾	Warner, 1875	J. Bartlett, 1683	25¼	30¼	14
10	H. Wycombe	51½	44	T. Mears, 1802	Phelps, 1711	23*	29¼	16
8	Newport Pag.	50½	45½	T. Mears, 1819	T. Mears, 1816	23*	30½	11
8	Aylesbury	50	45½	C. & G. Mears, 1850	Pack & Chap ⁿ , 1773	22*	30½	11
5	Hanslope	50	43	Briant, 1814	R. Atton, 1626	22½	36	3
8	Beaconsfield	tuned from 50	—	Mears & St ^k , 1884	Mears & St ^k , 1884	21*	30½	11
6	Amersham	49½	45	R. Catlin, 1745	Pack & Chap ⁿ , 1776	21½	34¼	7
6	Winslow	49¼	43¾	Pack & Chapman, 1777	R. Keene, 1668	20½	32¼	10
2†	Eton Coll.	49	43½	T. Swain, 1777	E. Knight, 1637	20½	(43½)	1
8	Haddenham	48¾	41½	Briant, 1809	Briant, 1809	20	30¼	14
8	Long Crendon	48	43½	Lester and P ^k , 1768	Lester and P ^k , 1768	19‡	29¼	16
5	Shenley	47½	44	Hille (or predecessor) 15th cent.	B. Atton, 1610	20½||	36¾	2
5	Quinton	47¼	43	T. Lester, 1745	H Knight, 1621	19	34	8

The tenor at Chesham (T. Mears) is 47¼ inches in diameter; those at Langley (R. Phelps) and Wooburn (Lester and Pack) are each 47 inches; Iver (R. Catlin) 46¾ inches; Gt. Horwood (C. and G. Mears) 46½ inches; etc., etc.

Of the above 27 bells of not less than 46½ inches diameter, 15 come from the Whitechapel Foundry; 3 are by Swain and Catlin (of London, successors to the Knights of Reading); 2 are by Briant (of Hertford); and 2 by Warner (of London). The remaining 5 are respectively by Hille, or his predecessor (London); Knight (Reading); Bagley (Chacombe, etc.); Russell (Wootton, Beds); and Taylor (Oxford, etc.).

* Messrs. Mears and Stainbank's Catalogue, 1891 edition. The weights are given in even cwt., the odd quarters being omitted.

† These bells are two singles, and do not form a ring.

‡ Its predecessor is said to have weighed 40 cwt.

|| *Fide* Lipscomb.

INTRODUCTION.

ONE cannot critically interview the church bells of an entire county (besides many elsewhere) without having a few ideas impressed upon him. Of these, probably the most valuable is an insight into some of the most obvious reasons why bells crack.* Without going so far as to say that such a thing *never* happens from causes beyond human foresight and control,—yet of this I am sure, that it is *rarely* that a bell cracks without its being directly attributable to sheer neglect on the part of those to whose charge it, as Church property, is committed. And though the care and use of the bells be delegated to the steeple-keeper or sexton, and ringers ; the responsibility of seeing that *they* understand their duty towards the bells, and perform it, rests with the incumbent of the parish, and in a lesser degree, with the churchwardens.

If all incumbents—(it is not often a layman gets a chance of sermonising the clergy, so it is only fair that any non-ringing clerical reader so far, should read patiently to the end of my homily!)—if, therefore, all incumbents would remember the intrinsic value of the bells in their towers—a valuable item in the Church's temporalities, to say nothing of the anti-quarian interest attaching to many of them—and would remember that bell hangings are *machines*, even if not quite so complicated as a steam-engine, and that all machines want a *little* attention ;—the lamentable and disgraceful state of many of the belfries in—no doubt—every county, would cease ; and we bell-hunters would no longer get the almost stereotyped, semi-apologetic statement, on making our request for the key, “ I'm afraid you will find a great mess up there, but, to tell you the truth, I have never been up to them.” I would most respectfully, but strongly, urge every

* This was written before the Central Council of Ringers came into existence, and therefore, before the formation of its committee to report on matters connected with church bell-hanging, etc.

incumbent to go and see for himself: if he find the rungs of the ladder out, or the very baulks rotten, or the steps of the newel stairs so abraded by the tread of centuries as to be almost non-existent, surely he will not rest content until these defects are made good; not by a wholesale and expensive sweeping away of all that is old, but by the careful renewal of a stone step here, or a few rungs there, and then, when at length he can get up without risking his life or limbs, let him go and pay the poor neglected bells a visit.* In many cases—I had almost written *most* cases—he will fancy himself no longer in the Church, but in a farm-yard, or possibly on one of the guano islands off the coast of Peru. It is no exaggeration to say, that the bell-chamber frequently contains *cartloads* of sticks, straws, and other rubbish brought in by birds for their nests. The avi-fauna comprises Jackdaws, Starlings, House Sparrows, and sometimes a pair of Barn Owls,† and occasionally domestic Pigeons; the invertebrates, which are easily overlooked at the moment, will demonstrate their presence during the night ensuing by keeping the explorer awake: these are lice and fleas, parasitic on the starlings; while very likely everything,—bells, stocks, frame, etc., will be as white from the deposit of guano, as if they had been whitewashed.‡

I can hardly imagine that any incumbent who has once penetrated to the bell-chamber, will long neglect the fixing of some small-meshed wire-netting over the windows, and follow that up by ousting the accumulation of animal and vegetable rubbish. In at least one tower in the county *mineral* rubbish, in the shape of quantities of stones, may be added to the list, and I had not been many minutes among the bells there, before I found myself exposed, through the large, unprotected windows, to a vigorous cannonade of good-sized “rocks.” Not owing to any hostility on the part of the natives, but from a habit of the boys, on leaving school, who find

* If a tower is not safe for the parson to ascend, it is equally unsafe for the ringers, and that they have no special charm to ward off accidents, and that their limbs are not made of india-rubber, I can personally testify from painful experience. As bells ought to be constantly visited, it is no excuse to acknowledge that the means of ascent are dangerous, and on that account to stop all visits to the bell-chamber.

† Kestrels are so fond of such shelter as to be known in German as the “Tower Falcon.” Though I have not recognised their marks in any tower in the county, it is possible that some of the *débris* I ascribed to Owls were really referable to these pretty little hawks.

‡ Most change-ringers, who usually confine their visits to towers where they know the bells are ringing, would hardly credit the state of many bell lofts. I can only assure them that the above is by no means too strongly put.

these open windows a capital target ; the speaking of the bells, each time a stone crashes in among them, adding great zest to the amusement.

Another idea one gains by these explorations, is some notion of the age of the cages in which the bells hang, and of the fittings by which they are therein suspended. To take this point first: the oldest form of "straps," *i.e.*, the iron braces by which the bell is suspended to the stock, are flat plates, with holes punched in them, and nailed on to the stock. Those for the single canons were at first V-shaped, the canon resting in the angle. Some of these are undoubtedly very old (three, and perhaps four centuries and more), but one can only judge for oneself by the workmanship and general appearance, taking into consideration too, the form and fashion of the stock, as to the age of any given example. It sometimes happens, moreover, that a local carpenter, employed to rehang bells, uses the old nailed straps on a new stock, or the blacksmith is employed to make new straps from the old as pattern. Later on, the V-shape was modified into a J-shape, *i.e.*, a single plate ending in a hook for the canon. The straps for the paired side-canons have always apparently ended below in an eye or slot, through which, and the canons, a *dog* is passed horizontally. Speaking generally, nailed straps were superseded about the first half of the seventeenth century, by round-iron rods ending in a slot at the upper end, while the lower was hooked, or slotted, as before. These slotted upper ends pass through an iron "plate" resting horizontally across the top of the stock, and "keys," or thin pieces of doubled iron are inserted in the slots, and keep the straps in position.

Besides the two or more pairs of straps on the outside of the stock, there is another pair (except in some of the smallest bells) connected with the "argent-hole," and passing to it *through* the stock. I do not know how these were originally fastened at the top, but perhaps they were always "keyed." At any rate it is not unusual to find such a mixture at the present time.

Both these old methods have the very serious objection that when the bell becomes loose on the stock, as from shrinkage of the wood, and gradual stretching of the iron—it infallibly will—there is no ready means of tightening it again ; and this brings us to one of the ordinary reasons why a bell cracks at the shoulder. When a bell is rung, its "way" is checked more or less *gradually*, at the end of each revolution, by the ringer down below ; but if a bell is at all loose on its stock, all the ringer can do is to check the wheel and stock ; the bell continues to revolve a short distance further, independently, and is brought up at last, *suddenly*, by the straps ; receiving a violent

wrench. It is only necessary to continue these violent wrenches long enough, and the bell is sure either to crack across the crown, or to lose its canons. Of course, like the proverbial pitcher going to the well, a bell that is not given fair play, *may* last "ninety-nine times," but break it must some day. To remedy this—somewhere I think about the middle of the last century—a (screw) thread and nut were substituted for the slot and key at the upper end, and now it is the duty of every steeple-keeper, or whoever acts in that capacity (usually the sexton), where bells are so hung, to keep them screwed up as they slacken; and how lamentably few of these officials ever do so! Not—let me do them the justice of saying—from any intention of neglecting their duty, but because such a thing never entered their thoughtless heads!

The other common cause of a bell cracking at the shoulder, is the making of the stay too strong. Every ringer knows that a novice* is apt to "bump the stay," which, if only a slight piece of wood, breaks on receiving at all a hard rap. The result is startling to the astonished tyro, but no further damage is done, and the broken stay is replaced for a shilling or two. But many a "local carpenter," thinking to be very clever, and avoid all chance of such unpleasant surprises, puts on a stay of appalling strength (for extreme examples, see Little Horwood, Nether Winchendon, etc.). It is quite common to find both stays and sliders made of wrought iron.

A beginner, at such a place, may bump the stay as hard and as often as he pleases, and it will not break. What then *does* happen? Why, after a little of this violence, *something* must go, and this, if not the stay, must be the bell. Either the canons are broken off by the shock, or the bell splits across the crown (for examples see Westbury, Hardmead, Newton Blossomville, etc.).

However, a bell whose canons are broken off, may have holes bored through the crown, and be so bolted to the stock; and hang thus mutilated†

* It must be remembered that while this risk is slight where novices are taught under proper supervision, there are still many towers where there is no ringing, except for some special event (such as a wedding), and many a bell has been broken at such "scratch" performance.

† It has become the fashion, I am sorry to say, at the present day, to break off the canons of a bell, with a view to making it ring more easily; and hanging it by boring its crown. This barbarity has unhappily spread to this county while this book has been passing through the press. I can only enter my humble protest against the practice, and beg those in authority not to suffer themselves to be persuaded by either bell-hangers, or ringers; charm they never so sweetly! (There are also now in the county a couple of ugly-looking recent specimens, cast without canons.)

for centuries. Also a split crown does not necessarily imply a cracked tone, and the bell may continue good for years, especially if an iron band be shrunk round the shoulder in time (see Gt. Marlow).

But we now come to damage at the lower end of a bell, and here the least accident is immediately fatal. Given the slightest crack through the sound-bow, and the tone is gone.

Here, of course, the clapper is the chief offender. Even a perfectly well-regulated clapper, doing its duty in a perfectly legitimate manner, must, in course of time, always striking the same spot, wear a bell out. To avoid this, every bell, after about a couple of centuries' use (the time, of course, depends on the amount of use), requires "quarter-turning."

Some bellfounders will fit a bell (not of their own make) with a clapper far too heavy for it, with an obvious eventual result. Occasionally churchwardens will buy a second-hand clapper, which is not the right length for the bell for which it is intended:—result equally obvious (example, see Ivinghoe). Then, again, the best of clappers will break a bell, if used for "clocking," "clogging," or "clapping," as it is variously called. This very common practice has been proved to be most pernicious, and should under no circumstances ever be permitted* (Example, Soulbury, etc.).

There is another destructive instrument at work in the majority of towers, in the shape of the clock-hammers which strike the bells. At the best of times they are nasty things, for they strike the bell at right angles to the direction of its swing, and such dead blows must be unwholesome. The hammers are raised by the action of the clock, and then being released, fall on the bells by their own weight, and are (theoretically) kept off them when at rest by a spring. The springs, however, gradually get weak, and fail to raise the hammer clear of the bell, so that after every blow the hammer remains resting on the bell, and by checking the vibrations, tends to crack it. Some clock-makers, if left to work their own sweet will, and thinking merely to produce a good effect, without considering the consequences, put a hammer heavy enough for a ton bell, on an unfortunate little one of 5 cwt., or less. This also must, of course, end fatally sooner or later.

Well-meaning, but ill-judged "quarter-turning" may lead "out of the frying-pan into the fire," and bring about the very result it was intended to stave off. For instance, a bell at North Crawley was worn very thin, by the action of the clapper, in the course of over two and a half centuries; it

* See on page 83 what the excellent Reading bell-founder, Joseph Carter, in his capacity of churchwarden, said about this practice, three hundred years ago.

therefore was quarter-turned, the fact being ignored that a clock-hammer had been for years striking severe blows on a spot on the exterior surface of the sound-bow, midway between the clapper scars. The inner side of this weak spot was now exposed to the blows of the clapper. The proper course in this case would have been to employ a qualified bell-hanger, who would have turned the bell the eighth, instead of the quarter of a circle (too difficult a job for the "local carpenter" to attempt), and thereby secured a fresh surface, both for the clapper and the hammer to strike on. However, this bungle did not prove fatal to the bell, for it was soon afterwards destroyed by a still more expeditious process, as mentioned half a dozen lines further on.

The remaining ordinary causes for a bell splitting are all due to checking the vibration. A bell (which is not rung, but only chimed) is sometimes allowed to drop so much, and so unevenly, from the stock, through the slackening of the straps, that its lip on one side binds against the cage, or even the wall (examples, Granborough, Hedgerley, etc.). Effect—gradual, but none the less certain.

Many a bell has been broken by a foul blow: as the unlucky bell already mentioned at North Crawley, where, its clapper being broken, one of the ringers mounted to the bell-chamber, and struck the bell with the broken clapper held in his hand. Effect—instantaneous.

Or, again, as at Stoke Hamond, where a boy struck a bell with its clapper held by hand, and then kept the clapper pressed against the sound-bow, thereby putting a sudden termination to the existence of an interesting pre-reformation bell. At Swanbourne, no less than three bells are said to have been cracked by "hammering."

It is not an uncommon accident for a clapper to break during ringing; and I have been told of two instances in this county, within the last few years, where the severed portion, in flying out, has jammed between the lip of the revolving bell and its cage, with the result of breaking the bell. This is a catastrophe which cannot always be foreseen; but, of course, clappers should be examined now and again, and in the event of a flaw being discovered, ringing should not be again permitted until the defect is made good.

Ringling should under no circumstances be permitted in any tower where the frame is at all shaky. This is by no means a supererogatory caution.

I do not suppose that I have enumerated all the ways in which a bell may be split, but if all the above be avoided, it would be a decided step in the right direction.

The question of the origin of bells, and of the date of their adoption by the Christian Church, has been often treated of, and I have no fresh information to add; but there is an interesting question connected with church bells and bell-hanging, which seems to have met with very slight attention hitherto; namely, at what period did real *ringing* begin? That is, the swinging of a bell above the frame, so as to perform about a whole revolution at each "blow," or each time the rope is pulled. Real ringing is, curiously enough, confined to the British Isles, and her various English-speaking offshoots (Canada and U. S. America, Australasia, etc.). In Norway (and I believe Germany, and probably some other countries of Europe) bells are swung up by treading (with the foot) on a piece of board nailed across the stock at right angles, and the bell when "up" is prevented from turning over,—not as with us, by checking the rope, and holding the bell on the balance, or allowing the stay and slider to come gently into contact,—but by a deal board, sufficiently thin to be yielding and elastic, fixed edgeways across the frame, at such a height above it, that the lip of the bell strikes it on alternate sides at each revolution, which effectually stops it from revolving any further. At some places in Spain (*e.g.*, at Seville Cathedral) the ringer stands close below the bell with a long rope attached to the stock by (I think) a lever. He pulls away until the bell, unchecked by rope or stay, swings over, and gathering momentum as it turns, continues to revolve round and round until nearly all the rope is wound round the stock, leaving only the bare end in the ringer's hands. He then catches the rope across the bell so as to check its way, and start it swinging in the reverse direction. The rope is speedily uncoiled, and as speedily winds itself up the other way, and so on. In Russia, so far as I have seen, and a friend who has visited other parts of that country corroborates me, bells are invariably merely clappered.

Examination of frames and hangings throws little light on the question of the date of the commencement of ringing, and we have to turn to what we can glean from parochial accounts. There is, I take it, no doubt that the primitive arrangement for making a church bell speak, was a lever fixed more or less horizontally, at right angles to the stock, to which the rope was attached. This is still a common arrangement among turret and sanctus bells. As bells increased in weight, the half-wheel was invented; how long ago I do not know, but it was certainly, I think, in use in the fourteenth century. The eventual development of the half-wheel into the whole-wheel would be a natural one, and the entry in a churchwarden's account of expenditure on a new wheel, or repairs to an old one, does not

show whether it was anything more than a half-wheel (only suitable for chiming).* The fourteenth century founders' mark (fig. 1), which has been supposed to represent a wheel, certainly, *if* intended for one at all, represents a whole-wheel. It does not occur in Bucks. "Taking one consideration with another,"† however, it seems reasonable to believe that ringing, at first doubtless only of a single bell, and then eventually of the whole ring in "rounds," was known by the fifteenth century, and quite possibly earlier.

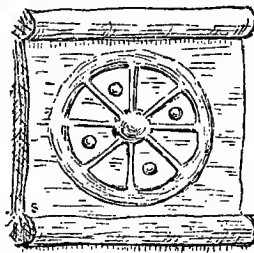


Fig. 1.

The earliest entry that I have met with which *unquestionably* mentions real ringing‡ (though only of a single bell), is the following entry in the churchwardens' accounts of S. Lawrence, Reading, dated 1515-16:—

Ordinaco. Hit is covenentyd & agreyd by the assent & consent of all the pysse that what pson wyll haue the greate bell of the gyfte of Harry Kelsall to be rong at the knyll or any other fment or obyte, all such psons to pay for the same bell so rnyngyng at eny tyme xij^d to the churchwardens for the vse of the same church And to eny pson that will haue hym tyllid to paye iij^d to the seid wardens. And that the said bell be rong or tyllid for no pson but he pay as ys above exp^{ssed}.

Pvyded allwey that the said bell to be rong or tyllid at all tymes for the obite or mynde of the said Harry Kelsall (to be kepte) And also at the obite or mynde to be kepte

* Nevertheless, ringing undoubtedly entails a greater wear and tear on wheels, and brasses also, than chiming; and repeated entries of payments for renewals of these two items, help to show the existence of ringing in the parish at the date when they occur.

† As Gilbert and Sullivan say.

‡ As the sounding of every kind of bell is called "ringing," the mere entry of a payment, at an early date, for "ringing" the church bells on the occasion of a royal visit, or other occasion, by no means proves real ringing. It is far more likely to imply that each bell was swung and made to speak quite regardless of the others, producing the most irregular and discordant clashes, as is still customary in most—or all—the countries of the continent of Europe.

for Mr Thomas Justice Vicar of the pissh church of saynt Lawrence wtout paying eny money therfor but to have the said bell rong & tyllid for the seid ij psons at all tymes free.

“Tyllyng” (tolling) may be either “chiming,” or the slovenly substitute, “clappering.” The hammer, by which tolling is now done in many towers, is a more recent innovation.

I must add a few sentences—more or less personal. My interest in everything connected with bells was aroused as long ago as 1861, but nothing came of it until twenty-two years later, when, in the spring of 1883, I became one of the ringers of this parish (Gt. Marlow). Shortly afterwards, in company with Mr. (now the Rev.) V. Awdry, I made the round of all the towers in this Hundred of Buckinghamshire, and published the result in a short paper, in *The Records of Bucks* for 1885. This paper fell into the hands of the late Mr. J. C. L. Stahlschmidt, who immediately opened a correspondence with me, and urged me on to write the campanological history of the whole county. Without at once committing myself to so great an undertaking, I went on visiting towers and collecting materials, thinking I might at least publish another “Hundred” or two; but eventually, relying on the experience and help and advice so kindly and unstintedly given by him whom I very soon learnt to value as a friend, my work developed into the present volume. Poor Stahlschmidt’s health, however, broke down, and, after a lingering illness, he died June 26th, 1889, leaving me, not only in common with many others, to lament the loss of a friend, but also to finish up my task—undertaken entirely at his persuasion—as best I could without him. Let this therefore be my apology for all shortcomings (and I make no doubt they are legion)—namely, that the book would never have been undertaken by me, if I had not reckoned on his help to see it through the press.

I must also express my apologies for the long delay in the publication of this work, for which, however, I am only in some measure responsible. I can only assure my long-suffering subscribers that none of them can regret it half so much as I do myself.

There only now remains the pleasant task of thanking the very many persons who have assisted me in various ways. The majority are connected with some one parish, and are gratefully named under the head of that parish in the last portion of the work; but I must here specially record my obligations, first to the late J. C. L. Stahlschmidt, as already said; and to his sister, Miss Stahlschmidt, for the loan of sundry of her late brother’s blocks, inserted in the text; to Mr. A. D. Tyssen, author of *Church Bells*

of Sussex, for the loan of numerous blocks, and for access to note-books on bells in various other counties, which, to save constant repetition in quoting from repeatedly, I have not acknowledged on each occasion in the text, and for much general information; to the Rev. T. A. Turner (who had contemplated publishing in the distant future, the campanological history of this county), for the loan of the four blocks on p. 221, and for valuable information concerning Caversfield and Woughton, etc.; to the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Reading—Archdeacon—formerly of Bucks, and now of Oxford; to the Rev. Canon Raven, D.D., F.S.A., author of *Church Bells of Cambridgeshire*, and of *Suffolk*, etc.; to the Rev. V. Awdry; the Rev. T. H. and Mrs. Gregory; the Rev. T. E. Jameson; the Rev. F. S. Sclater; and among the many clergy of the county who have crossed the bourne since this book was begun, must here gratefully be named, the Revs. Bryant Burgess, E. K. Clay, and though last, not least, T. A. F. Maitland, a friend from undergraduate times, who proved himself a real friend in need, when I first penetrated to the centre of this county.

My original intention, until a nearer claim arose, was to dedicate this book to the memory of Charles Scrafton Holthouse, M.A., for thirty-six years Vicar of Helidon, Northamptonshire, + January 23rd, 1881, who, thirty-six years ago, aroused in me an interest in Campanology; and to that of John Charles Lett Stahlschmidt, already mentioned.

A FEW TECHNICAL WORDS

FOUND IN CONNECTION WITH CHURCH-BELL HANGINGS, CHIEFLY
ARCHAIC, AND SOME OBSOLETE.

(All the ordinary technicalities, connected with gear and ringing, are omitted.)

ARGENT, the central boss on the head of a bell, round and against which the canons are grouped.

BALDRICK, *a belt or girdle*. Clappers were formerly made (as they still are on the continent) with a rectangular loop at the top. They were linked through this to the crown-staple of the bell by a broad strap of hide (frequently mentioned in churchwardens' accounts as *white leather*), called a *baldrick*. By degrees, during the seventeenth century,* iron was substituted for leather, and these iron baldricks are still quite common. By 1720, but probably not much before that date, the Whitechapel Foundry, at any rate, began to make the head of the clapper solid; and the link-shaped baldrick was altered to a *copse*, which fits outside the *flatted* head of the clapper, the two being united by bolts passing through them. This *copse* is still known, at least to bellfounders, as the *badrick*. For more than a century all clappers were made on this pattern, but of recent years other dodges have been introduced, which it is unnecessary to describe here, or to express an opinion on.

BOLSTER, *a collar or washer*. The earliest form of strap was nailed on to the stock. Probably early in the seventeenth century, a strap was invented having a slot at its upper end. The lower end is connected to the canons (see p. xxiii., and also *Dog* below); while the slotted end passes through an iron plate resting horizontally across the top of the

* Even as early as 1612, see p. 627.

stock (which receives a corresponding strap on the opposite side). A "key," or thin piece of (sometimes doubled) iron is inserted in the slot, which prevents the strap drawing, and the key is itself rendered immovable by having its ends spread or bent. In cases where the length of the strap, up to the slot, allows the bell a certain amount of play on the stock, one or more *bolsters* are inserted between the plate and the key.

BUSK-BOARD, or SPLINT. When bells began to be *rung*, instead of being merely *chimed*, it would naturally be found that the clapper, with the above-mentioned leather strap link, or even the iron substitute, had too much play; therefore *busk-boards*, or *splints* of wood, were fixed round the upper part of the clapper, so as to stiffen the baldrick, and extended upwards, and generally *inwards* as well, so as to meet inside the crown-staple.

COOM, the dirty oil or grease that oozes from the bearings. Believed to be a specific for shingles, and other complaints.

COTTERIL, modern form, *Cotter*, appears to be used in two distinct senses; properly it = a *key*, or small iron wedge for securing a bolt, as just mentioned, but it seems also to be used as = a *bolster* as above.

DOGGE (Wing, 1578; S. Michael, Oxford, 1588). A Dog, or Gib, is a short iron with turned-down ends, which is passed through the slots in the lower ends of a pair of straps, and also through a pair of the side canons between the straps. The turned-down ends of the dogs prevent them slipping out.

FERRULES (? Wing, 1548; Clifton Reynes, 1684). An iron cylinder, used when a bolt is a good deal too long, taking the place of several *bolsters* (*quod vide*).

FORE LOCKES "for the Bell wheeles" (Gt. Marlow, 1617). **FORELOCKS** (*Ib.*, 1634). Perhaps identical with *Shearbands* (*quod vide*).

FORE LOOPES (*Ib.*, 1622). Probably identical with the last.

GARTER-HOLE, the hole in the sole of a bell-wheel, through which the rope passes.

GYMOLS "to staves for the belles" (S. Mary, Reading, 1637). Halliwell gives *gimmel*, as 'a sort of double ring curiously constructed.' The word, variously spelt, occurs several times previously in the same accounts, as a fitting "for seats," and once "for a seat dore," and Messrs. Garry explain it as from Lat. *gemellus*, a twin, = a double hinge. Query, does it here mean a double-hinged slider, like a parallel ruler; such as those still existing at Bledlow?

JERGER (S. Giles, Reading, 1570). Probably a hammer (jerker), for the clock "chyme."

KEY, a small iron wedge, to pass through the slot of a bolt, to secure it (see under *bolster*).

PATRON (of the clapper) (S. Lawrence, Reading, 1514-15). A patron is first, *one who supports*, later, *the head*. So that which supports the clapper may be the crown-staple, or perhaps the baldrick. Or the *head* of an old-fashioned clapper would be the loop at its upper end (see under *baldrick*). An even simpler explanation is that it was a *pattern* for making a new clapper by.

SHEARBANDS, that hold the wheels (S. Michael, Oxford, 1588), perhaps the clamp formerly employed for fixing the wheel to the stock; or possibly the *stays* of the wheel? or, the fillet-strap? *SHERBORNE* (S. Mary, Oxford, 1597) seems to be the same word.

SHOOT, TO—properly to *shut*. To join; so to weld iron; to join bell-ropes, *i.e.*, to *splice* them. Also to shoot a horse in, or out, of a trap, is to put a horse to, or to put him up.

SKYRT, TO—a bell (S. Gregory, Oxford, 1584), to fit it with a Stock. To *skirt* is to border, or run along the edge (transitive). Can a bell's canons be considered as its *edge* or *border*?

STIRRUP. Halliwell quotes from Florio, p. 68, as an explanation of stirrups, "Rings or iron bands that binde the shankes of the wheele, which we call the stirrops of a wheele." (The shanks are the spokes.) Perhaps a *stirrup* is a clamp on the transom, which was the old method of fastening the two halves of a bell-wheel together.

TRAYCE (S. Lawrence, Reading, 1502-3). A *wheel-stay* seems the most likely conjecture?

TRENDYLL (S. Lawrence, Reading 1502-3), perhaps = *trendle*, which means anything turned round; and probably signifies the *roller*, or *ground-truck*.

TRUSS, TO—to pack up, hence, to make ready: of a bell, to hang it, or to tighten it on its stock; perhaps identical in meaning with to *Skyrt* above.

PART I.

T H E

Church Bells of Buckinghamshire.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE in its widest extent contains two hundred and twenty-four parish churches, and five parishes which are so only in name, but contain at the present time either no church at all, or merely a ruin in which no service is held, and no bell still hangs. There are also twenty-six chapels of ease, of which the greater number were built within the last forty years, while some few are ancient.

This is a greater number of parishes than is included in the Arch-deaconry, but the omission of any whose history belonged to this county, even though not now included in its boundaries, would have lessened the completeness of the account.

Two parishes—Stoke Mandeville and Lee—have modern parish churches erected near the ancient buildings: as the latter are no longer used for service I have not included them in the above numbers. Other ancient churches—Stantonbury and Upton—are here treated as parish churches, and the modern upstarts—New Bradwell and Slough—as chapels of ease to those parishes. Eton College Chapel appears as a chapel of ease to the modern parish church of that place.

These two hundred and fifty churches contain

1 ring of 10 bells	=	10 bells.
13 rings „ 8 „	=	104 „
47 „ „ 6 „	=	282 „
45 „ „ 5 „	=	225 „
14 „ „ 4 „	=	56 „
<hr style="width: 10%; margin-left: 0;"/> Carried forward, 120	=	<hr style="width: 10%; margin-left: 0;"/> 677 „

Brought forward	120 rings	... ..	=	677 bells.
	57	„ of 3 bells	=	171 „
	12	„ „ 2 „	=	24 „
	61	single „	=	61 „
		Saunce and clock bells } in the above towers }		89
<hr style="width: 20%; margin: 0 auto;"/>				
	Total, 250 rings,	... comprising		1,022 bells.

Of this number only ninety-six, or a little more than ten and a half per cent., are certainly “ancients,” or of an older date than 1601. But among the forty bells with no inscription whatever, I have only reckoned one among the “ancients,” and it is possible that a few of the others ought to be included, though the large majority of them are probably of the seventeenth or eighteenth century.

If we assign a century, to the best of our abilities, to each *undated* bell, we get approximately:—

	6	of the	13th	century	(five of these, however, <i>may</i> be within
	13	„	14th	„	the first decade of the fourteenth
	35	„	15th	„	century).
	42	„	16th	„	
	330	„	17th	„	
	271	„	18th	„	
	325	„	19th	„	
	<hr style="width: 20%; margin: 0 auto;"/>				
	1,022				

There is some uncertainty in a few cases—odd as it seems to the lay mind—as to whether a place is a parish or not. Also it is quite possible that I may have overlooked the existence of some modern chapel of ease; or on the other hand, may have included some building which is not consecrated; so I am not prepared to guarantee the *absolute* accuracy of the above figures. The errors, however (if any), do not affect the purposes of this book more than—at most—the reckoning of one or two nineteenth century bells too many or too few.

The oldest bells with which we have to deal, are two of the "Early English" period of architecture. They were both at Caversfield, which place, since 1845, has been annexed to Oxfordshire; but it had been part of Bucks from the time of the Domesday survey at any rate, and Lipscomb, whose History was published in 1847, includes it in Bucks, without comment.

There was also in that tower another bell, dating from the middle of the "Decorated" period, which is described in due course. This almost unique ring existed until within the last twenty years; but then, alas, alas, that fatal infatuation—which has been so disastrous from the days of Aladdin downwards—the craving to get "new lamps for old," seized the authorities; and within a couple of years, two of these exceedingly interesting early examples were exchanged for brand-new ones. It may be alleged, for all I know to the contrary, that they were cracked; if so it was not unlikely to be the result of ill usage, and in any case they ought not to have been broken up, but either retained in the tower as relics, or sent to some museum, where they would have been more appreciated than they were by their natural custodians—the vicar and churchwardens.

For the sole record of these two destroyed bells we are indebted to the Rev. T. A. Turner, who visited the tower while they were still in existence, and has most kindly lent me casts of the inscriptions on both, together with a rubbing of the oldest.

This seems to have been the saunce; and the inscription, which was round the sound-bow, was reversed; having been scratched by hand on the cope, not stamped; as here printed it is much more legible than the original (as are also the letters as drawn on Plate I., the upper set):—

· I J J Ò P ? E · T N V R E O E F · A J J A P
P ? I T H ? ? I E · R O ? V · A · A J J I B I L L A · T A Q R A Q · Q V H

The words HUG(H), GARGAT, SIBILLA, and FECERUNT, are quite plain: for the complete inscription I suggest the following reading* :—

HUG[H] GARGAT[E] SIBILLAQ[UE] UXOR EJUS H[ÆC]
TIMPPANA (=TYMPANA) FECERUNT ECPONI (=EXPONI)

If I am right in reading HÆC TYMPANA (= these bells), the bell

* Mr. St. John Hope, Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries, who kindly examined the casts, etc., agreed as to its probable correctness.

next to be mentioned would doubtless be the other one referred to; otherwise I should consider it (judging solely by the improved execution of the inscription) as slightly the later of the two. It shall be described before the evidence as to the approximate date of the first-named is given.

This other bell still remains, and is a most curious specimen; with a very round shoulder, extremely long waist, and nearly the same size all the way down from shoulder to lip. Instead of the greatest thickness being at the sound-bow, and tapering thence to an edge at the lip, the thickness continues to increase, until it ends abruptly in a flat lip, two inches thick. Diameter at lip, $20\frac{3}{8}$ inches; height, without canons, $20\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The canons are about 7 inches high ($5\frac{1}{4}$ inches visible under the stock). As will be seen by a reference to Plate II., the lettering on this bell is very similar to that on the last (though this is more a question of period than of the individuality of the founder), but is bolder, and runs the right way forwards. This inscription is extremely legible, and has an initial cross, which the last named seems to have lacked:—

+ I N H O N O R E · D E I · E T S A N T I · L A V R E N C I I

I can offer no suggestion as to the founder, or founders, of these two bells, and have not seen another bell like the survivor, in England; but there is one somewhat similar (unfortunately without any inscription or stamp which might be a guide to its date) in Norway, at Ranem Church, in Namdalen, Nordre Thronhjem's Amt, which is one of the few stone Romanesque churches in that country.

As to the date of the Caversfield bells, it may, I think, be asserted with tolerable confidence, that the last mentioned bell, if not actually contemporary with the first mentioned, can hardly be so much as ten years its junior: and as to the first mentioned, it seems that at the beginning of the reign of Henry II., the then owner of certain estates among which the manor of Caversfield was included, entered a religious house; whether actuated by conscientious motives, or whether, having been rather a conspicuous adherent of Stephen, he had reason to feel that the world had now become too hot for him, we need not here stop to enquire. It is with what followed thereon that we are concerned. The king seized his estates, and gave this manor to Roger Gargate. How long he enjoyed its possession I have failed to ascertain, but in 10 Hen. II. (1164), he granted the church here to the abbey of Missenden, to take effect after the death of Guy, the

then rector.* This seems not to have taken place until 1225! in which year the Abbot and Convent of Missenden presented to the living for the first time. Willis,† giving no date, states that Hugh Gargate confirmed his father's donation, while Hugh's wife, Sibill de Caversfield, of White-minster, swore that she would not interfere. Hugh seems to have been in possession by 1207 (9 John), because in the *Fine Rolls* for that year, under

PLEG' Fulcoñ fīf Wař de fine Roř Le Vavasur q̄ suscep̄ i manū redde dño R. p̄
řđeo Roř.

comes

Huř Gargeť x. m̄.

He was probably living in 1216 (18 John), because in the *Close Rolls* for that year is:—

Rex Vič Norhamť řč. P̄cipim̄ ti qđ pacē hře facias Hugoñ Gargait s̄vienti dilci ř
fideř nři Wiři Briwe de Blidesworth de Rořto Russetť ř Wiřto Grandin s̄vientibz nři
qi ei insidianť ř iřm cape minanť ne p̄ eos dāpn̄m icurrat v̄l gavamē. T. řč.

He was dead by about 1219, as Kennett,‡ after quoting a deed|| in which his two daughters—Isabel (already a widow) and Muriel (wife of William de Ros) are mentioned, goes on to mention “Sybil de Kaversfeld, widow of Hugh de Gargat” (ego Sybilla de Kaversfeld quondam uxor Hugonis Gargat in pura viduitate). One is inclined to infer that there was either no son, or that he was at this time still a minor, and that therefore the “serviens dilectus” of 1216 was the original Hugh Gargate; but a namesake appears in the *Close Rolls* for 1256 (40 Hen. III.), who was doubtless a descendant. I have found other references to the family, but no others that assist our present purpose.

We may fairly conclude that this bell was cast within the first nineteen years of the thirteenth century, and that the survivor, if not contemporary,

* Browne Willis, *Hist. Buck. Hund.*, p. 165, “Ex Regist. *Missenden.*” I have referred to this “Liber Cartarii Monaſterii Beate Marie de Miſſendene,” written with great pains “p̄ fratrem Robertū de Welwes.” Brother Robert gives ten deeds concerning “Kauereffeld,” but unluckily omits everything of the nature of a date; so that I am not aware what authority Willis had for the above date. He writes Robert as the name of Hugh's father.

† *Op. cit.*, quoting from the same.

‡ *Parochial Antiquities*, 1st edit., 1695, p. 189.

|| “*Ex orig. penes Hon. D. Guil. Glynne Baronettum.*”

at any rate dates from within the first quarter of that century. The other destroyed bell will be described later on.

Next in age come five bells by a London founder, of whose work, curiously enough, not one example is known in any other county.

MICHAEL DE WYMBIS.

They are alike inscribed :—

✠ M I C H A E L : D E : U U W Y M B I S : M E : F E C I T

(See Plate III.) Two of them are at Bradenham, two at Old Bradwell, and one at Lee.

A reference to the first of these parishes, under Part III., will show that the bells seem to have come there about the middle of the sixteenth century, as if brought from some religious house at its dissolution ; and it is therefore obviously useless to try and find some theory to connect these three parishes, in explanation of the same founder appearing at these three, and nowhere else. The only differences between the inscriptions are that the Lee bell has a triple stop between the words ; the two at Old Bradwell seem to have been moulded in a transition period between the triple and double stops ; the third dot being distinguishable in a sort of half-hearted manner in places ; and the two at Bradenham have double stops. Further, the Lee and Bradwell bells spell Wymbis with UU ; those at Bradenham with VV.

Mr. J. C. L. Stahlschmidt has found* among the rolls of the Hustings Court at the Guildhall, in the City of London, a deed under date 1297, made between “Michael le Poter ciuis London,” and “Ade de Wirlee & Margte vxi ej^s filice mee.”

As this deed is given at length in “Surrey Bells,” in its original Latin, I give here an English rendering of it† :—

ADAM DE WIRLEE	}	On Monday the morrow of the festival of the Holy Trinity in the year of the reign of King Edward the twenty-fifth. In pleas of lands. In the presence of master John then mayor of the city of London ; of Thomas de Suffolk ; of Adam de Fuleham then Sheriff [of London] ; of Richard
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* *Bells of Surrey*, p. 5 *et seq.*, where the Bradenham bells are mentioned.

† I am indebted to my friend, Mr. A. E. Packe, B.C.L., for assistance with the law-terms, etc. ; and to Mr. Walter Rye, for subsequent correction of the text, and its translation.

Asshwy; of William de Bettoine; of John le Blount; of Thomas Romayn; of William le Mazener; of Henry le Boule; of Walter de Fynchingfeld; and of Solomon le Botelir, Aldermen, there was read a deed in these words—Let all present and future know that I, Michael le Poter citizen of London have given and granted and by this my present deed have confirmed to Adam de Wirlee and to Margaret his wife my daughter six marks* a year free from incumbrances,† to be received and taken at the four quarter days principal and usual in London, that is to say at each quarter day twenty shillings from all that tenement with all its appurtenances which I have in the parish of All Saints de Fanchurche, London, between the tenement of Peter le Lu towards the west, and the tenement of Hamo Box towards the east, and the King's Highway towards the south, and the tenement of the Prior of Warwick towards the north, which said tenement was formerly Adam de Auverne's, to have and to hold the before said six marks of annual rent free from incumbrances, and in the before said manner to be received by the before said Adam and Margaret his wife and the heirs of the same Adam and Margaret lawfully begotten in good faith freely quietly and in peace in fee and inheritance for ever paying thereout annually to the parish chaplain for the time being of the abovesaid church, five shillings at the four appointed quarter days, that is to say at each quarter fifteen pence to celebrate sixty masses of the Holy Spirit each year on Fridays or on Mondays, And to me, my heirs or assigns one Red Rose at the feast of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist for all other services, customs, exactions, lay demands, and things omitted, and I the before said Michael, my heirs and assigns will warrant and defend in consideration of the afore-said service, the afore-said six marks of annual rent free from incumbrances to the afore-said Adam and Margaret and to the heirs of the same Adam and Margaret lawfully begotten, against all men and women for ever—but for this gift, concession, warrant, defence, acquittance, and present confirmation of my charter the before-said Adam and Margaret have given me a certain sum of money by hand by way of fine, concerning which I declare that I am well content and satisfied, and that all the premises may obtain the strength of perpetual confirmation, I have ratified the present charter by the imposition of my seal. These being witnesses master John le Breton then mayor of the city of London, John de Dunstable and Adam de Hallingbury then Sheriffs‡ of the City: the above-said Adam de Rokeslee then Alderman of that Ward: Walter de Canterbury: Peter le Wolf: Walter le Fuller: John Buhs:§ William May: Paul le Poter: Nicholas de Hedelee and many others.

* A mark = 13s. 4d.

† Lit: freely and quietly given.

‡ They were Sheriffs, as Mr. Rye informs me, in 26 Edw. I. One of the Sheriffs in the previous year, when this deed is dated, was mentioned above.

§ Mr. Rye informs me that this name occurs as Buhze in the *Liber Custamarum*.

The identity of this Michael with Michael de Wymbish, is proved by another deed enrolled in 1310, being a conveyance from "Adam de Wyrle and Margaret his wife, daughter of Michael de Wymbish, late potter." This also shows that Michael was dead by this latter date. From the latter part of the thirteenth century, when bellfounders of London begin to be recognisable, until late in the fourteenth century, they almost invariably styled themselves "Potter," or by the Latin equivalent, "Ollarius"; and Mr. Stahlschmidt recognises them as founders as much by the locality in which they resided, as by anything else. For during the period in consideration, the bell-founding trade was almost certainly confined to one locality, namely—the extreme east of the city, Aldgate and Portsoken Wards.

In addition to Michael, Mr. Stahlschmidt has succeeded in finding records at Guildhall of three other individuals of the name of Wymbish,* of whom two at any rate were bellfounders; namely, Richard, first mentioned in 1303, and subsequently in 1307, 1313, and in 1315. His wife's name was Hilditha. Six of his bells are known; of which two are in neighbouring counties—(Goring) Oxon, and (Slapton) Northamptonshire. From the inscription on the former of these, it is inferred that Richard was casting from about 1290. The other bells by him are in Suffolk, Kent, and, until recently, two in Sussex; but one of these is now destroyed.

Ralph de Wymbish, potter, appears in 1308, but as no bells by him are known, it is uncertain whether he was a founder. Walter Wimbis, by whom there is one bell in Sussex, having dropped the "de" from his name, was probably somewhat later.†

The fact of Richard's name appearing in 1303, may *possibly* show that Michael was already dead at that date.

The next founder in point of date, of whose work we have an example in the county, is Peter de Weston, of London. At Tattenhoe there is

* Besides Sir Richard de Wymbissh, Prior of the Convent of the Church of the Holy Trinity, in London, and Alderman of the Ward of Bishopsgate without Alegate, 1316 to 1331 (*Cal. Ancient Deeds*, Record Office).

† Nicholas Wymbyss, or Wymbysch, was instituted Rector of Hanslope (Bucks), 25th March, 1419, on the presentation of the Earl of Warwick (Lipscomb, IV., 176); and on 20th June, 1434, he was presented to the Rectory of Olney, by Richard, Earl of Warwick and Albemarle; he ceded this in 1455, and died 1460, Canon of York and Archdeacon of Notts (*Ibid.*, p. 306). A Robert Wymbush died Rector of Fingest, in 1471 (*Ibid.* III., 566).

PETER DE WESTON. a small bell inscribed in unusually small Lombardic capitals (Plate VIII., the upper set) :—

+ P E T R V S : D E V E S T O N : M E F E C I T

Peter de Weston's name first occurs in 1328,* and again under date 1330, in the will enrolled that year of a kinsman of his, named Henry in the Lane, whose property was situated "in pochijis bē Marie atte Nax & scī Augustini paphai Londōn."† Peter was therein constituted trustee, and guardian to Henry's son William, then under age.

Mr. Stahlschmidt finds Peter mentioned in 1336, as apparently a citizen of good position; and in the list of the members returned to the first Common Council elected by the Wards, in the year 1347, his name stands at the head of the list for Portsoken Ward.

He died between August and October, 1347; his will being dated in the former month, and enrolled in the latter.‡

From it we learn that he described himself as a citizen and "Ollarius" (Potter); that his wife's name was Matilda; that he willed to be buried in the church of S. Botolph without Aldgate; that he was possessed of a tenement bought of the widow of "Richard de Essex," and that he had a tenant named William Schep. William Schep was a bellfounder, and it is matter of regret that the only known bell by him (in Norfolk) has been recently melted. The lettering on it was identical with one of the sets used by Richard de Wymbish; and it is not unlikely that Richard de Essex (just mentioned) and Richard de Wymbish were identical.

Peter's son, Thomas, apparently succeeded to his father's business, but both he and his mother, Matilda, died in 1349—the year of the awful "Black Death."

Mr. Stahlschmidt informed me that the single bell at Longfield, Kent, inscribed :—

+ W E L E L M V S : R E V E L : M E : F E C I T

is in the same lettering as the Tattenhoe bell. Revel was a London founder in 1356. At Fairstead, Essex, is a bell bearing Peter de Weston's name in a larger lettering; and at Gt. Waltham, a parish which adjoins Fairstead,

* *Bells of Kent*, p. 15. † *Surrey Bells*, p. 15. ‡ Given at length, *ibid.*, p. 17.

is a bell with similar lettering, but without initials. This larger lettering likewise passed subsequently into the hands of William Revel.

There are four bells (Isle of Wight one, Kent one, Sussex two,) with inscriptions in Lombardic capitals, but distinct from those above mentioned, bearing the initials, P. W., which may be also the work of Peter de Weston. There are other bells in Sussex and the Isle of Wight with this latter lettering, bearing the initial R. Peter de Weston was connected, as shown by his will, with more than one founder whose name began with that letter. But as we cannot identify any of them with any bells in this county, they need not here be mentioned.

The will of Peter de Weston's widow, Matilda, is dated 1348. Peter appears to have married her when the widow of Robert de Raughton, a "founder and worker of pots" (*i.e.*, a brass-founder, not *necessarily* a bell-founder), and by him she had one son, William de Raughton, likewise a founder, and a daughter, Alice. William's will,* in 1357, mentions the William Revel before alluded to; and one of the witnesses, Roger de Kyrkeby, potter, was also one of the witnesses of Peter de Weston's will. William Revel, besides owning at least two of Peter de Weston's alphabets, succeeded Schep in the possession of one of Richard de Wymbish's sets.

JOHN ROFFORD.

Three bells in the county, viz., the seconds at Little Missenden, Ravenstone, and Stoke Hammond respectively, are inscribed precisely alike, except that the first has a larger I (Plate IV., upper alphabet):—

+ A V € ; Ω A R I A

Mr. Stahlschmidt believed that they may be assigned to John Rofford, a London bellfounder at the middle of the fourteenth century. I am indebted to the former for the following document, which he found at the Record Office, showing the appointment of the latter as Royal bellfounder in 1367:—

Patent Roll 41 Edw. III. part 1. memb. 13.

Ɔ opaf capiend̄ R̄ univ⁹sis ⁊ singulis vicecomitib₃ maiorib₃ Ballivis ministris ⁊ aliis fidelib₃ suis ad quos t̄c̄ saŕm̄.

Sciatis q̄d afsignavim⁹ dil̄cm̄ nob̄ Joñem de Rughford̄ Belleyetef ad tot opaf̄ de mistera sua quot p̄ opacoib₃ n̄ris faciend̄ necesar̄ fu⁹int ubicūq̄ eos inveniri contiḡit sive inf̄a liŕtates sive ext^a feodo eccl̄ie d̄utaxat excepto ad opus n̄m̄ capiend̄ ⁊ eos in opacoib₃ n̄ris ad vadia n̄ra pouend̄ in

* *Surrey Bells*, p. 22.

eisdē moratuř put eis iniunget^r ex pte nra t ad capiend t arestand omes illos quos sibi in pmissis faciend contra inveniit seu rebelles t eos prisonis nris mancipand in eisdem moratuř quosq de eoꝝ delibacōe alit⁹ dux⁹ im⁹ ordinand Et ideo vob mandam⁹ qđ eidem Joħi in pmissis faciend t exequend intendentes sitis consulentes t auxiliantes quociens t quando idem Joħes vob vel alicui vřm scire fecit ex pte nra In cui⁹ tē T. B. apud Westm̄ xx die Juñ. p Conš

1367

Bells of this make may be almost described as common, even at the present day. The Royal Heads* (figs. 2 and 3) which appear so frequently on bells in so many of the counties whose campanological history has already been written, were originally the property of the founder of these bells. Of published counties, Bedfordshire has three examples by him; Cambridgeshire, four; Hertfordshire, two; Leicester, one; Northamptonshire, four; while Magdalen College School, Wainfleet, Lincolnshire, is said† to have an example, but if so, it must have come there second hand, as the school was founded 1484.‡

The Minster, Christchurch, Hants, has two examples, with two hexameter lines on each; as such long inscriptions are unusual on bells of that century, and as the county has not been published, I give them here:—

5. + SIT : NOBIS : OMEN : TOVZEYNS : CYM : SIT : TIBI
 : NOMEN [fig. 2] VIRTVS : CAMPANE : FACIAT : NOS
 : VIVERE : SANE
6. + MOX : AVGVSTINVS : HEC : DVM : RESONAT : PRECO
 : MAGNVS [fig. 2] ASSIS : FESTIVVS : PESTES : PIVS
 : VT : EVGET : AGNVS

* There are at least two distinct stamps of a King's head, and two of a Queen's. One pair, of rude execution, are supposed to represent Edward I. and his Queen Eleanor (*Bells of Gloucestershire*, p. 11). The other pair, well executed, are supposed to represent King Edward III. and his Queen Philippa. The first pair do not appear in Bucks, and one would have to get up the point by inspecting as many examples of the occurrence of both as possible, before pronouncing a decided opinion; but considering the early date of the first Edward (ob. 1307), and that no founder would have been likely to execute a stamp representing a monarch long past and gone, in preference to the living one, it seems far more probable that both (or *all*) the stamps represent Edward III. and Philippa. One finds duplicates or copies of any given stamp so frequent, as to be almost the rule. There are, however, three heads figured in *Bells of Devon*, which are obviously different.

† *Bells of Northamptonshire.*

‡ Kent has none, either by him, or by his successor, next to be mentioned.



Fig. 2.



Fig 3.

Mr. Stahlschmidt* has found a Philip de Ufford, a "potter," 1294-1316; he is mentioned as a benefactor to the Fraternity and Guild of S. Peter upon Cornhill, and his Will,† dated 1321, is given in a MS. volume relating to that Guild, in the possession of Sir G. W. Dasent.‡ William Burford,|| a London bellfounder, in his will, dated and proved, 1390, bequeaths £100 for masses for the souls of himself, of his parents, of his first wife, of "John Rufford," and of all the faithful departed. So that John was dead by that date.

WILLIAM RUFFORD. There was a William Rufford, also a bellfounder, who was probably John's son. By him, in all probability, is the tenor at Hardmead, inscribed:—

☒ V O C O R □ I O H J A N N E S

The cross and lettering are shown on Plate IV., lower alphabet; the stop is fig. 2. With regard to this cross, Mr. North and Dr. Raven figure two varieties (*Bells of Leicestershire*, figs. 24 and 25; and *Cambridgeshire*, figs. 7 and 8); but if these two figures are compared with the drawing on Plate IV., which is from a fairly distinct cast, the latter will be found to be intermediate in character between the two, and I venture to think that there is in reality only one stamp.

I have assigned the Hardmead tenor to William Rufford, on account of

* *Bells of Surrey*, p. 35.

† Published in the *6th Report, Historical MSS. Commission*, pp. 407, etc.

‡ The name is there spelt Philip de Rafford.

|| Mentioned again later on.

the initial cross and king's head, but the letters, though very similar, are distinct from the set figured in Plate X., *Surrey*, as belonging to him.*

Some of this (*Surrey*) set of lettering, with a different initial cross (Plate V.) occur on the second at Beachampton, inscribed:—

✠ NOS : PRECE : SANCTORVM : DEFENDAS : XPC
: TVORVM

The letters C, M, R, are different to those in Plate X., *Surrey*; and instead of the D there figured, the Surrey C, which is in reality an inverted D, fulfils here its proper function.

A bell with the same initial cross, and the same inscription, with the addition of the word OMNES after PRECE, is recorded by Mr. North at Radston in Northamptonshire, barely twelve miles distant from Beachampton; but the lettering is not described.

Mr. Stahlschmidt, to whom I applied for an opinion as to these two Bucks bells, thought the Hardmead bell may safely be referred to Rufforde. The lettering is found on a bell at Hexton, Hertfordshire, inscribed (with the same initial cross):—

✠ A V E : M A R I A

The Beachampton bell, with its somewhat "mixed" lettering, he pronounced "clearly a Midland Counties' bell." It is known that the Ruffordes' stamps found their way to Leicester and Nottingham, and it is possible that they were already in one of these two towns by the date this bell and that at Radston, Northamptonshire, were cast—probably during the second half of the fourteenth century. Moreover, it is not positively established that William Rufforde was a Londoner.

Among the fines for Bucks, Trin., 1 Edw. III. (1327), is one Inſ Joſinem de Offord de Neuport Paygnel queſ, & Roſtum Wemicſ & Agn uxem eius deforĉ de vno meſuagio cum ptiñ in Tykeford.

The odds are, perhaps, a hundred to one against this being the bell-founder in his younger days, but I mention it in case some other evidence should turn up in the future, in conjunction with which it might give a clue.

The former treble at Caversfield, for a cast of the inscription on which I

* A bell in the Surrey lettering, at Westmill, Herts, bears his name.

have to thank the Rev. T. A. Turner, was, without much doubt, a fourteenth century bell, and as surely, I think, a Londoner :—

+ O I N + K O K O R E + B E A T I + L A Y R E N C I I

The pretty little cross and letters are shown on Plate I., the lower set. I cannot find that they have been previously figured. The coin, which is quite unrecognizable in the cast, was, from its size, a silver penny ; being about $\frac{7}{16}$ of an inch in diameter. The founder is responsible for the spelling KOKORE, not his copyists.

EARLY BELLS, PROBABLY OF LOCAL MANUFACTURE, ROUND BUCKINGHAM.

THERE are within a radius of eleven miles from Buckingham, no less than nine bells, all apparently dating from the fourteenth century, by unknown founders,* besides the now destroyed treble at Caversfield, already mentioned ; and none such in any other part of the county. Most of them are within four or five miles of Buckingham ; one (not including Caversfield, which has no connection with the group) is about eight, and only one so much as eleven miles distant. Two of these bells are in border parishes of Northamptonshire and Oxfordshire respectively, and as this latter county has not yet been completely investigated, there is still a possibility of the group receiving additions.

Though all these bells are obviously not by the same founder, it is most probable that they are all of more or less local manufacture, and improbable that any of them are of London make.

One, namely, the single bell at Foscot, is blank, so that, although I have no doubt that it belongs to the fourteenth century, there is nothing more to be said about it here.

Five have the same initial cross ; and on three of these the lettering is identical : possibly the oldest is the treble at Little Linford :—

+ A V E M A R I A G R A C I A P L E N A

* The founder of one of the other fourteenth century bells in the county—namely, the second at Beachampton—as just mentioned, is uncertain. That place is about six miles from Buckingham. The tenor at Radston, Northamptonshire, is similarly inscribed ; the *treble* in that tower is one of the above nine.

The letters are spaced out equi-distantly, with no increase of space between the words, and no stop. The cross and letters are the upper set on Plate VI.

The treble at Barton Hartshorn (four miles from Buckingham), has:—

+ I A C O B U V S : E S T U N O M E N U E I V S

and the tenor at Newton Purcell, in Oxfordshire, but barely a mile from the last, has the same inscription as the Little Linford bell, but arranged thus:—

+ A V E : M A R V I A : G R A C I A : P L E N A U

The stop and shield are figured with the letters. The shield is *chevronée*, with the peculiarity that the chevrons are *inverted*. I write subject to correction, but so far as I have been able to make out, this inversion is merely an heraldic blunder. Messrs. Papworth and Morant's *Dictionary of Coats of Arms*, 1874, gives the following families having five chevrons as their coat, which is, I take it, equivalent to *chevronée*. I omit the tinctures, to which the bell stamp affords, of course, no clue: Hougham (London); Sutton, Denew, Avering or Evering (Kent); Abrincis or Averinges (Folkestone); and Strongbow, Earl of Clare. As Richard, Earl of Clare, great nephew of Strongbow (conjointly with William Marshall, Earl of Pembroke, grandson of Strongbow), succeeded to the Giffard property, c. 1189, becoming Earl of Buckingham, this shield may be intended for the arms of that family, though the connection is not at all obvious, as the family appears to have terminated in the female line early in the thirteenth century, a hundred years, or more, before the supposed date of these bells.*

The initial cross appears again on the treble at Thornton (four miles from Buckingham); but with distinct lettering (Plate VII.):—

+ S I C : P R O : E L I A H : M I C H A E L : D E V S : H T O , V E : M A R I A

The inscription furnishes a clue by which the approximate date of this bell may be inferred: "P R O E L I A H" (evidently the donor), perhaps refers to a rector of the parish—Elias de Tingewick—who was presented to the living by Roesia de Chastillon, in 1315. His successor was appointed in 1347.†

* Quite possibly, of course, it was simply a trade device of the founder's.

† Browne Willis (*Hist. Buck. Hund.*, p. 300) also supposes him to be the donor, and says he died in 1343.

This initial cross also occurs on the treble at Radston, Northamptonshire. Mr. North does not figure the lettering, but the character of the inscription being somewhat similar to that on the Thornton bell, it is not unlikely that they were the work of the same founder:—

+ **MI** : **CVH** : **LAVRENTI** : **FORNA** : **CHAMPANA** : **DECE** : **NTI**

At Chetwode the only large bell is inscribed in very similar lettering to the Thornton bell, but of a smaller size, and in an hexameter of similar character (Plate VIII., the lower set):—

✠ **ME** : **CIBI** : **XP̄E** : **DABAT** : **I** : **CHETWODE** : **QVEM** : **PERAMAVAT**

Browne Willis, *Hist. Buck. Hund.*, p. 178, and copying him Lipscomb, *History of Bucks*, Vol. III., p. 7, mention this bell, as “said to have been brought from St. Martin’s, the old Parish Church.” The present church was the choir of the priory, and the parish church having fallen into decay, the priory was opened for divine worship in 1480. (See *Records of Bucks*, III., p. 214.)

In this instance, we are troubled with an *embarras de richesse* in choosing a donor on whom to saddle this bell, as there were several John Chetwodes, Lords of the Manor; three during the reigns of Edward II. and III., of which Johns the third died c. 1347. Among the priests in the list given by Lipscomb, is John Hawes de Chetwode, instituted 1352, but he would hardly have recorded his name thus. It is a coincidence, not, perhaps, in any way influencing the inscription on this bell, that in the arms of Chetwode the four quarters are each charged with a cross *patée*, and the motto is, *Corona mea Christus*.

The same cross and lettering, with the addition of two rather peculiar stops, occurs in one other instance—the broken saunce at Leckhampstead:—

✠ **CRESCIT** **5** **ME** **v** **MIBI** **5** **RECET**

For suggestions as to the first word, *vide sub* Leckhampstead.

The stops are formed by dividing the long-tailed Q into three parts. The left-hand portion does not appear; the middle segment, consisting of the right half of the oval, and the beginning of the tail, forms the stop here shown by **v**. The right segment of the letter, consisting of the greater

portion of the meandering tail (used the reverse way up), is very fairly represented by 5.

From the fact of the stamps being apparently much worn, and the K being apparently made to do duty for both H and R, besides the partition of Q, this bell is probably later than that at Chetwode; but *how much* later, is a different question.

The tenor at Barton Hartshorn may probably be referred to early in the same century, though in this case, as at Little Linford, the absence of any stop between the words *may* be considered to show that it belongs to a later date; but there being no increase of space between the words, is a probable sign of antiquity. It is inscribed in lettering not unlike that on the other bell at Barton, already described; but the letters are, for the most part, broader, and somewhat clumsy; the cross also does not occur elsewhere, to my knowledge:—

✠ I H E S Y P I E R L O S M A R I E

See the lower set on Plate VI.

In spite of a great similarity between some of the letters in the two Barton bells, they are almost certainly by different founders, from the difference in the pattern of their heads (=the canons and crowns). Both have flat crowns, but that of the treble is considerably smaller than the tenor's: the treble has high canons, ornamented with rope pattern; those of the tenor are unusually low for an old bell.

The usual appellation for a bellfounder, until quite late in the fourteenth century, as already mentioned (p. 8), was *Potter*. This and *Porter* (a very easy corruption of the former) were common names in Buckinghamshire from the thirteenth century; and about the first half of the fourteenth century, one, John Porter of Barton Hartshorn, married Johan, daughter and heiress of Thomas Maudly, and granddaughter (and heiress through her mother) of Thomas Barton. His father, Henry de Barton, of Hartshorn, had a fine passed of lands and messuages in Barton, from Sibill de Kaversfeild, to him, 9 Hen. III. = 1225. The arms of this John Porter, as given in the *Visitation of Bucks*, by William Harley, Clarenceaux King at Arms, 1566,* are "sa. 3 Bells ar." His pedigree is there traced nine

* MS. Brit. Mus., 5181, fo. 80: and three other copies, one of which, 5867 (printed 1883), gives the tincture of the field as *Gules*.

generations down from him, and it is easy to amplify it ; * but I have not succeeded in working it backwards from him : one can hardly, however, resist the impression that the original possessor of these arms must have been a "Potter," although, as Mr. Stahlschmidt cautioned me, a local bellfounder would hardly have had a coat of arms.

I find the following early instances of the name or names in Bucks and adjoining counties :—

In Kennett's *Paroch. Antiq.*, 2nd edit., 1818, I., 247, is a deed dated 1213 (14, 15 John), in which Walter Borstard granted to Sir John Fitz Nigel, lord of Borstall and forester of Bernwood, certain land in Borstall and Brill, etc. In the latter place (Brehull) "Sampson le Poter" "et Walterus le Poter" held portions of the land in question.

In *Pedes Finium*, under Bucks and Beds :—

- 3 Hen. III. = 1219. Sim' le Poter (Terr.) Beston, † Beds.
 3 Edw. I. = 1275. Thom. fil. Thomæ le porter (Terr.) Neweport paynel.
 5 " " = 1277. Thom. le Poter de Donestaple ‡ (Terr.) Bollebrichull (= Bow Brickhill).
 14 " " = 1284. Wills. le Porter. (Mess. & Terr.) Hertwell.
 " " " " " " (? Terr.) Shyrington (= Sherington).
 37 " III. = 1364. Johes. Potter & Johanna uxor. (Mess. & Terr.) Evere (? Iver).

In the *Calendar of Ancient Deeds* at the Record Office (A. 1064, Herts), is a Release by Symon le Poter and Alice his wife, daughter of Payn de Therefeud (now Therfield, in the north of Herts), to Sir William the Abbot, and the Convent of Ramsey, of land in Therefeud, for the sum of fifteen marks : dated 1267–1285.

In addition to these *possible* traces of early local founders, it may be well to record here a clue to a bellfounder in Beds, of the latter part of the fourteenth century, which, owing to the lamented death of Mr. Stahlschmidt, might otherwise never be made known.

In a letter to me, dated 29th April, 1888, he wrote :—

"In the Patent Roll of 21 Ric. II. (1398), Tho^s Peyvre, John Rodlonde parson of the Church of Todington, Beds., and William Belmaker of Todyngton impleaded Adam Portreve and Hugh Sterthout for £10 13s. 4d. The defendants did not appear, were outlawed, and pardoned by the King.

* From Somerset House ; the Barton Hartshorn Registers, and the pages of Browne Willis' *Hund. of Buck.*, and Lipscomb, etc.

† I cannot identify this place.

‡ Dunstable, Beds.

“Now my old friend at the Record Office, who turned this up, is quite of opinion that the William in question was an actual Bellfounder by trade, and not a descendant retaining the trade name as a surname. I confess myself I am not quite clear on the point. Had he been called ‘le belmaker,’ I should have had no doubt. On the other hand, Toddington, a decayed village now, formerly a place of some consequence, lying handy to Dunstable and Woburn, is, I think, by no means an unlikely spot for a local founder.”

Toddington is about twenty miles from Buckingham.

FIFTEENTH CENTURY BELLS.

The foregoing brief account of the fourteenth century bells which still remain in Bucks, has shown a sequence to some extent among such of their founders as have been identified; while the later founders who have yet to be mentioned, seem to be “mixed up” to an almost bewildering degree; in several instances stamps continued in use for centuries; and occasionally two distinct founders used (duplicates of) the same stamp simultaneously.

(**STEPHEN NORTON,**) This division of the fourteenth century bells from those of later date is merely an arbitrary one, for convenience sake, for there was of course no break in the continuity of the founders with the *fin de siècle*.

(**WILLIAM BURFORD,**) With the fifteenth century, black-letter “small,” or “minuscules,” were introduced, and the use of Lombardic capitals was restricted to the initial of each word. Any bell, therefore, inscribed in this combination, to which Mr. Tyssen has suggested to me the convenience of giving the name “Mixed Gothic,” may, with tolerable safety, be assigned to a date subsequent to 1400;* the next twenty years being a period of transition, during which the two styles overlapped. The first such bell to be noticed, not

because it is the oldest, but for convenience in disposing of one of two contemporary foundries, is the tenor at Thornton, inscribed:—

❖ Sum Rosa Pulsata Mundi Maria
Vocata ❖ ∪

* See *Surrey Bells*, pp. x. and 49; also *Kent*, p. 5, where 1390 is given as the approximate date of the introduction of black-letter.

The shield at the end (fig. 4), known as the "Cross and Ring" Shield, shows the bell to be by Richard Hille, a London founder of the first half of the fifteenth century. The large handsome capitals and the cross are figured in Plate IX. They closely resemble, except in size, a crowned set (Plate XI.), which belonged originally to Stephen Norton, a founder who rather vaguely described himself on his bells as "De Kent." The place of his foundry is not known with certainty, though Mr. Stahlschmidt considered that Maidstone was, on the whole, the most likely spot.* He was buried in All Hallows' Church in that town, but the date is not known.† Mr. A. D. Tyssen has found his name in the *Pedes Finium*, under date 1363,‡ and a bell formerly at Dover Castle, with a very curious inscription, showed that he was alive in 1381. It is quite likely that he possessed more than one set of letters.

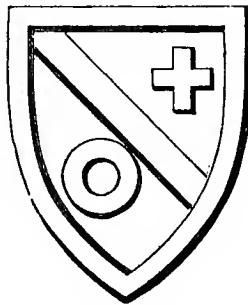


Fig. 4.

There appears to be some sort of succession|| (more or less vague) as follows:—

Stephen Norton, as above, "of Kent." Known date, 1363 to 1381.

William Burford, of London, died 1390. His will is printed in *Surrey Bells*, p. 38.

Robert Burford, his son, also of London, who died shortly after September 25th, 1418, and whose will is also given in *Surrey Bells*, p. 42.

Richard Hille, first appears in the Guildhall Records, in 1423. His history—and more especially his wife's—have been most ingeniously worked out by Mr. Stahlschmidt in *Surrey Bells* (p. 49, *et seq.*), so I need not here repeat all the evidence piecemeal, but may take the

* *Bells of Kent*, p. 20.

‡ Quoted, *Kent*, p. 17.

† *Surrey Bells*, p. 27, and *Kent*, p. 19.

|| See *Herts*, p. 22.

facts there adduced, as proved, and retail the various items in due season.

There are several bells connected by lettering and stamps with this Thornton example, but as they want Hille's distinctive trade mark (the shield, fig. 4), there is some uncertainty as to their exact place. They shall be described *seriatim*.

The same inscription, with the same capitals and initial cross, occurs at Limpsfield, Surrey, but without the shield; as, however, this bell is a recast, and the inscription is therefore a reproduction, it is *possible* the shield was there originally, though in *Surrey Archæological Collections*, 1869, Vol. IV., p. 242, in an account of Limpsfield Church, the bells are mentioned before they suffered "re-casting," and nothing is said about this shield. I do not know whether the black-letter are the same.

The same inscription is on the sixth bell at Gloucester Cathedral, in the same capitals, and with the same initial cross but on an octagonal ground (fig. 5), and also the cross, fig. 6 (shown in Plate X. on a lozenge); but without the shield. The black-letter are a broader set.

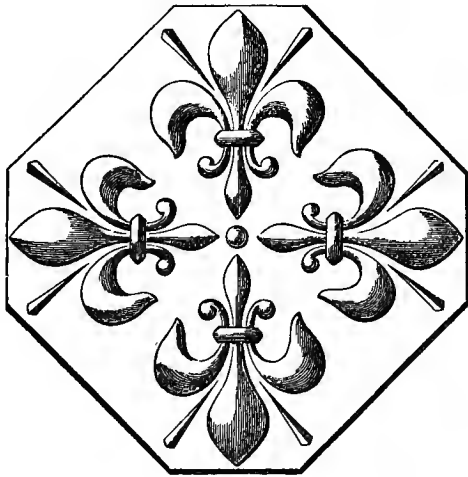


Fig. 5.

The sixth bell at Sudbury All Saints, Suffolk, has the same inscription and crosses as the Gloucester sixth. The capitals are figured by Dr. Raven as belonging to a bell at Sudbury S. Peter, but I venture to suspect a confusion between the two towers on the part of the learned author, as the capitals on the three Mixed Gothic bells in the latter tower are quoted as

crowned.* (The three Sudbury S. Peter bells bear the trade mark of a founder to be mentioned a little further on, who seems to have been a subsequent owner of this foundry.)

The seventh bell at Gloucester Cathedral, a recast in 1626, has the inscription set *backwards*, and *impressed*, evidently squeezed on the cope from the old bell :—

Missi De Celis Habeo Nomen Gabrielis

This is, or was, the same lettering, and it also has the same two crosses, both, this time, on lozenges, but not the shield.†

A bell in the clock tower at S. Albans (Herts) has the *Gabriel* inscription ; and the octagon form of fig. 6, twice.

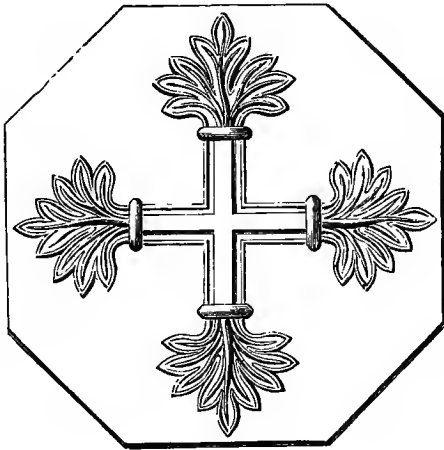


Fig. 6.

* Since the above was in type, Dr. Raven has kindly informed me by letter, that the Sudbury All Saints' bell is, as I supposed, similar to the Gloucester bell. The Sudbury S. Peter's tenor, with the same black-letter, has crowned capitals, which are evidently those to be mentioned directly as on a bell at Shenley (Plate X.). The fifth bell at Sudbury S. Peter, probably has the same lettering as the tenor, while the fourth bell there evidently has the capitals which are known to have been originally Stephen Norton's (Plate XI.).

† The remainder of the inscription, which is not quite accurately given in *Bells of Gloucestershire*, is (also reversed, but in relief)—: E W : T : 1626 : and on the crown (this time the right way about), the date is repeated, with the initials : I : P :

The tenor at Shenley has a slight variety of the above :—

✠ [♁]Missi [♁]De [♁]Celis [♁]Habeo [♁]Nomen [♁]Amen
[♁]Gabrelis † ⊕

Notice the omission of the aspirate in *Habeo*, and of the first *i* in *Gabrielis*, and the transposition of the last two words. From the position of the initial cross the line must of course begin with *Missi*, but it would make the prosody no worse, and be in other respects an improvement, to begin with *Gabrēlis*. The coin is probably the reverse of a groat ; it is very indistinct, but seems to measure 1·2 inches diameter, which is rather larger than most of the coins of that value.

The crowned cross and capital letters (Plate X.) are very similar to the set known to have belonged to Stephen Norton, but are half as large again. The black-letter are identical with the set used at Gloucester, and presumably with the three other bells, which I have not seen.

The present set of capitals has not, so far as I am aware, been previously figured. The cross *fleuronnée* (fig. 6) is a rare one, and has generally been credited with an octagonal ground, as here figured, though Mr. Ellacombe is wrong in stating that it is so at Gloucester, where it is a distinct lozenge. In the present instance, the edges of the lozenge are very rough, and ill defined, the stamp having probably been cut down to this form (Plate X.) from the original octagon.

The octagonal form (fig. 6), occurs also on the sixth bell formerly at S. Werburgh's Church, Bristol, together with a larger edition of fig. 7 (slightly floriated), and the *Campana Johannis* inscription, which I give in full under the next bell, as the lettering on the Bristol bell is not described by Mr. Ellacombe.

The fifth bell at Gloucester Cathedral is inscribed :—

† In Multis Annis Refonet Campana Johannis †

The crosses are figs. 7 and 8.

The capitals, samples of which are shown in fig. 9, are assigned, in *Bells of Kent*, to William Burford, and after him, mixed as here with black-letter smalls, to Robert Burford ; and I think there is no reason to doubt that he was the maker of this Gloucester bell.



Fig. 7.

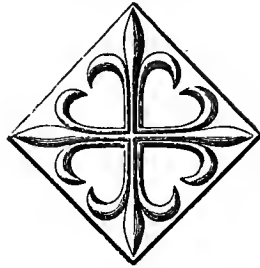


Fig. 8.

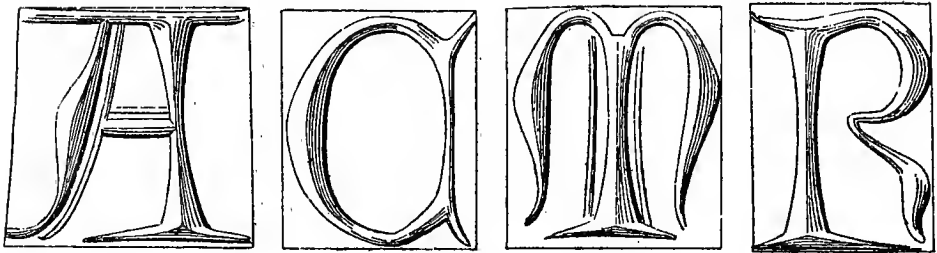


Fig. 9.

The old ring at Thornborough—sad to relate—gave place, in 1861, to a ring of *steel* bells, but as some slight set-off, the inscriptions on the old ones were rather carefully copied into the Marriage Register Book, whatever devices and founders' marks were on them, being, however, omitted.

The second bell there—less these important factors—was inscribed like the last named; the lettering being, I have no doubt from the drawing, identical. We may with tolerable confidence assign this bell also to Robert Burford. To his credit also I would place the seven above mentioned,* although Mr. Stahlschmidt† was inclined to assign the S. Albans bell to the early part of the sixteenth century. It is with considerable hesitation that I differ from his experienced opinion, but he was not in possession of the *data* furnished by the Bucks bells, and especially the Thornton example; and his opinion of the Gloucester bells was only formed from the imperfect description in Mr. Ellacombe's History of the Bells of that county.

The Burfords' capitals (with black-letter) appear in Surrey on two bells, which bear, in addition, Hille's cross-and-ring shield, *viz.*, the third at East Horsley, and the single bell at Headley: the black-letter is a different set

* Beginning after the Thornton tenor, top of p. 21.

† *Bells of Herts*, p. 27.

to that employed on a bell at Merstham in that county, which is attributable to Robert Burford.

Elsewhere (Horton, Northamptonshire) Richard Hille's shield has been found in company with the initial cross on Plate XI., and figs. 10 and 11 seem to have been commonly used by him.

It should be noted that the cross here engraved as fig. 7, was used in succession by Robert Burford, Richard Hille, John Sturdy, and Johanna Sturdy; and is stated by Mr. L'Estrange (*Norfolk Bells*) to have been occasionally used by some of the Brasyers, bellfounders of Norwich, of whom the last died in 1513—in this case on an oblong ground. There are no bells by the Brasyers in Bucks, though some of their letters and other stamps occur, as will be seen further on.* The cross appears again in the possession of William Culverden, a London "brazier," of the early part of the sixteenth century, mentioned in due course, but of whose work there is no example in this county.

We have therefore five sets of capitals, of similar pattern, used by different individuals more or less connected with each other, *viz.*, Stephen Norton's crowned set, and an almost identical set uncrowned, used by Richard Hille (Plate XI.); the large crowned Shenley set (Plate X.); the largest uncrowned set used at Thornton (Plate IX.); and John Sturdy's small set (Plate XI.), which we come to a few lines further on; besides William Burford's set (fig. 9).

Richard Hille died in 1440; his will is dated 3rd May in that year.†

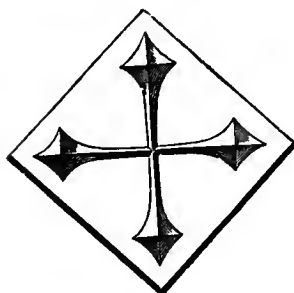


Fig. 10.

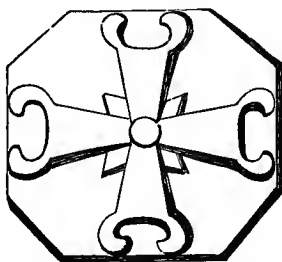


Fig. 11.

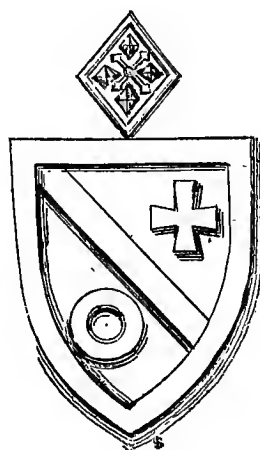


Fig. 12.

* See under Watts, B. Atton, and J. Carter.

† Given in *Surrey Bells*, p. 49.

JOHANE HILLE. After his death his widow, Johane, kept the business on, and there is one bell by her still extant in the county, namely, the only bell remaining at Castlethorpe. It has no inscription, but two crosses (figs. 10 and 11)—the latter roughly trimmed, so as to be almost lozenge-shaped, and not as here figured, an octagon—and the “cross and ring shield,” surmounted by a lozenge, indicative of widowhood. This is not the lozenge shown in fig. 12, but is figured as No. 3, in Plate XI., and appears to be a smaller edition of the stamp used by an unknown founder on the third bell at Little Hadham, Herts. It has not been previously figured, so far as I know.

Widow Hille eventually married another bellfounder, named John Sturdy. His bells are known by his initials in small capitals (Plate XI., the small set, also fig. 13), on each side of the copy of the reverse of a half-groat, such as was current at the time, but whether the stamp was taken from one contemporary with the commencement of Sturdy’s business, or somewhat



Fig. 13.

older, it is impossible to determine. The exact size is shown in fig. 14, but not the legend, which, in the examples that I have seen, is confined to the inner circle, and is there apparently blundered, forming no words. Quite possibly, however, he may have owned more than one coin stamp. For the initial letters in his inscriptions, Sturdy generally used the handsome crowned capitals which formerly belonged to Stephen Norton (upper set on Plate XI.), with the smalls used by Robert Burford at Gloucester and Thornborough.

There are three bells by him in this county; one at Adstock, inscribed as described:—

❖ Sancta [☉] Anna [☉] Ora [☉] Pro [☉] Nobis ❖ I ⊕ S

The initial cross is the first on the same plate, and that at the end, No. 7 on the same.

The two other examples by Sturdy are sanctus bells at Chesham and Stoke Hamond, and have no inscriptions beyond the $\text{I} \oplus \text{S}$, preceded by the cross, No. 2 on Plate XI., and the Chesham bell has also No. 4 on that plate.

The second bell at Gloucester Cathedral is by John Sturdy, in his *small* capitals, with the above black-letter, which are slightly taller than the capitals. The inscription is correctly quoted by Mr. Ellacombe, except that t should be omitted from *Sancte*.

John Sturdy died in 1458, and again the energetic **JOHANE STURDY.** Johane, once more left a widow, continued to cast bells on her own account. There is one such example in the county, the treble at Beachampton, inscribed in Hille's smaller lettering (like Stephen Norton's, but without crowns, Plate XI.):—

✻ I \oplus S Sancta **M**argareta Ora Pro **N**obis

The initial cross is No. 2 on that Plate, on an octagonal, instead of lozenge-shaped ground: in fact, the ground on the two above-named impressions is not quite identical, that at Stoke Hamond being trimmed off quite close round the pattern, instead of leaving a little margin, as in the Chesham example, selected for engraving.



Fig. 14.

The Beachampton bell is identified as by John Sturdy's widow by his trade mark, $\text{I} \oplus \text{S}$, with the coin between them, the latter surmounted by a small lozenge, which, as before in the case of Johane's first widowhood, is heraldically indicative of that condition (fig. 14). The lozenge, however, is more correctly shown as No. 6, on Plate XI.

Johane only survived her second husband for three years, dying in 1461, leaving a daughter, likewise named Johane, by her first husband (Hille). She married a bellfounder named Henry Jordan, of whose works, "honourable mention" is made further on, together with his predecessors', who had been also casting bells in London, side by side with the founders just mentioned.

Connected with this foundry by stamps, and apparently **KEBYLL.** later in date than the last mentioned, are bells bearing the shield fig. 15—the arms of the family of Kebyll, or Keble. Of these there are two examples in Bucks, and their existence has brought to light a former connection between two parishes that had been quite overlooked in county history.

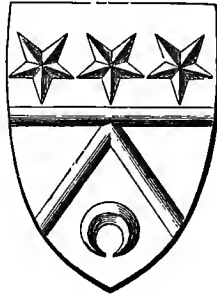






Fig. 15.

The tenor at Chesham Bois has:—

+ Sancte Andrea Ora Pro Nobis  

The capital letters are John Sturdy's small set (Plate XI.); the cross is No. 8 on that plate; the crowned *fleur-de-lis* is on the same, and the shield is fig. 15. The minuscules are a smaller set. And the tenor at Little Linford:—

× Johannes Vylleby Me Fieri Fecit  

Lettering, crown (without *fleur-de-lis*), and shield, as before; the cross is No. 5 on the same plate.

For the likelihood that these two bells, at nearly opposite ends of the county, were given by the same donor, or at least that the choice of a founder for the second of the two (whichever it was), was influenced by the selection previously made for the former, see under Little Linford. There were two Sir John Willoughbys in succession. The exact date of neither

is known ; but the former was probably dead by not later than 1450, and the latter by 1480—and very likely both died as much as ten years, or more, earlier than these—rather extreme—dates. This is the nearest approach yet made towards arriving at Keble's date, about whom nothing is known, and his name is only inferred from the coat of arms. A John Kebyll, member of the Wheelwrights' Guild, did some bell-hanging for the Church of S. Stephen, Walbrook, in 1480. *Possibly* he was the bellfounder. A Sir Henry Kebyll was Lord Mayor in 1510. The shield occurs on *three* bells at Sudbury S. Peter, Suffolk, with some of the crowned capitals above mentioned (Plates X. and XI).*

We have now to deal with what I cannot help looking upon as the main line of the English bellfounders, working in Aldgate and Portsoken Wards, London,† though in two or three places our present state of knowledge does not enable us to supply a missing link, and thus to show its absolute continuity.



Fig. 16.

**(WILLIAM
DAWE *alias*
FOUNDER.)**

The first name that appears in this long line (if I may so consider it) is William Dawe, better known as William ffounder. His bells all have the circular stamp, with the name William ffounder, shown in fig. 16. In this county it is only found on a bell cast at *Reading*, some hundred and fifty years after Dawe's death (see Radcliffe). To Mr. Stahlschmidt is due the credit of discovering William's real surname.‡

* Mr. Stahlschmidt, in letter dated 21st Sept., 1887, stated that the black-letter on these bells was one of the *Reading* sets. It may be well to mention, in order to save any possible future confusion, that (though similar) they are quite distinct sets. See foot-note, p. 22.

† *Surrey Bells*, p. 2.

‡ *Surrey Bells*, p. 46; *Kent Bells*, p. 25.

His date is approximately, 1385 to 1418. He seems to have called himself William founder, to distinguish himself from a namesake who was a "white tawyer," or dresser of white leather, and who may perhaps have been the founder's father.

**(WILLIAM
WODEWARDE.)**

Very much mixed up with William Dawe, is the next founder on the list, William Wodewarde.* Mr. Stahlschmidt (*Bells of Kent*, p. 23) gives his date, from researches at Guildhall, as 1395 to 1420. He thinks there may well have been a partnership between the two, which would explain the confusion, and that some of Dawe's stamps, on his death, passed to Wodewarde. To him Mr. Stahlschmidt ascribed the original possession of the very handsome large capitals used by a successor at Wingrave (see Plate XIII.).

Dawe appears to be referred to in *Pell Records* (Record Office), *Issue Rolls of 8 Richard II.*, May, 1385, in a bill "for the price of 12 guns, 2 iron 'patella,' 120 stones for the guns, 100 lbs. of powder, and 4 stocks of wood purchased of William the founder, of London," for the fortifying of Dover Castle.†

Wodewarde likewise appears, though not as a bellfounder, in *Pell Records, Issue Roll* (Record Office), *Easter 4 Hen. V.*, 5 June, 1416:—

Simoni flete Armigeꝝ custodi priuate Garderobe dñi Regis infra Turrim london In denaꝝ sibi libatis p manus Willi Wodewarde ffounder sup empcōē † puidenĉ canonū † puluōis p canoñ ac alt⁹ius estuffamenti p viagio Regis super mare recipient⁹ denaꝝ de xva † xa sup^a dcis xl li.

In plain English:—

To Simon Flete Esq^{re} Keeper of the King's private wardrobe within the Tower of London. In money paid him by the hands of William Wodewarde founder for the purchase and providing of cannon and powder for the cannon and other stuff for the King's voyage over sea. The money will be received (*i.e.* taken) from the aforesaid 15th and 10th.‡ £40.

**JOHN
WALGRAVE.**

It is probable that Dawe's successor—rather than Wodewarde just mentioned—was John Walgrave, who had been sometime his foreman. It is possible he had

* The apparent mixture and confusion of these two founders has been gone into at length in *Bells of Kent*, and *Bells of Suffolk*, and as Bucks has no example by either of them, it is unnecessary to repeat the details here.

† *Surrey Bells*, p. 46.

‡ It appears from an earlier entry on the Roll referring to Simon Flete, that this 15th and 10th were granted by the clergy and laity to the king in his second year.

set up on his own account before Dawe's death, otherwise his date may be put at about 1418* to 1440.

The only known document in which Walgrave's name occurs, is the will of John Plot, proved in 1408 (interesting as one of the earliest wills in the English tongue, and published as such by the Early English Text Society), in which there is a bequest as follows:—

“Also my will ys that John Walgraue seruaunt of Wyllyam Fondour haue of my gode iij. iiij*d*.”

Four of Walgrave's bells survive in Bucks.

The treble at Astwood:—

✠ Sancta Katerina Ora Pro Nobis ∇

The second in the same tower:—

✠ Sit Nomen Domini Benedictum ∇

The third at Tingewick:—

✠ Nomen Magdalene Campana Gerit Melodie ∇

And the tenor at Old Bradwell (alas! cracked):—

✠ Vox Abgostini Sonet In Abre Dei ∇

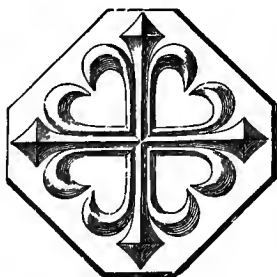


Fig. 17.

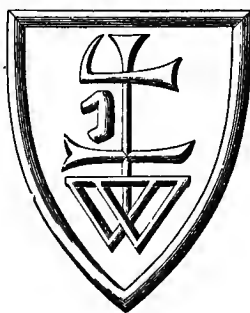


Fig. 18.

In each case the initial cross is fig. 17, the lettering is shown on Plate XII. and the inscriptions end with his foundry stamp, fig. 18.

* *Bells of Kent*, p. 31.

**(WILLIAM
POWDRELL.)
ROBERT
CROWCH.**

Walgrave was (probably) succeeded by Robert Crowch, but the exact date is not known. His name appears as a legatee in the will of William Powdrell, bellmaker, who died 1439.* Powdrell's will is dated 21st October, in that year, and proved two days later. The only two known examples of his work were in Kent (one is now melted). They bore the capitals shown as fig. 29, on Plate XII., and a small cross afterwards used by Johanne Sturdy.

Bucks possesses one specimen by Crowch—at Hardmead—but, alas! broken in two halves transversely, and lying on the floor of the intermediate loft in the tower (the clock-loft in towers possessing that instrument), inscribed:—

∪ Tox Augustini Sonet In Aure † Dei ∪

The capital letters and cross are the same as Walgrave used; the "smalls" are rather smaller and proportionally broader; the foundry stamp, at the end, with Crowch's initials, is fig. 20, and the first shield is



Fig. 19.

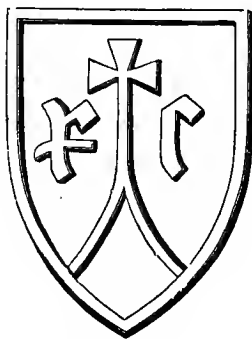


Fig. 20.

fig. 19, the Royal Arms of all the Kings of the House of Plantagenet, except the first and last; that is to say, from (at any rate) the appearance of the Second Great Seal of Richard I., about A.D. 1195, until 1340, when Edward III., in the thirteenth year of his reign, claimed to be King of France as well as of England, and quartered the arms.† It is therefore tolerably

* *Bells of Kent*, p. 43.

† Boutell's *English Heraldry*, 5th edit., 1883, p. 268.

evident, that as this had ceased to be the blazoning of the Royal Arms for a century before Crowch's time, he is not likely to have been the original owner of the stamp; but no older bells are known on which it occurs. Powdrell, in his will, desires to be buried at S. Botolph, Aldgate, next to William Stokes, his former master. The original owner may have been a predecessor of his.

JOHN DANYELL. Crowch was (apparently) succeeded by John Danyell, by whom we have four bells. The treble at Edgcott has:—

✠ Sancta Katerina Ora Pro Nobis ∩ †

The third at Little Missenden:—

✠ Sancta Margareta Ora pro Nobis † ∩

The third at Weston Turville:—

⊕ Sit Nomen Domini Benedictum ∩ †

And the tenor at Wingrave:—

⊕ [∩]Intonat [∩]De [∩]Celis [∩]Vox
[∩]Campana [∩]Michaelis † ∩

The first three of these bells have the same capitals as were used by Walgrave and Crowch; and Walgrave's smalls, except at Edgcott, where the smalls are a smaller set, but distinct from Crowch's. The initial cross on the first two is fig. 17 again. This cross has sometimes an octagonal ground, and sometimes a lozenge,* and this at first I considered as a difference to be carefully noted; but I am now sure that it is only caused by the founder's series of stamps being generally if not always in duplicate, if not triplicate, or even more; and the matrix being made of different forms. In the case

* And it also occurs (*e.g.*, in Northamptonshire), but not in Bucks, on a square (fig. 21), and a circular ground.

of some few, rare stamps, such as the cross *fleuronnée* at Shenley, which occurs both as a lozenge and an octagon; the former shape may probably denote use late in the stamp's lifetime, as the corners of a stamp might be shaved off, say, from a square to octagon, and from octagon to lozenge, but could not be altered the reverse way.

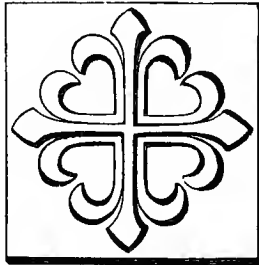


Fig. 21.

The small floriated cross after each of the four inscriptions is fig. 22; and the shield at the end of all four is the Royal Arms of England as adopted by Henry IV. about 1405 (fig. 23),* and which continued in use until the end of Elizabeth's reign, 1603. On the two last bells the shield is crowned, fig. 24 (see p. 36).

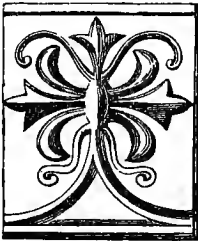


Fig. 22.



Fig. 23.

The initial cross on the Weston Turville bell is the exceedingly pretty one engraved as fig. 25, with the legend, *.ih̄u. merci. ladi. help.*, while the extremely interesting and pretty initial cross on the Wingrave bell is fig. 26.

* The intermediate form between this and fig. 19 was, that the French quarterings bore a *semée* of *fleurs-de-lis*, instead of three.



Fig. 24.

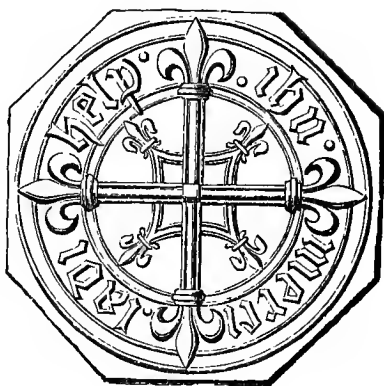


Fig. 25.

This is so rare, that its very existence has been doubted by the best-informed campanologists. It is only known to exist elsewhere at West Monkton, Somerset; another example was formerly in the old "clochard" at King's College, Cambridge, but the bell bearing it was, with the rest of the ring, sacrilegiously sold to Messrs. Lester and Pack, of Whitechapel, in 1754.

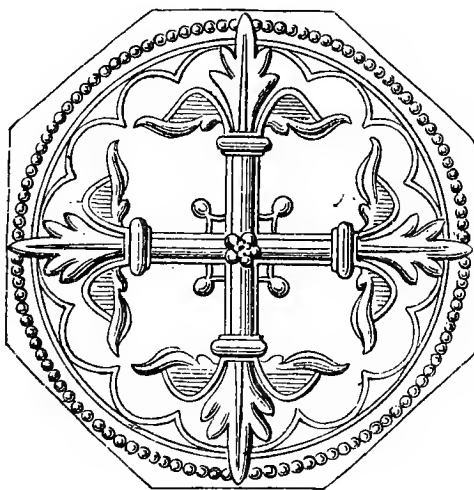


Fig. 26.

Campanists are much indebted to Mr. J. W. Clark, for publishing (*Camb. Antiq. Soc. Comm.*, Vol. IV., p. 223, etc.) a most interesting paper on those bells, from information contained in the old account books known as *Mundum Books* of that college.

The lettering on the Wingrave bell consists of large handsome crowned capitals (Plate XIII.), formerly used by William Wodewarde, and smalls to match. The lettering occurs twice in Hertfordshire, one example being by Danyell's predecessor, Walgrave, and the other by his successor, Jordan ; and in Northamptonshire it occurs three times on bells by Jordan ; and on one by the latter on the Bucks border of Oxon.

The lettering on the former treble at Thornborough was evidently the same as that on the Wingrave bell, with the somewhat unusual inscription :—



It was probably by one of the three founders last named, but as all devices are omitted from the record in the Marriage Register book, we cannot determine its author.

The sole replica of this inscription that I know of, is on a bell by Culverden, who has been already alluded to as possessing one of Hille's and Sturdy's stamps. He will be again mentioned when we come to his date, about 1506 to 1522. This bell is at Takely, Essex, and is noticed by Dr. Raven in a postscript at the end of *Bells of Cambridge*, 2nd edition, and in *Bells of Suffolk*, p. 38. The lettering is not specified, which makes one suppose that it is not these large handsome letters.

The only documentary evidence concerning Danyell is contained in the old *Mundum Books* at King's College, Cambridge, before mentioned, from which we learn that he combined the trade of a vintner with that of a founder, and in 1460 supplied some wine to the college :—

“ Item sol' Danyel Belfounder v^{to} die Sept' in partem solucionis de
 cvj^s viij^d sibi debitis pro .j. dolio vini liij^s iiij^d.”

From the same source we get an idea of his date ; from 1458 to August, 1460, being the time of his Cambridge transactions. Mr. Stahlschmidt* suggests, as an explanation of the puzzle as to the Royal Arms shield being sometimes with, sometimes without a crown, that Danyell, “ evidently, after having cast some bells for the lately founded Royal College, considered himself entitled to place the Royal Arms on bells cast for other churches

* *Bells of Herts*, p. 22.

by him. Tradesmen of the present day, as the daily papers have just shown us, are of a similar mind."

Shortly after 1460, Danyell was succeeded by Henry
HENRY Jordan, or Jurden, as the name is written in the *Mundum*
JORDAN. *Books* of King's College, where he was employed in 1466, to re-cast some of Danyell's ring.*

He was a citizen of London, and a member of the Fishmongers' Company, as was his father, Giles, who was descended from a Leicestershire family. A dilapidated brass exists in Loughborough Church in that county to the memory of Giles Jordan, and Margaret, his wife, who are supposed to have been Henry's parents; but according to Henry's will his parents (Giles and Margaret) were buried at S. Botolph's, Aldgate, London. The date on this brass, which is now illegible, is said to have been 1455.

Mr. Stahlschmidt, in that storehouse of information, *Surrey Bells*, p. 60, *et seq.*, gives Henry Jordan's will, from a copy in the possession of the Fishmongers' Company. It occupies very nearly nine and a half pages, in type similar to the present, and in addition there is a codicil occupying fully one and a quarter pages more; or, together, nearly eight pages of the size of this book. It is dated 15th October, 1468, but was not enrolled at Guildhall until 1470. So that he died sometime during that interval, probably in the latter year, as his will describes him as being at the time it was written, "hoole of mynde and in good helth of body." His wife was, as before stated, Johanne, daughter of Richard and Johanne Hille, and was an heiress by her father's will:—

"I^o lego Joſine filie mee c marē in ꝑcunia num̄ata & valenē at c marē de bonis meis vt in denariat shope me spectant^o."

Jordan, in his will, leaves various sums of money for masses for his own and his wife's souls, and those of his and her parents; of which bequests I shall content myself with quoting one:—

"And I wolle also that the same Preest and evry of his successos evry day at his masse after the Gospell said and doone shall turn hym from the Aulter into the Churche warde and shall prey and openly say these words for the Soules off Henry Jordon and Johanne his Wiffe, Giles Jordon and Margarete his Wiffe Richard Hille and Johanne his Wiffe and for all xten Soules De Profoundis &c. and so to say the Psalme of de profundis wt speciall Coletts for the said soules. The same Preest takyng yerely of the said Wardeyns and their successos at iiij termes of the yere in the Citie of London usuall by evyn portions in money viiii. stg for his salary."

* *History of the Bells of King's Coll., Cambs.*, by J. W. Clark, in *Camb. Antiq. Society's Report*, 1881, p. 231.

The above-named (his wife having pre-deceased him) were all "buried in the Chapell of our lady in the Northside of the pyshe Church of Seynt Botulphes w^oute Aldgate of London."

In another bequest (for tapers to be burned on the graves) we find that Richard Hille and Johanne his wife, were buried under one stone; no mention being made of the latter's second husband, John Sturdy.

Besides the above ways of spelling Jordan, the name is also written in the will, Jordeyn and Jorden.

The codicil to Jordan's will is curious, referring chiefly to his son, "Dan Henry Jordon." "*Dan*," as we are reminded by Dr. Raven,* is short for *Dominus*, the term still applied in the Universities to Bachelors of Arts. A double christian name was almost unknown in England until after the Reformation. He was a professed monk in the house of Hurley, in Berks, which parish adjoins the south border of Bucks, divided by the Thames from Medmenham, and part of Gt. Marlow, parishes. His father seemed afraid that "the Pryor and Covent of the said house of Horley for the tyme beyng" might "kepe hym to streightly or otherwise entrete hym than he ought of very right and duetie to be doone to Or else that they wolle putte away from hym his abite and livyng of a Monke there whiche he hath chosen to hym."

Things were evidently not going quite smoothly at the Priory of Our Lady, but whether the fault lay with this monk, or with the prior, I leave others to determine.

There are four bells by Jordan in Bucks.

The second at Loughton is inscribed:—

✠ ∩ Hec Nova Campana Margareta Est Nominata ∩

And the third at the same place:—

✠ ∩ Sit Nomen Domini Benedictum ∩

Lettering the same as Walgrave's and Danyell's ordinary set; initial crosses fig. 17 again; that on the second bell is on an octagon ground, while that on the third is on a lozenge with the top and bottom angles cut off, and the left side imperfect. The first shield on the second bell, and the last on the third, is fig. 28; while the last on the second, and first on the third, is fig. 27. These two shields are always associated together; and

* *Bells of Suffolk*, p. 31, foot-note.

never, so far as I know, were used separately, or by any other founder than Jordan. Fig. 28 has not been read, but it always, to me, looks like a rebus or monogram for Thomas. The T is plain enough, and the remainder may be made out with a little assistance from one's imagination. The elongated upright of the h, with the two lashes or pennons, I believe form a distaff, and to be the sign of a clothier.

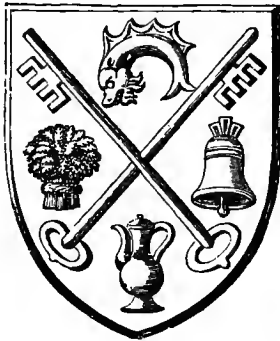


Fig. 27.

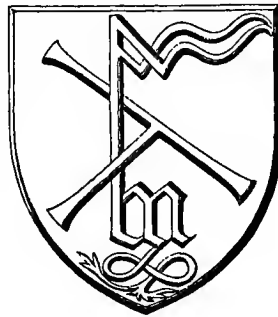


Fig. 28.

Jordan's father, and supposed grandfather, were both named Giles ; several Thomases are mentioned in his will, but there is nothing to connect either of them with him in his business.

The other shield, fig. 27, is certainly Jordan's foundry stamp, and is rather an interesting one. The two keys endorsed saltirewise, and the dolphin, are (a portion of) the arms of the Fishmongers' Company ; the laverpot, in base, intimates a founder in general ; and the bell, that he was a founder of bells in particular ; while the "garb," or wheat-sheaf, is part of his ancestral armorial bearings (representing the family of Harleton), as evidenced by coats of arms once existing on the brass, before mentioned, in Loughborough Church.

At Broughton the second is inscribed in the same capital lettering, and with the same initial cross and shields (figs. 27, 28); but the smalls are those used by Danyell at Edgcott :—

✠ ∪ Sancte Cristine Ora Pro Nobis ∪

And the third at the same place has :—

⊕ ∪ In Multis Annis Resonet Campana Iohannis ∪

The two shields are the same, but the initial cross is the "Ladi help" medallion, fig. 25. The capital letters are the plainer flat set, shown as fig. 29, which Mr. Stahlschmidt tells me Jordan got from William Powdrell to whom he strongly suspects he had been apprenticed; while the smalls are Walgrave's, Danyell's, and Jordan's ordinary set.

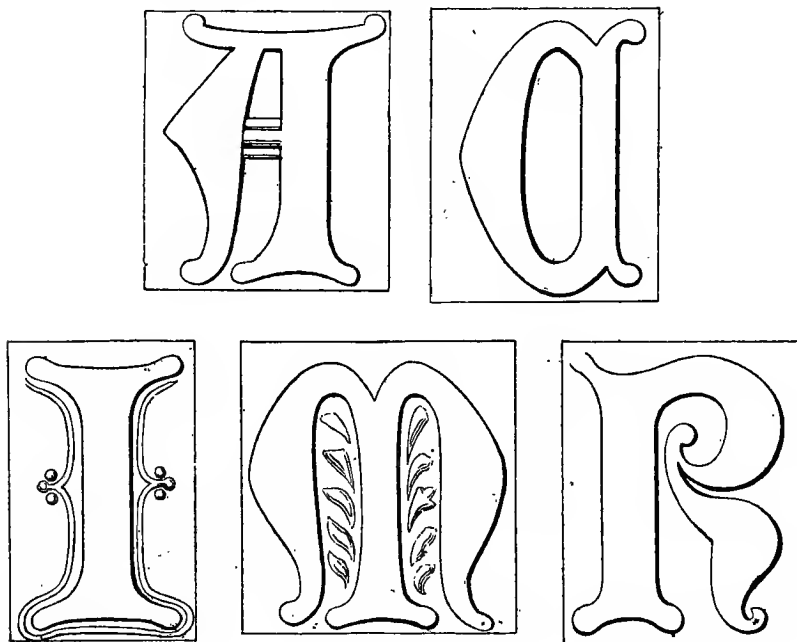


Fig. 29.

On the crown of the third at Loughton, is a tiny circular stamp, $\frac{1}{32}$ inch diameter, charged with an ox's head, shown as fig. 30. It appears to be the impression of a signet ring.



Fig. 30.

**(WILLIAM
CHAMBERLEYN.)**

"William Chamberleyn Ffounder," who was one of the executors of Jordan's will, was probably his foreman, and successor in the business. His name is also mentioned in Richard Hille's will, where "Chamburlayn's" wife, Isabella, is left a small legacy conditionally. Mr.

Stahlschmidt has found that Chamberlayne was still living, and a member of the Court of the Founders' Company in 1497-8, the date at which their existing records begin.* There are no bells known by him.

THOMAS HARRYS. Thomas Harrys, of London, mentioned in the *Mundum Books* of King's College, Cambridge,† may have been a successor of Jordan; possibly he intervened between Jordan and Chamberlayne; or he and the latter may have been rival founders. His name appears twice in the above accounts for the year 1478-79.

The clock-bell at Hampton Court (Middlesex) is inscribed:—

* † Stella Maria Maris Succorre Piiffima
Nobis ⊕ T H ⊕

which Mr. Stahlschmidt, in a letter to me (August, 1887), with a copy of the lettering printed from a drawing by Mr. W. T. Kimber, confidently assigns to Harrys; as was also suggested by Dr. Raven (*Bells of Cambs.*, p. 48). And the tenor at Nettleden is inscribed (upper half of Plate XIV.):—

* ⊕ Sancta Katerina Ora Pro Nobis

The S is identical, and so are, probably the *fleur-de-lis*, and possibly the smalls. The other capitals, though reversed, and here used the wrong way up by way of an improvement, are very similar. Another bell, supposed to be by him, is the third at Limpsfield, Surrey, and possibly one each at Blatherwyke and Potterspurty, Northamptonshire.

There are no bells in Bucks by the following founders, whose names I only mention here to show the probable continuity of the foundry.

(THOMAS BULLISDON.) Thomas Bullisdon, from the later years of the fifteenth century to 1511, or later, had several stamps and alphabets of the above founders (Harrys excluded), and with him they disappear.

(WILLIAM SMYTH.) William Smyth was founding at Aldgate about the last-mentioned date.

(WILLIAM CULVERDEN.) William Culverden, citizen and brazier of London, has left a few bells, bearing a "rebus" foundry stamp, but there is no example in Bucks. His earliest known date is 1506, and his will, which is printed in

* *Surrey Bells*, p. 71. † *History of the Bells of King's Coll., Cambs.*, etc., p. 233.

Bells of Cambs., pp. 44-46, is dated 29th September, 1522, and proved 2nd June, 1523. As previously mentioned, he showed some connection with Hille's foundry, by using the cross, fig. 7.

The Churchwardens' accounts of S. Mary at Hill, London,* furnish us with glimpses of several London founders about this period:—

1508-9.

It pd for wyn at the son whin we comon to bollisdō tochyng the bell	...	vjd.
It for ij oblygacions betwixt billisdo & ye paryshe for the grett belle	...	vijjd.
It pd to Har Edmonds for caryage of ij bellis fro bylisdones to ou church	...	vd.
It pd to sevyn men that rong the bellis when the kyngs grace whent to Westmyst to be crownyd	... .. j	ij.
It pd to retayn M ^r Grenne for counsell how to take a axcion for cutyng of our ij bellis	... .. j	vijj.

1509-10.

Paid for a soper to M ^r Kyght and M ^r Lidborowgh for the arbetryng betwene the parish and Bullisdon for y ^e bells		
for motton a shuldar	... ..	ijjd.
Conys†	... ..	vd.
iiij Chekyns	... ..	vjd.
a capon	... ..	xxd.
brede ale wyne and beer	... ..	xxd.
The sute for the bells—		
Payd for entryng the playnt & for ye a rest of Willm Smyth	... ..	xd.
for entryng of ye attorney & for his fees	... ..	xiiijjd.
for makyng of o ^r plee & leying in y ^r of	... ..	vjd.
paid to ye jooge	... ..	iiijjd.
to mast ^r Stevyns for counsell	... ..	xxd.
for my dyñ & Thomas Mondens and ye man yt hew the bells & o ^r mo	... ..	vjd.
whan the mat ^r was pleted to an yssue paid	... ..	iiijjd.
for ij somons paid to the sergeant	... ..	iiijjd.
whan the mater was put in dayng at ye Salutacion‡	... ..	ijd.
for an obligacion at yt tyme	... ..	vjd.

1510-11.

Paid to the skryveñ for makyng of y ^e Indenture betwixt Willm Smith bell- founder and the parish that tyme Arbyt ^r s M ^r Robyns and M ^r Jentyll & for wine	xviijd. ob.
--	--------	-------------

* For these I have to thank Mr. A. D. Tyssen.

† Rabbits. ‡ A tavern in Thames Street.

Paid for Reves labur & his Brekefast for comy \bar{g} from ludgate to Algate to here ye iiiij th bell in Tewne	...	...	...	...	vjd. ob.
Paid for wyne & pers* at Skrasis howse at Algate for Mr Jentyll Mr Russell John Althorpe John Condall & the clarks of Seynt Antony's to go and see wheyr Smythe's bell wer Tewneabill or not	...	...	...	...	vij ^d .
Paid for brede & drynke to hym y ^t strake ye bells	...	...	...	...	ij ^d .
paid for strekyng of ye iij bells to ye grownde	...	...	...	...	ijs.
paid for a C of small Ropis for to stroke the bells	...	...	...	...	xs.
paid for drynke to the porters yt holpe to stryke ye bells	...	...	...	...	ij ^d .
paid for the Cariage of ij bells to the fownders	...	...	...	...	ijs.
paid for vj porters to helpe them on the slede	...	...	...	...	vjd.
paid for x ^{lb} of rope for the bells at jd. q.† the lb	...	...	...	...	iiij ij.
paid for wyne at the salutacion at the bargeyne making for the frame of the bells (Many entries of payments concerning the hanging, and two dinners at 6s. 4 ^d . and 7s. 1 ^d .)					vij ^d .
paid to Willm Smyth fownder for j C di xvij ^{lb} of newe metall to ye iiiij th bell ye C xxvjs. vij ^d . Sm	...	...	...	...	xliiij ^s . vij ^d .
paid to Willm Smyth fownder for makyng the scripture‡ a bought the bell	...	...	...	...	xiijs. iiiij ^d .
paid for mendyng & garnyshyng of iij bell clapers	...	...	...	...	vs. xd.
Paid to Couloverton Belfownder for ij C xiiij ^{lb} of newe metall for the grete bell after xxvijs. the C. Sm	...	...	...	...	lixs. vjd.
Paid to Bullisdon in Bath Howse in the p ^r sens of Mr Smart for the Rest of the grete bell in money	...	...	...	...	xxixs. iiij ^d .
paid for mending & garnyshing of ye grete bell claper	...	...	...	...	ij iiij
paid for two new Bawdryks for the bells	...	...	...	...	xij ^d .
paid for drynke at the havynge upp of the bells	...	...	...	...	jd.
paid for naylys for the whelys	...	...	...	...	ij ^d .

1521-22.

Itm pd to John Belch \tilde{m} § for ij days to make clean the steeple against the Hallowing of the Bells	...	...	...	...	vij ^d .
Itm p ^d for two burdens of rushis to strawe under the bellis (ij bawdricks for great bell vs. iiiij ^d . each : 3 for other bells vs. each)	...	...	...	...	iiij ^d .
Itm pd for lix lb of newe metall in the sancts bell which was more than the olde bell did way, for evy lb iiiij ^d . Sm	...	...	...	...	xixs. vij ^d .
(Various entries concerning the sanctus bell, etc.)					

* Pears.

† For *quarter* = a farthing. Ob. (*above*) for *obolus* = a halfpenny.

‡ Simply the *inscription*, not necessarily a passage from Holy Writ.

§ Having met with the appellation *Belchamber* in other early churchwardens' accounts (not in Bucks), I have no doubt that it was not a surname until later on, but the title of a man whose duties caused him to spend most of his time in the bell-chamber (or perhaps more accurately, the *ringing-chamber*); not exactly a steeple-keeper nor yet sexton.

1525-6.

paid for ryngyng of the bells at the Triumphe for the takyng of the French kyng and by the comaundment of the mayer*	viiij ^d .
---	-----	-----	-----	----------------------

1536-7.

Item pd the xiiij day of may for ryngyng of a knyll for Will Smyth	...	vjd.
Item for ryngyng of the gret bell vj owres for quene Jane,† and for ryngyng of ye bells dyves peles to the same	... ..	ij ^s vjd

In *Letters and Papers, Foreign and Domestic* (Record Office), Henry VIII., 1363, Nov., 1510, is something further apparently, about the above law-suit:—

Form of the suit and manner of action of the cause of defamation done by Will. Culverden against Will. Smythe Mich. Term, 1510; sc. that he had impeded judgement in the Consistory Court of the Bp. of London, and elsewhere, by various pretexts; that he took a commission out of the Court of Rome directed to the Abbot of Stratford, whose delegate Master Roston of St Laurence Pountney, on the parties appearing, told the said Will. Culverden that "he would not trouble himself with that cause;"—that he has caused various delays to Dr. Harington on the remission of the sentence: &c., as follows at length:—

Hereafter folowythe the forme of the fuytt and mañ of accyon of the
caufe of diffamacion doñ by william Culverdon agayñ william smythe/
mighelmas Terme the yere of our lorde god m† fyve hundrith and x

Inpmis William Culverdon obteyned a citacyon agayne William smyth out of my lorde of londons confistory in a caufe of diffamacion and ther pved hys caufe by witnes and also by the confeffyon of the faid William Smyth. and where the Juge had affigned a day to gyve sentence in the foresaid caufe the foresaid William Smyth obteyned an Inhibicion oute of the Arches and so clofed the Jugys hande that he might nott gyve sentence accordyng to the forme of lawe./

Iñm the faid William Culverdon by reason of the faid Inhibicion was in the courte of tharches and ther called vpon the officiall of tharches that the faid William Smythe might be cōpelled to folowe his faid Inhibicion or els to remytte the caufe to the Juge of the confistory that he might pcede accordyng to Right and conscience in the faid caufe of diffamaçon att whof desyre ther was A citacyon graunted And the faid william acyted‡ çt did not apper the day affigned therefor the foresaid caufe was remytte to the Juge of the confystory and therby hym was sentence gyven agayñ the faid william Smythe accordyng to the lawe/.

Iñm the faid William Smythe after thyes pmisses obteyned a cōmyssion of delygacy oute of the courte of Rome directed to the abbott of Stratforde by vertue whereof the Juge of

* Francis I., King of France, was taken prisoner in the battle of Pavia, by the troops of the Emperor Charles V., February 24th, 1525.

† Henry VIII. married Jane Seymour, May 20th, 1536, and she died Oct. 24th, 1537.

‡ Accite, to call, to summon (*Halliwell, Dict. Arch. and Prov. Words*).

the Confistorye was inhibytt that he might nott putt his faid sentence in execucion att a tyme cōvenient affigned./

Iīm the faid Abbott of Stratteford did subdelegate his cōmyffion To Maister Rofton maister of feint laurence pounteney and ther the faid william Smythe caufed the forefaid william Culverdon to be accyted to appere before the forefaid maiste Rofton att a day affigned by hym att the whiche day the forefaid maister Rofton did nott fytt as Juge butt awnsweryd the faid william culverdon that he wold nott troble hym selfe withe thatt caufe./

Iīm ther was A newe cōmiffion graunted to Maister Doctor Harington in the faid cause of delegacye and by vertue thereof the faid william smythe caufed the forefaid william culverdon to be accyted and ther before the faid maister haryngton William Culverdon haithe dyu⁹se tymes apperyd butt ther is no pcesse made butt the faid William Smythe caufyth delays ther to be hadd to thentent that the sentence in the firste caufe gyven fhuld nott be in execucion according to Right and lawe./

Iīm the faid william Smythe for pure malice that he berith a gayñ the faid William Culverdon haith caufed hys Brother Water Smythe to troble the faid william culverdon in my lorde of Caunterbury is audience to hys grette cofte and lossys. withoute any cause refonable butt only that William culverdon shuld remytte his firste cause of diffamacion agayñ williã Smythe dependyng in my lorde of london is confistorye

Culverden's successor was Thomas Lawrence, who
(THOMAS LAWRENCE.) (as we learn from Culverden's will) bought his foundry in Houndsditch, and his trade implements, etc. He used the *fleur-de-lis* stamp, which had formerly been in Thomas Harrys' possession (and probably others of his stamps). He cut off the top corners of the stamp, so as to make it the shape of an inverted shield; in which form it is figured in *Bells of Cambridgeshire*, fig. 66. As there is no bell by him in Bucks, I will refer any one for a fuller account of him to *Bells of Kent*, p. 52. His date is 1523 to about 1538, when he retired to Norwich, and probably ceased to found. He was buried there, 3rd December, 1545.

In *Letters and Papers, Foreign and Domestic*, February, 1529, 5330, Cromwell (at the Record Office), is:—

	An obligacōn Daī the vij th Daye of Auguft ...	} l s xvj ^{li} x ^s
	anno H viij xvij ^o Wherein Thomas laurence	
Thomas laurence	ftondeth bounde in xv ^{li} x ^s it ⁹ vnto the faide	
	Thomas Crumwell payable at the ...	
	feafte of penthecoft next ...	

In the interesting churchwardens' accounts of Thame, Oxon, Lawrence's name is mentioned as follows:—

Year ending Ascension 1538.	l̄m pd for makyng of ij Bylle Indented betwene the pifhe & lawrence belfound of london ...	} vij ^d
-----------------------------------	---	--------------------

Evidently the bell, whose casting is hereby implied, did not last the year and a day which was usually specified, for in the next account comes :—

Year ending Ascension 1539.	l̄m Rec of Thōis lawrence of london belfounder and of his fuerties	} viij ⁱ
-----------------------------------	---	---------------------

The account proceeds :—

l̄m pd for a breakefast made at Wiltm ways for in ^r white of Redyng & the men of london w ^t other of o ^r neybo ^r s for the End (? 2nd) makyng for the great bell whiche were at charge vpon vs before	} ij ^s
---	-------------------

There may be other interpretations of this entry, but it seems to me, that Lawrence having failed in producing a good tenor bell, John White, of the Reading Foundry, was called in, and entertained at breakfast, Lawrence's party being also invited in a friendly spirit.

John Owen and Robert Owen, brothers,
gunfounders (and bellfounders), are mentioned
(JOHN OWEN,) under 1529–31, in *Letters and Papers, Foreign
(ROBERT OWEN.)* and Domestic, Henry VIII., (at the Record
Office). Stow (1603) mentions that in 23 Henry VIII. (= 1532), three
brothers Owen, gunfounders, built a foundry in Houndsditch. In the
accounts of the sale of church goods at S. Giles without Cripplegate,
appears :—

1551. To one Owen Belfounder vij^C of Bellmettall for xjⁱⁱ xiiij^s iiij^d

And at S. Catherine Ch. Ch. (London) in apparently 1552 :—

Sold to John Owen ij^C iiij^{lb} of latten xliij^s

Austen Bracker (c. 1556), used, with other shields, on
(AUSTEN a bell at Shouldham, Norfolk, the Plantagenet Royal
BRACKER.) Arms (fig. 19). He was not necessarily, however, a
London founder.

There were several other founders—doubtless in a small way of business—in London about this time, of whom nothing is known; e.g., in the

churchwardens' accounts of S. Michael, Cornhill, for 1567, a payment of £4 14s. 0d. is recorded, to Roberte Doddes, for casting a bell, etc. The same accounts, under 1587, mention a bellfounder named Lawrence Wright. His name also occurs* in a suit, April 20th, 34 Elizabeth (= 1593), by him against some parishioners of Hillingdon (Middlesex); and again under the designation, "Laurencii Wright nup de London Bellfounder."† Possibly there are two bells by him in Bucks; though after finding an undoubted example by him in Kent, with different lettering and stamps, Mr. Stahlschmidt ceased to believe this make to be his: there is, however, no alternative founder to suggest. They are:—

The third at Bow Brickhill:—

‡ V B C D † Ö B Z † D E E G E E † W

And the second at Stewkley:—

‡ W K F V E E N D V Q O V

The cross *avellane* (fig. 31), used on the above, appears also on three bells in Herts, one of which bears the initials L. W. One in Beds, with portions of the alphabet divided by *fleurs-de-lis*, but without the cross, also has a W standing solitary. There is one example in Northamptonshire.

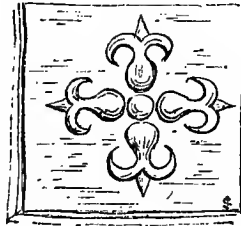


Fig. 31.

From the second half of the sixteenth century, the great Whitechapel Bellfoundry, best known under its present title of "Mears and Stainbank," can show an unbroken pedigree. There is little doubt that it is the direct successor of these ancient founders just enumerated; but as there is very

* Court of Requests, I., 383.

† *Inrolment Roll*, Eliz., No. 36, rot. LXXII., London. For these I am indebted to Mr. Tyssen. The first is given in full in *Kent*, p. 63.

little known about the London bellfounders of the middle of that century, we will leave the metropolis for the present, and go on to trace a very extensive local foundry in a county adjoining Bucks, whose history finally merges into that of the Whitechapel business.

THE WOKINGHAM—READING—LONDON FOUNDRY.

This excellent and important foundry was in operation, most probably at Wokingham* (where it certainly was located a little later on) by about the beginning of the last quarter of the fourteenth century.†

The name of no owner of this foundry has yet been discovered earlier than nearly the middle of the fifteenth century, but there are several bells known which are obviously of earlier date, and in the case of one bell there is pretty good proof that it was cast not later than 1383.

From the middle of the fifteenth century it seems possible to assign the various bells, with a great show of probability, to certain founders; but the history of the foundry during the previous seventy or eighty years in which it evidently existed, still remains a complete blank.

On tabulating some seventy bells from the Wokingham Foundry, whose existence I am aware of, I was at first naturally disposed to consider those having the entire inscription in capitals as the oldest; but on further sorting, I am forced to the belief that those on which the trefoil stamp (Plate XVI.) appears, are the earliest. Every one of the bells has one or other of the Lion's Head stamps (figs. 32 and 33) on it; and, with the exception of two (besides three or four cases left doubtful by Mr. Ellacombe), the reverse of a groat as well.

* In Berks, 7 miles south-east from Reading.

† I cannot help thinking that two ancient bells at Wotton, Surrey (see *Bells of Surrey*), are either by one of the earliest proprietors of this foundry (not necessarily working at Wokingham), or at least show a connecting link between this foundry and that of Stephen Norton (*supra*, page 19). The inscription on the treble occurs on a Wokingham bell at Chertsey, Surrey, of the fourteenth century, and again on one at Hambleton, which is probably the oldest in Bucks from this foundry, and I am not aware of its occurrence anywhere else: also the crowns on some of the stops on the Wotton treble are straight-based, like the Wokingham stamps, instead of curved like the Norton-Hille set. A beautifully executed cross and stop on a bell by Stephen Norton (figured by Mr. Ellacombe), at Chiselborough, Somerset, seem almost obviously the prototypes of the Wokingham crowned cross and stop (Plates XV. and XVI.).

Nine of the bells (*viz.*, in Hants, at Aldershot, Itchen Abbas, and the treble at Headbourne Worthy; in Oxon, two at Rotherfield Peppard; and in Berks, the second at Appleford, one at Arborfield, and two at Didcot) have on them only the trefoil (Plate XVI.), the first lion's head (fig. 32), and the coin stamp.

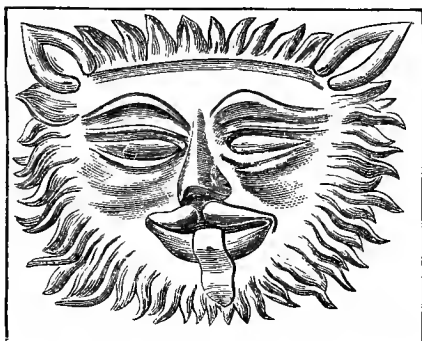


Fig. 32.

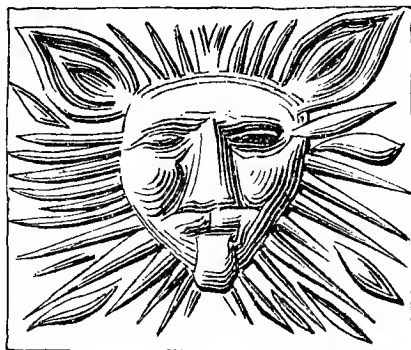


Fig. 33.

Then, as it seems to me, the beautiful capital letters shown on Plates XV. and XVI. (including the initial cross, and the crowned stop there drawn), were added to the stock of the foundry: not impossibly the first founder could not read, and the foundry now passed into the hands of a man who could. The first result seems to have been a bell at North Moreton, Berks, inscribed:—

followed by the same three stamps as are on the above bells.

Then, perhaps, we should put the tenor at Dorchester, Oxon:—

followed by a figure of a dragon (fig. 34), the coin, the same lion's head, a horse (fig. 35), the trefoil (pointing to the right, its foot to left), and the coin again.

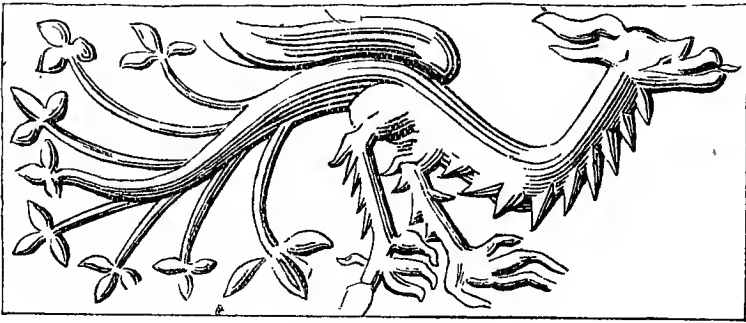


Fig. 34.

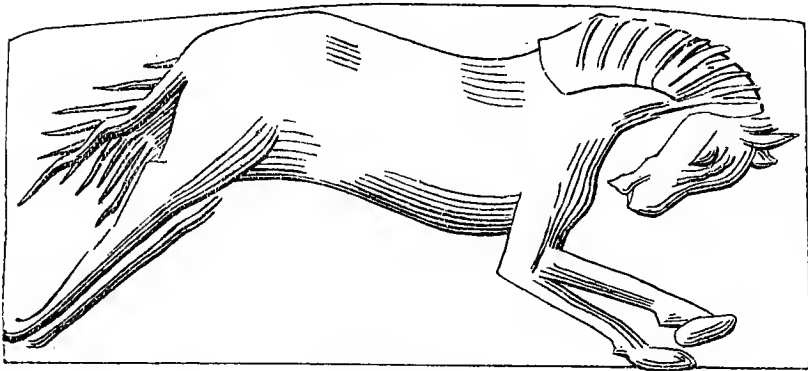


Fig. 35.

This very interesting bell can be dated approximately.* “Raf Rastwold” was doubtless its donor during his lifetime, and I have found in the *Inquisitiones post Mortem* (Record Office) that “Rađus Reftwold” “obiit die Jouis in festo s̄ci Barnabe āpli vltimo p̄lito”† “Anno r̄i Riči s̄đi poft conq̄u sexto.” That is, that Ralph Restwold “died on Thursday after the feast of S. Barnabas the apostle last past,” “in the sixth year of the reign of King Richard II.”; or, on the Thursday following 11th June, 1383.

* S. Birinus, to whom it is dedicated, was the first bishop of Dorchester, A.D. 634, to c. 648.

† There are 5 skins, one *Inquisitio* was taken the following year.

He held at the time of his death (besides the Manor of Hyle, in Wilts, worth £8 yearly), the Manor of Crowmarsh Gifford, in Oxon, worth £13 13s. 4d. yearly, which village is only four miles distant from Dorchester, and various lands at Hurst, in Berks, worth 40s. a year, which place is only four miles from Wokingham ; so the connection between the native place of the bell, and its home, is shown very satisfactorily.

Our knowledge of the history of the trefoil is completed by the second bell at S. Maurice, Winchester, which has the three stamps—trefoil, head, and coin—and the crowned cross as well, but no letters.

The trefoil never turns up again, as so many old stamps do, on later bells. A bell at Chilcombe, Hants, and one at Stoke Talmage, Oxon, have merely the cross, coin, and lion's head. A bell formerly at Seale, Surrey, had only the cross and head.*

There are three other bells inscribed in capitals only, which seem to come next, with nothing to mark their individual order, unless we consider that one, with a word mis-spelt, is older than the other two with correctly spelt inscriptions. They are a bell at Sherborne S. John, Hants, bearing :—



followed by the coin and lion's head ; and a like bell at Chilton, Berks, except that *AVE* is correctly spelt.

And the tenor at Chertsey, Surrey, has :—



followed by the lion's head and coin.

All the remaining examples (numbering fifty-odd) have black-letter smalls, except one on which there are only stamps, without any letters.

In Bucks we have the tenor at Hambleden, with the same inscription as the Chertsey bell, except that it is "mixed Gothic," *i.e.*, black-letter is

* *Fide* "Surrey Bells," p. 84. This was gone before Mr. Stahl Schmidt went his rounds. I suspect the coin *was* there.

used ; the use of capitals being limited to the initial of each word, and with no stop between the words ; and this continues to be the form of all the remainder.

The tenor at Hughenden has :—

✠ **C**risti **B**aptista **C**ampana **G**audeat **I**sta

Mr. Tyssen has recorded a bell at Felpham, Sussex, inscribed :—

✠ **S**it **N**omen **D**omini **B**enedictum

All the remaining bells by this founder (or possibly a successor?) take the form of the invocation :—

✠ **S**ancte (or **S**ancta ^{so} and so) **O**ra **P**ro **M**obis

with a few modifications. Those fully thus inscribed, are, two bells at Soulbury, Bucks ; and in other counties, in Hants, the fifth at Rotherwick, the fourth at S. Maurice, Winchester (**P**ro nobis run into one word), Yately, Heckfield, Sherfield, and Stoke Charity (**T**rini **T**ax thus divided) ; in Oxon, Brightwell Baldwin ; in Berks, the tenor at Appleford, and Drayton ; in Beds, Chalgrove and Millbrooke ; in Sussex, the second at Cocking.

Two bells at Aston Sandford, Bucks, have the addition of the small stop (Plate XVI.) placed horizontally, rather above the letters ; on the tenor, simply between the saint's name (**C**lemes), and **O**ra ; and on the treble, as a mark of abbreviation after **O**r. This latter arrangement occurs at Ruscombe, Berks,* and at East Clanden, and Ewhurst (third bell), Surrey, except that the stop used is the larger one (Plate XVI.) ; on the Ruscombe bell the stop is without its crown. At Fittleworth, Sussex, Mr. Tyssen records the abbreviated **O**r without the succeeding stop, and the same appears at Martyr Worthy, Hants. Two bells at Headbourne Worthy, and two at King's Worthy, in that county, omit the **O**ra **P**ro **M**obis.

* I have to thank the Rev. T. M. N. Owen for a rubbing.

This completes the record of the absolutely unknown. From this point I believe it is possible to connect certain bells with certain ascertained names of founders.

ROGER LANDEN. The first Wokingham founder, whose name we know, is the owner of the well-known stamp, fig. 36. His identity, like William Dawe's, until quite recently, seemed a hopeless mystery, but his name has turned up in the Eton College accounts, published by Mr. H. W. Clark, in his *History of Cambridge University*, Vol. I., p. 405 (foot-note). In the accounts of Roger Keys (clerk of the works for two and a half years at the building of the College), for 1448, is:—"Et solut' xxij die marcii Rogero landen de Wokyngham loc' ad fundendum," etc. (see under Eton, in Part III).* Although this does not refer to the casting of a bell, it is most unlikely that there were two founders having the same initials, in Wokingham at the same time.

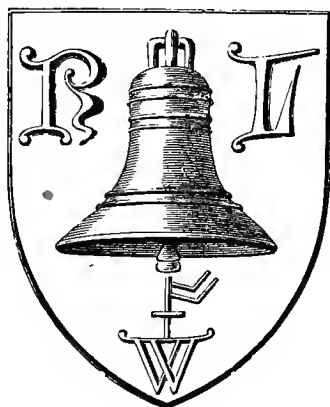


Fig. 36.

There are three bells in Bucks bearing the R. L. shield, but only two of them are, as I think, by its original owner—Roger Landen. These are, the tenor at Fawley, inscribed with the ordinary form of invocation, in every particular as previously, except for the addition of the R. L. shield to the two previous stamps; and the tenor at Granborough, with the hexameter:—

* Mr. Stahlschmidt first noticed, and drew my attention to, this satisfactory quotation.



IN

MULTIS

ANNIS

RESONET

CAMPAÑA

IOHANNIS

with the same three stamps.

Further examples by Roger Landen (*i.e.*, having the same three stamps), are one similarly inscribed to the one last mentioned, at Carlton, Beds; and one at Salford, in that county, and one at Easton, Hants, each inscribed:—



AUE

MARIA

At S. Catherine's, Somersetshire, Mr. Ellacombe records two bells which come here; the treble, with the invocation inscription to **SANCTA MARIA**, with the cross, R. L. shield, head and coin; and the second having the invocation addressed to **SANCTE DECORAE**, with the cross, head, and shield—the coin apparently absent.

At Bushey, Herts, is:—


SANCTA

TRINITAS

VNUS

DEUS

MISEREERE

NOBIS

conspicuous by its lack of the coin stamp; while at Chiddingfold, Surrey, is:—


SANCTA

TRINITAS

ORA

PRO

NOBIS

which has the shield and lion's head, but lacks both coin and initial cross.

There are examples having the ordinary invocation form of inscription, and the normal allowance of three stamps (plus the initial cross), at Aston Rowant and Newington, besides one formerly at Stonesfield, in Oxfordshire; at Passenham, Northampts; at Cocking (the treble), in Sussex; and at Ewhurst (fourth bell), Surrey.

Hinton-in-the-Hedges, Northamptonshire, is credited by Mr. North with a bell having only the cross, head, shield, and coin, without letters.

In all, sixteen known examples, besides two at Bawdrip, Somerset, confusedly recorded by Mr. Ellacombe; one of which seems most likely to be by Landen, and the other by his predecessor.*

With the death or retirement of Roger Landen, the use of the original lion's head stamp (fig. 32) ceased, and a new lion's head stamp (fig. 33) takes its place. There can be, I think, no possible doubt as to which of the two heads is the earlier—the one contemporary with the trefoil stamp (Plate XVI.), and the inscriptions in capitals; and coming down to the end of Roger Landen's time, probably some years past the middle of the fifteenth century, and then finally disappearing. The other, which according to my view, then made its first appearance, continued in use on bells of unquestionably later date, to be mentioned in due course, and even turns up once in the seventeenth century (see Nettleden).

The next Wokingham founder appears to have been John Michell.

* Mr. Ellacombe's volumes contain unfortunately a somewhat large number of uncorrected misprints, which cause sore puzzles to a working campanologist. The two Bawdrip bells, for instance, are described differently in his *Somerset* and his *Devon*. The treble has **SANCTE THOMA** Ⓞr. The tenor, **SIT NOMEN DOMINI BENEDICTUM**; the latter having also apparently the R L shield, lion's head, and coin stamps. Both are said in *Somerset* to have the large cross found at Thornton (Plate IX.), as initial cross; while in *Devon* they are said to have as initial cross, the cross *fleuronnée*, shown on Plate X., though he describes the tenor as being "Same as Felpham, Sussex." A note in Mr. Ellacombe's handwriting, in my possession, indicates that they are respectively like the Fittleworth and Felpham bells already mentioned. Mr. Tyssen has not recorded any such unaccountable mixture at either of those places.

The following doubtfully described bells may be also quoted here from Mr. Ellacombe's *Somerset*: at Curry Mallet (in that county) the fourth is said to bear, **SIT NOMEN DOMINI BENEDICTUM S**, with coin stamp, and fig. 1, on Plate XI., as initial cross (? by John Sturdy). The fifth has, **IN QUINTIS ANNIS RESONET CAMPANA IOHANNIS**, with the same cross, and the lion's head, coin, and the lower half of the last stop on Plate XVI., the upper portion missing. And at East Chinnock (same county) the second is said to bear, **SANCTE PETRE ORA PRO NOBIS**, with fig. 17 as initial cross, lion's head, and coin. No crowns mentioned on the capitals.

Dr. Raven will, I am sure, excuse my pointing out (to save future confusion) a slip in *Bells of Suffolk*; namely, the surprising mixture of stamps said to occur on the tenor at Stradbroke in that county; among which the Wokingham crowned cross is recorded. This proves to be the crowned cross on Plate X.; it is followed by Keble's shield (fig. 15), and then the cross *fleuronnée* on Plate X. There is, therefore, no bell from the Wokingham foundry in Suffolk, nor any authority for the supposed mixture of stamps.

JOHN MICHELL. The date of his commencing work is not known; the year 1487, mentioned by Mr. Tyssen in a foot-note on page 9 of *Sussex Bells*, is merely an ascertained date at which this foundry was working.

It appears from the churchwardens' accounts of Thame, Oxon, that the second bell of that church was recast at Wokingham in that year, and an "obligacion" made with the bellfounder. The bell apparently did not last the year and a day as stipulated, for the next year it was again sent there to be recast, and no entry appears of paying the founder.

I have been unable to trace the present whereabouts of these most interesting early accounts. The following quotations are from extracts made by A. D. Tyssen, Esq., and E. J. Payne, Esq. (Recorder of Wycombe), previously to 1864. Mr. Payne notes that the real amounts paid were double the sums here charged, the other half being paid by the wardens of Old Thame :—

(FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS OF THAME, OXON, 1487-88).

It: sol: le bellemaker in ernyste p factur: scde campane in festo visitacois bē marie eodem anno ... .. .	... .. .	iijs. iiij ^d . ob.
It: sol: Willmo Kyng p scrip ^a cert: indenturar & ij obligac: int: nos p ^r curatores ecclie & le Bellemaker de Okyngham eod ^m die	... .. .	iiij ^d . ob.
It: sol: in expens: ad domū Johis Baret pro le letyng downe sēde campane	... .. .	ij ^d .
It: sol: ad le bellemaker de Okyngham p. le castyng sēde campane de p ^r dict	... .. .	xvjs. viij ^d .
It: sol: p caria nd : eius ^m campane apud Okyngham & homward agen in expens	... .. .	iijs. iiij ^d .
It: sol: henrico Slye p: le stokkyng sēde campane	... .. .	ij ^s . x ^d .
It: sol: Thome Ide p: factur: ferrei circa scdam campanam (&c.)	... .. .	js. viij ^d .
It: sol: eid ^m Henrico p: le trussyng uppe terci ^e campane iiij ^{te} campane & magne campane	... .. .	ij ^s . vj ^d .

These entries, from the date, without much doubt refer to Michell; but it is impossible at present to speak positively.

We are indebted for our knowledge of Michell's name to the *Corporation Records** of Henley, Oxon, under date January 4th, 1493, when there was paid :—

ixli. iijs. iiij^d. p eu p solut Johi Michell de Woking^m. p fabric magna capane.

The following bells are, according to my view, by him :

* Burn's *History of Henley-on-Thames*, 1861, p. 214.

In Bucks, the 7th at Hughenden :—



The coin and R L shield as before ; the last stamp is the new lion's head.

In Berks, a bell at Warfield, similarly inscribed to *Sancta Katerina* ; and one at Stamford Dingley inscribed :—



The stamps as the last.

In Sussex, a similar bell at Easebourne.

In Beds, at Maulbeer, a bell is recorded by Mr. North as similar to the last two, except that it is credited with the original lion's head. As we know that Mr. North, like other mortals, sometimes made mistakes, it is not unlikely that the stamp is in reality the later head, with which he was unacquainted.

This later lion's head stamp has been somewhat ignored by previous writers, being noticed by Dr. Raven in a hesitating manner in *Bells of Cambridge*, p. 40, with a figure, which is to his "mind a better representation of the head" on a bell (of a later date) at Caldecote, "than is that which we find in Mr. Ellacombe's and Mr. North's books." Mr. Tyssen, *Bells of Sussex*, p. 9, referring to the ordinary lion's head, says, "The Easebourne bell has a face somewhat similar to this, but still uglier." Mr. Ellacombe likewise hints at its existence in *Bells of the Church*.

Michell appears to have been the last of this line of founders who worked at Wokingham ; for though a bell foundry was in operation here a century later, it was probably a fresh departure, and not a direct continuation of this old business.

The following further extracts from the Thame accounts, a continuation of the history of the bell whose casting at Wokingham has been above recorded, seem to afford an insight into the history of the foundry.*

The bell broke again, and was taken down before Ascension, 1495. Two

* These are from the extracts made some years back by Messrs. A. D. Tyssen and E. J. Payne. The original volume is now unfortunately lost ; at any rate, *non est inventus*.

WILLIAM HASYLWOOD. men were then sent on horseback to Wokingham, but apparently found on arrival there that the foundry was no longer in existence. The bell was then recast by William Hasywood, in Reading, who as certain of the stamps used by founders who came after him tell us, was more or less the successor of the Wokingham founders (the two towns are only seven miles apart), though in the main he, individually, substituted new stamps.

(FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS OF THAME, OXON, 1494-95).

It ^m in primis Nicho: Bunse & Thome hyll equitant; Wokingh ^m	...	...	xxd.
It ^m eid ^m Nicho: & Johi Bunting eqtantib; hendeley sup Thameseam*	...	...	viijd.
It ^m in sumpt Johis: Cokks & Thome Hyll eqtant Redyng ad fusionem scde campane introrsū & extrorsū	...	...	xijd.
It ^m sol: Willmo Yong & Petro Powley p caria ^g . dte campane ad villam de Redyng p nra pte	...	...	xxd.
It ^m in expensis circa suspensionem dte campane divis ^{is} hōib;	...	...	xijd.
It ^m p: una cordula ad id ^m opus	...	...	ijd.
It ^m p. emendac: unius batelle eius ^m campane & p clavis	...	...	iiijd.
It ^m Willmo Hasywood de Redyng p fusione scde campane ponderante xiiij C di & j quar ⁱ p ^{rc} . le C vs. Sm. iijz. xiijs. ixz. unde p parte nra	xxxvjs.	xz. ob.	
It ^m Henrico Sly p totali labore suo in grosso circa suspensōem scde campane & emendac: framee cum le trussyng p me campane	...	...	iiijs. ijd.
It ^m in expus: divis ^{is} hōib; laborant; circa pendentē dte scde campane	...	...	ijd.
It ^m Johi Cathorpp p iiij ^{or} bracs ad id ^m opus	...	...	viijd.
It ^m sol p scptur: indentur: & oblig: int dict pcurat: ecclie & Will ^m : Hasilwood	...	...	ijd.

From the removal of the foundry from Wokingham to Reading, the old set of lettering (Plates XV. and XVI.) was never used again in its entirety; probably some were lost, others worn out. As before this, the lion's head had been clumsily copied, so later on were some (perhaps all) of the letters, see Plate XIX.

William Hasywood's special letters were a large, bold set of capitals, which, with the initial cross *patée*, are shown on Plates XVII. and XVIII. The smalls are also a larger set than that hitherto in use, the "u" being reversed. There are two bells in Bucks which may safely be assigned to this founder.

The tenor at Ilmer:—

* Henley would be on the way to either Wokingham or Reading, from Thame.

✠ Sancta Margareta Ora Pro
 Nobis W H ▽

The shield is charged with the cross of S. George (Plate XIX.).

This cross of S. George forms the “Jack,” the foundation representing England, in the “Union Jack,” and (with the addition in its first quarter of a sword erect for S. Paul, the special patron of the metropolis) is the arms of the City of London; but I do not know whether that was Hasylwood’s reason for adopting it as his trade badge.

An exactly similarly inscribed bell is the treble at Chearsley:—

✠ Sancte Paule Ora Pro Nobis ▽ W H

Hants has at least one bell by him—the treble at Farley Chamberlayn—similarly inscribed to *Sancte Bafael*; while two bells in that county may be by him, or (more likely), by his successor. These are—the tenor at Compton, bearing only the cross, shield, and initials; the “H” belongs to Hasylwood’s set, but the “W” belongs to the Wokingham crowned set. And the third at S. Michael’s, Winchester, which bears the cross, shield, and initials, and the peculiar inscription, *Spccie Aba Et Pblcrinitbnde Tbe*, stamped in a different, smaller set of letters—both capitals and smalls, according to the plate published by the Rev. A. Du B. Hill, in a paper on *The Church Bells of Winchester*.* Mr. Hill (following Mr. Ellacombe) attributes the bell to William Henshaw, of Gloucester. Mr. Ellacombe mentions the tenor at Whatley, Somerset, as having, inscribed entirely in crowned capitals, + SANCTE GREGORI ORA PRO NOBIS ▽ (= the S. George’s shield, followed by) W H. Without seeing the bell, or a rubbing, comment would be unsafe.

In the churchwardens’ accounts of S. Lawrence, Reading, for the year from the Annunciation “m^o.cccc.ꝑcviij And in the viijth yer of kyng Harry the vijth” to the same feast in the next year, appears:—

Iīm reč of the wyfe of Wilfm Hafylwood for A sete vjd.

The next extract, even if it does not refer to his work, as it probably does, at any rate shows a custom contemporary with him:—

* Read before the Winton and Hants Scientific and Literary Society, July 9th, 1877.

Itm payed for halowyng of the grete bell namyd Harry vjs. viij*d*.
 And over that Sir Wilłm Symy^s. Richard Clech. And maiftre^s Smyth beyng god
 faders And god moder at the confecracyon of the same bell. And beryng al oþ^p cofte
 to the ffufrygan.

The same accounts supply the following further allusions to William Hasyłwood :—

1502-03.

It. rec^d of Wilłm Hasyłwood for his wife is grave vjs. viij*d*.
 It. rec^d of ye same Wilłm for wast of torchis & for ye gret bell ye same
 time vjs.

As appears by his will, his first wife's name was Margaret: from two to four years after her decease he married his second wife, named Elizabeth :—

1505-06.

It. rec^d of Wilłm Hasyłwoodes wife for her seate vj*d*.

1507-08.

It. payed to Wilłm Hasyłwood for a new holy water stok of laton ... ijs. viij*d*.

I am indebted to Mr. A. D. Tyssen for the following copy of William Hasyłwood's will, dated March 8th, 1507-8; and proved 10th December, 1509. From the Prerogative Court, London (Doctors' Commons):—

In dei nomine Amen. octavo die mensis Martii Anno dni millimo quingen^{mo} septimo et regni nri regis Henrici septimi xxii^o. Ego Willmus Hasyłwood de Redyng Sar' dios campanarius compos mentis et in bona mēoria existens de miseria et brevitate hujus vitæ cogitans obitus mei diē aut horā penitus ignorās condo testm meū in hunc modū. Inprimis lego ařam meā deo p̄ri om̄ipotentī b̄te marie matri sue ac om̄ib̄s sc̄is, corpusque meū sepeliendū in ecclia sc̄i Laurencii de Redyng predict' juxta sepulturā margarete nup' uř mee. It' lego matri ecclie Sar' iij*d*. It' lego vicario ecclie sancti Laurēcii predict' pro decimis retroactē et negligenter oblitis iijs. iij*d*. It' do et lego cantarie de Jhu in dca ecclia fundate xij*d*. It' do et lego Elizabeth' uř mee om̄ia et singla bona et catalla quecūque que fueřnt eiusdem Elizabeth' ante nuptias int' nos celebrai. Et ultimum do et lego eidem Elizabeth uř mee omēs ducas meas tam pro campanis q̄ pro om̄ib̄s aliis vasis ad artificm campanarii p̄tineñ simul cū stateris ponderis ac om̄ib̄s aliis et singlis instruis ad dict' artificm spectantē ad terminū vite sue. Et p̄a decessum p̄dce Elizabeth uř mee omēs p̄dictas ducas simul cum vasis et ceteris p̄missis do et lego Joħi Hasyłwood filio meo si ad tunc sup̄stes fuit. Et si contingat dict' Joħem obire viuēte p̄dict' Elizabeth' tunc volo qđ omēs p̄dicte duce ac cetera p̄missa p̄ eand' Elizabeth' uxorē meā vendent̄. et pecunia inde recepta siue p̄venieñ p̄ discretionē eiusdem Elizabeth' pro salute aře mee parentū et benefcōř meoř defunctoř applicetr. Residuū vero om̄

bonoꝝ meoꝝ superuñ non legaĩ, debitis meis et legate p̄ om̄ibꝫ psolute do et lego prelibate Elizabeth' uꝛ mee quam ordino facio et constituo meã solam executricẽ ut ipsa deum p̄ oculis h̄ens meũ hoc p̄ns testm̄ fidelit' exequatr. et compleat ad effectũ. Hiis testibus dño Thoma Watkyn cap^{no} p̄ci p̄d̄ce ecclie sancti Laurẽcii Johẽ Cokks d̄ce ecclie c̄tico. Henrico Horethorne et aliis. In cuius extreme voluntatis mee tesũm sigillum meũ apposui Dat' die et anno sup^a dictę.

Probatum fuit suprascrip̄i corã dño apud Lamebith decimo die decemb̄ anno dñi millimo quingen^{no} nono. Jur' Margarete* relicte et executricę h̄mõ testõ noĩate.

Ac approbaĩ et insignaĩ Et com̄issa fuit admistratio oĩm bonoꝝ et debitz p̄fate relicte et executrici in h̄mõ testõ noĩat' de bene et fidelit' adm̄istrand̄ ac de pleno et fideli Inr̄io citra fm pur̄nis b̄te marie virg' p̄x̄ futuꝝ exhibend̄ necnon de pleno et v̄ro com̄pto reddend̄ ad sc̄a dei eũng' in debita iure forma iurat'.

William Hasywood evidently died in 1509, and S. Lawrence's accounts have :—

1509-10.

It. rec ^d of Hasywood is weyff for ringing of the grett bell	...	...	xij ^d .
It. rec ^d of Hasywood is weyff for hir husbond is grave, & for couyng of þe same	...	...	vij ^s . ij ^d .

1510-11.

It. rec ^d for the greate Bell at Hasywod's mynd	...	...	xij ^d .
Itm. payd for trussing of the ij ^d bell to Hasywoodes man	...	...	xij ^d .

JOHN HASYLWOOD.

This last item would refer to a workman of John Hasywood, son, and probably successor, to William.

JOHN WHITE.

It is doubtful whether there are any bells which should be assigned to John Hasywood, or whether the next group, besides those mentioned doubtfully on p. 59, are not the work of his successor, John White, possibly at first as manager for John Hasywood. White's name appears from 1515† (and he may have begun earlier) to 1539. Several references to him are quoted further on.

The second bell at Hoggeston has the following somewhat mixed inscription :—



There is no obvious beginning or ending to this inscription, so let us

* *Sic*: should be Elizabeth.

† Fide *Sussex Bells*, p. 9, foot-note.

start with the handsome cross *fleuronnée*, on Plate XIX., somewhat resembling that at Shenley (Plate X.), but smaller. It is obviously an old stamp, but I am unacquainted with its earlier history.* Next a black-letter “a,” similar in size to the Wokingham set; its chief characteristic is that the central bar, instead of running horizontally, forms a *chevron*, or inverted V; I have not met with it elsewhere. Thirdly, the Wokingham coin stamp. In the fourth and fifth places come W. Hasywood’s S. George’s shield and his cross *patée*. The next three places are occupied by the (copied) Wokingham crowned capitals, H, W, and cross. Ninthly comes the newer lion’s head, and lastly, the R. L. shield. It seems not unreasonable to surmise that the H = John Hasywood, and the crowned W = White, his assistant, and probably the actual founder.

I am led to this idea by the improbability that William Hasywood, who owned a complete, and probably original, set of letters, should have used such a mixture in preference; and also, as in the instances given above, he put his initials correctly enough—the horse before the cart—he is not likely, even if he used such a mixture of letters, to have himself got so completely mixed, as to reverse this natural order, and place the cart before the horse. Also, there are other Reading bells elsewhere, in which W figures as an initial of the founder; for instance, the treble at Week, Hants, inscribed in William Hasywood’s letters, and with his cross and shield, but with the single initial, W, the wrong way up. I am inclined to believe, though not without considerable hesitation, that W, either singly or in combination, on a Reading bell—except where W H are *both* in Hasywood’s capitals—always stands for John White.

Besides this bell at Hoggeston, in which I suppose White to figure as foreman to his predecessor John Hasywood, there is a bell at Caldecote, Cambs,† with a very similar mixture of stamps, without legend, in the following order: William Hasywood’s cross *patée*, Wokingham crowned cross, the newer lion’s head, S. George’s cross shield, the crowned Wokingham W, and the coin.

At Bloxham, Oxon, the fifth bell bears:—

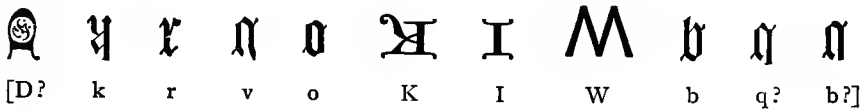
                  

* Mr. Ellacombe, in *Bells of Devon*, wrongly credits the bell already mentioned, which was formerly at Stonesfield, Oxon, with it.

† *Bells of Cambs*, 2nd edition, p. 123.

The black-letter is a very large set, $1\frac{5}{16}$ inches high. *Sancta* not only begins but ends with a capital, and the three last words are run together, and an aspirate prefixed. Some, perhaps all, of the capitals, are the reproductions of the original Wokingham set, of which samples are shown in Plate XIX. The last stamp is the later lion's head.

The second bell at Ewelme, Oxon, has the following unintelligible inscription:—



The initial D (or C?, see Plate XIX.) is like the lettering on the tenor at Winchester College, figured by Mr. Du Boulay Hill (*op. cit.*), but not so large. The black-letter smalls are of the large rough set used on the Bloxham bell; and the K I in the middle are in William Hasywood's set of capitals (Plate XVII. and XVIII.). The W is the largest on Plate XIX. While no interpretation for the remainder of the inscription suggests itself, it would not be safe to insist on I W standing for John White; but if it does, the capital K may also refer to someone connected with the foundry, perhaps as foreman, or even partner; and there is a name which, by an obvious inference, seems all ready to hand, to fit in to that position—that of William Knight, the first of that family of excellent bellfounders, whose history is treated further on as a separate affair from the original Reading Foundry.

There is another bell in Bucks, which I think was cast by John White.

The "hottest" time of the Reformation may be supposed to have been during 1534-36, and at that time a bellfounder, who did not wish to be made a martyr of by either party, would feel a little hesitation as to the class of inscription it would be most prudent to place on his productions (the era of semi-profane doggerels, and the almost equally objectionable advertisement of the names of vicar and churchwardens, not having begun). Founders, therefore, sometimes (as again during Mary's reign) took a neutral course, and either produced nonsense inscriptions like the last, or else what are known as "alphabet" bells, which are also bells having no words inscribed on them that might bring the founder into hot water with either party, but having simply, either the whole, or more frequently a portion, of the alphabet on them. Such is the tenor at Boveney, inscribed

in William Hasywood's capitals, and without initial cross, or other ornament :—

A B C D E F G

Yet another somewhat eccentrically inscribed bell ought probably to be placed to White's credit, namely, the third at Marsh Baldon, Oxon :—



This is formed by the cross and last seven letters of the crowned Wokingham set alternated in a sportive manner in two lines, the upper of which is completed by Hasywood's cross, a circular stamp, not occurring to my knowledge elsewhere, and the later lion's head.

White is mentioned several times in the churchwardens' accounts of his own parish ;* and the following other persons may reasonably be supposed to have been relations of the bellfounder :—

1504-05. "White" was Executor of John Love.

1514-15. "Mr. White" buried.

Michaelmas. 1516-17.

In p̄mis for ryngyng of the grete bell for the knyll of Raphe white of Okynḡhm	xij ^d .
l̄t̄ for tylling of the grete bell at the knyll of whit the belfownders wif	... xij ^d
l̄t̄ for the grave of the same wif	... vjs. viij ^d .
l̄t̄ for cov̄yng of the same grave	... vj ^d .
l̄t̄ for the grete bell ryngyng at her buryeng	... xij ^d .

1519-20.

l̄t̄ of White for xij ^c . iij ^{qrs} . qrl̄. of old led at iiij ^s . x ^d . the C.	... iij ^{li} . xix ^d . ob.
l̄t̄ paid to White for iij ^c . of latthes, at v ^d . a C.	... xv ^s .

1520-21.

l̄t̄ paid to White the Belfounder for arrerag ^s of the glasse for the new wyndows in the quere in full payment for the same wyndows ...	} ... xiiij ^s . iiij ^d .
---	--

* Some of these are quoted from the *History of the Municipal Church of S. Lawrence, Reading*, by Rev. C. Kerry (Reading, 1883).

1523-24.

It to John Whytt for bords to the new seatts indebyd of old ... vij^s.
 1525-26. "Will. Whytt" buried.

1526-27.

It to John Whytt for viij brasses for bells cont i^c. & ix^{lb}. at iij^d. the j^{lb}. ... xxx^s. iij^d.

In *Letters and Papers, Foreign and Domestic*, February, 1529; 5330, Cromwell (at the Record Office):—

An Indentr Dať the viij th Day of ffebruarij	...	} li. iij ^o iij ^{xx} viij ^{li} . weight of bell Metall.
Anno H viij. xix ^o of a bargayn and delyuerry	...	
of metall towardę the making of a greate	...	
bell vnto John White of Reding by thande of Thomas Crumwell genť to the soġe	... ...

In the same :—

	An obligačōn Dať the xvij th Daye of ffebruarij	} CC m̄ke.
	Anno H viij. xix ^o Wherein John White	
John White	stondeth bounde to the said Thomas ...	
founder	in the some of CC m̄ke ft ^o of and for the pformance of ętayñ Couenante specefyed in a p̄e of Indentuż Dať the viij th Daye of ffebruarij	

S. Lawrence's (Reading) accounts continue :—

1534-35.

Rec of John White for the yeres rent of y^e teñte in the South side } xiijs. iij^d.
 of the newe frete endyd at the same ffeaft (= midsoġm) ...

This is repeated each year until 1547-48: in which last account, "ij^o teñte" are specified.

In the account rendered at Ascensontide, 1539, by the churchwardens of Thame, Oxon, is the charge already quoted (p. 46) for breakfast for "mr white of Redyng & the men of london," and others. The men of London seem probably to have been Thomas Lawrence's party, who had unsuccessfully re-cast the treble and tenor. The account continues :—

Ifm p ^d for an obligačōn wt a Condičōn made betwene the	} viij ^d
forefaid maſt ^o white & the piſhe cōcernyng the trebull bell	

The accounts of S. Lawrence, Reading, continue :—

1539-40.

Rec for the knyll of Criftian white & ryngyng at her moñth mynde ... ij^s.
Graves—Rec for the grave of Criftian White & Coſyng thereof ... vijs iiij^d

In the same account, taken Michaelmas, 31-32 Henry VIII., = 1540 :—

paid to John White for plonks for seats vj^d.
paid to the same John for a bell whele vs.

may refer either to him, or (as in the case of the rent of the tenements above, during the latter part of the time), to his son,* as the bellfounder died or retired during that financial year, probably in the early part of it, because the name of his successor, John Saunders, appears earlier in the same account :—

Payd to John Saunders for kastinge of lvij^{li} of old brass at j^d ob the pound } xij^s. j^d. ob.
& for xx^{li} of newe brass at iij^d the pound }

And just afterwards :—

paid to John Saunds for his labour about the bells viij^d.

From the entire absence of the name Saunders in the Registers of S. Mary's, Reading, until 1576, or seventeen years after his death ; and also from the burials referred to in the accounts of S. Lawrence, in that town (the *registers* there do not extend back far enough to throw any light on the point), until his wife's and his own appear ; it amounts almost to a certainty that he was not a Reading man, but came there to succeed to White's business.

* John White's son is possibly referred to in the following extract from an Indenture of Delivery of Church Goods, 27th May, 7 Edward VI. (=1553). (Record Office, Exch. Q.R., Herefordshire, 7 Edward VI. T.G., 15136^{2/3}.):—

Wefton fubt^a Penyarde.

Iſm iiij^{or} belle whereof the leaft is xxx^{di} inches the fecond xxxj di inches the third xxxvij inches, the iiijth xvj inches brode o^v in the mouthes. for the caſting a newe of iij of the faid belle, they owe to John Whyte of Brystowe xxvj^s. viij^d.

Bridstow, Herefordshire, is between the parish of Weston-under-Penyard on the west, and Ross on the east.


He seems to have been in some way connected with Winchester* and London, as shown lower down; and it is within the bounds of possibility that he may have been one of "the men of london" who met "White of Redyng" at breakfast at Thame one morning in 1538-9, as above quoted.

John Saunders was casting at Reading from 1539 to 1559. There are a few bells which bear his initials, and as to which, therefore, there can be no reasonable doubt; but there are other bells connected with these by stamps or lettering, most of which are almost certainly by him, though one or two might be by someone else, from whom he afterwards obtained the stamps; others, possibly, by someone who followed him in their possession. These bells occur in Bucks, Berks, Oxon, Herts, Middlesex, Sussex, and Hants. I will try to reduce these to some sort of order, and select, to begin with, the treble at Fulmer (Bucks), inscribed in small black-letter:—

sancta maria ora pro nobis W
is

The *is*, which are the same lettering as the body of the inscription, are shown on Plate XIX., and also the *W*, the smallest example on that plate. I suppose this to be one of Saunders' first Reading productions, and that the *W* is intended to show his connection with White's foundry.

Next shall be mentioned the tenor† at Drayton, Berks, which bore:—

SANCTA S ANNA S ORA S PRO
 S NOBIS S  I S E

Examples of this set of capitals are shown on Plate XX. (upper alphabet). The words are divided by an S-like stop, which does not

* I have to give my best thanks to the Very Rev. the Dean of Winchester, for kindly giving me the opportunity to hunt (quite unsuccessfully) in the archives of that cathedral, in hopes of finding some clue to the existence of a bellfounder there, from whom Saunders might have obtained the Winchester stamps; and further, I am indebted to Alderman W. H. Jacob, for researches into the city archives, which were equally unsuccessful, so far as this object was concerned. Mr. Ellacombe (*Gloucester Bells*, p. 80) has shown that the well-known bellfounding family of Purdue came from Winchester: one, Symon Purdue, of Hyde Street, Winchester, having a son, George, born about 1580, who was afterwards bell-founding in Taunton, but it has not been ascertained whether Symon was himself a bellfounder.

† Now melted (at the Whitechapel Foundry).

occur in Bucks, and the square stop at the end is fig. 37, the arms of the Episcopal See of Winchester.

At Findon,* Sussex, Mr. Tyssen has recorded :—

☒ Sanct ☐ te ☐ ☐ gabri ☐ elts

The last syllable, though looking like a meaningless inflection of *Gabriel*, seems almost certainly to be intended for the founders' initials. The lettering consists of an initial capital belonging to the set used at Drayton, while the rest is in the small set of black-letter, used at Fulmer. The first (square) stop is fig. 37, the other (narrow) stop is fig. 38, which, from its family likeness, one cannot help suspecting to be, like the R L shield—which appears in the middle—an old Wokingham stamp, although I do not know of any earlier instance of its use.

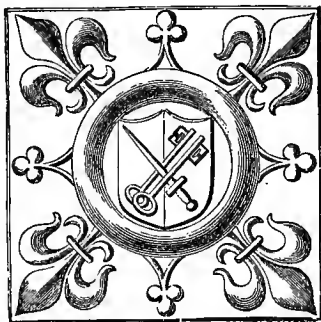


Fig. 37.



Fig. 38.

At Waterstock, Oxon, is :—

Sancte § nic § colae ☐ i ⊕ s

The same black-letter : the initial S is a small rough letter, not occurring, to my knowledge, elsewhere : the stop is the rope-pattern one, figured on Plate XIX : the R L shield, and the coin stamp also appear.

At Kimpton, Herts, Mr. Stahlschmidt has recorded :—

sanc ☐ te ☐ ddn ☐ stane ☒ i ☐ s

* Melted at the Whitechapel Foundry, 1870.

in a larger black-letter, about 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches high ; with figs. 37 and 38, and the R L shield ; and at Brightwell Baldwin, Oxon, is :—

† s a n c t a : m a r i a † i s

in the same large black-letter, with a cross *potent*, of corresponding size, which I do not know elsewhere.

These half-dozen bells, having his initials, leave us in little doubt as to their authorship ; but at S. Peter Cheesehill, Winchester, the second and third (tenor) are respectively inscribed in the capitals and small black-letter already mentioned, with the Winchester Arms :—

	A	U E	G R A	D I	A
	s a n c t a	m a r	g r i t a	o r a	p r o n o b i s

It occurs to one to ask, without any immediate prospect of an answer, were not these two bells cast by a Winchester rather than a Reading founder? If so, was it the man under whom Saunders learnt his trade, or was it Saunders himself, working there before he went to Reading?

There are bells inscribed in the same small black-letter, generally with the syllables more or less divided, like the last, and with the Winchester arms, at Stoke Charity (Hants); West Itchenor, Easebourne, and Elstead (Sussex); Tidmarsh (Berks); and Greatworth (Northampts); with a capital letter to the first word, from the Drayton and Winchester set, at Sheffield (Hants); and Twickenham (Middlesex); with the substitution of the rope-pattern stop, shown on Plate XIX., instead of the Winchester Arms, at Fawley (Bucks); and an exactly similar bell at Basingstoke (Hants). At Hurley (Berks) the second bell has the following peculiar inscription in the same small black-letter, preceded by the Winchester Arms, and with the S-like stop freely interspersed :—

 s i s t e s b a s t i s a s e s

The only interpretation that suggests itself is, *Sancte Sebastiane*, but I will not undertake to say positively, that I have read every letter in this inscription correctly.

There are two bells in Bucks, inscribed in the large set of black-letter which was used on the Kimpton and Brightwell Baldwin bells. They are

without capitals, and have a shield as initial (Plate XIX.), which is not known elsewhere.

These bells are, the second at Hitcham, inscribed :—

∪ s a n c t e □ p e t r e □

and the fourth at Cheddington, inscribed :—

△[*]ancta □ maria □ ora □ pro□ nobis□

They are connected with this foundry by the stop (fig. 38), as well as by the lettering. The shield is charged with a barrel or "Tun," out of the bunghole of which a W is appearing. This is evidently a Rebus, and may read W-in Tun = Winton, or Winchester. The shield is *à bouche*, that is, there is a notch in what should be the *dexter* chief (this notch was cut to allow the lance to pass through as the shield hung over the breast). The stamp, however, was not reversed, so the impression is inverted, and the notch appears on the *sinister* side. In base are four letters, divided into two pairs by a small quatre-foil. These letters are, unfortunately, not clearly distinct on either example, and are evidently, like the shield itself, reversed; but are, I think, DR. OK. Saunders is the *most likely* man to have cast the bells, and, doubtless, procured the shield from Winchester, and probably three sets of letters, and other stamps as well.

In *Bells of Lincoln* Mr. North figures a somewhat similar stamp from a bell at Saltfleetby S. Peter, in that county. He describes it (p. 75) as, "a trade mark, consisting of a shield bearing the letter W, over which is a tun, and above the shield a plain cross terminating in a cross *pattée*, having a bell hanging from its *sinister* arm."

One more bell should, I think, be credited to Saunders, though, on the other hand, he may have been credited with more than his share already. This is the fourth at Goring (Oxon), inscribed in the large black-letter, and without any stop or other ornament :—

s a n c t e b l a s i

Entries in the books of the Founders' Company† show that for the last

* The S was never stamped.

† *Bells of Herts*, p. 17.

few years of his life, Saunders may have been also casting in London. In the year 1554-55 occurs the entry :—

P ^d for admytting John Saunders, Straynger	...	...	xij <i>℥</i> .
„ „ Gylbert Smythe, his S'ant	...	...	xij <i>℥</i> .

And in the annual entries of “quarterage” payments, his name has been found by Mr. Stahlshmidt during the next three years. In 1557-58 he appears to have been admitted to the “Livery” of the Guild, the entrance fine of xiijs. iij*℥*. being duly recorded. In the 1559 list, only Gylbert Smythe's name is entered, as a “Journeyman Stranger,” for Saunders died in Reading, intestate, in the year 1558-59.

No London-made bells by Saunders have been recognised, and Mr. Stahlshmidt much doubted if any were cast, thinking it quite possible that his getting the freedom of the Founders' Guild was for convenience in binding apprentices only. Still, I would suggest, as a very possible thing, that Saunders, in 1556, may have succeeded Austen Bracker in the business formerly owned by Walgrave, Crowch, Danyell, Jordan, and others, and that Gilbert Smythe was his manager in London, and Welles at Reading.

Saunders is mentioned frequently (besides the entries already quoted) in the churchwardens' accounts of his own parish, S. Lawrence, and in those of the adjoining parish of S. Mary, Reading.*

In S. Lawrence's accounts for 1539-40, is :—

Rec for the seat of John Saund's wyfe	v <i>℥</i> .
---------------------------------------	-----	-----	--------------

This is repeated in the next year's account.

In the account 35-36 Henry VIII. (= 1543-44), is :—

paid to John Saunders in full payment for the clock bell	iiij <i>℥</i> .	5 <i>s</i> .
--	-----------------	--------------

In 37-38 Henry VIII. (= 1545-46) :—

paid to John Saunders for a bell whele	v <i>℥</i> s. viij <i>℥</i> .
--	-----	-----	-------------------------------

At the reformation sale of goods belonging to this parish, is recorded in the accounts for 1 and 2 Edward VI. (= 1547-48) :—

Rec. of John Sawnders for etayne lateyn metall vnto hym sold as followeth/ that is to witt iij litle Canfticke† vj greate Canfticke A Branche w ^t vij Canfticke/ ij lampes/ A Beame w ^t x canfticke & spyndelle vj lynke xx laten Bolle† that were of the rode light/ ij Croffes A pax A Deske & iij smale Jmage vpon the deske weying all ix C weyght At xvijs the hundred/ which cumyth to	vij <i>℥</i> xiijs
--	-----	-----	-----	--------------------

* For the extracts from the latter parish, I have to thank A. D. Tyssen, Esq.

† An archaism, not an abbreviation.

‡ Sconces for tapers.

Rec. (&c.) of John Sawnders for a holy wa^p pott &^s a hand bell waying
 xxviiij*li.* at j*d.* ob. the *li.* iij*s.* vj*d.*

And in the same year :—

paid to Sawnders for Caftyng of the Litell bell which wayed before it was caft j C q ^{ar} att ij <i>d.</i> a <i>li.</i> xxiijs. iij <i>d.</i> & ^s for xiiij <i>li.</i> of newe metall att v <i>d.</i> a <i>li.</i> / vs. x <i>d.</i> which cumyth to	} xxix <i>s.</i> ij <i>d.</i>
Paid to John Saunders for a table stonyng in the quyer	

v*s.*

At the corresponding sale in S. Mary's parish (in 1546?), appears :—

Receyvid of John Saunders for iij ^C lacking ix ^{lb} of metall that was taken up of the graves and of oulde	} ... xlvi <i>s.</i> ij <i>d.</i>
Candlestycks at v <i>s.</i> the hundred	

Receyvid of John Saunders for half a hundred and iij^{lb} of metall viij*s.* vj*d.*

Among the payments for the same year :—

P ^d to John Saunders for hanging of the Bell & making the holes* xii <i>s.</i> iij <i>d.</i>	} ... v <i>s.</i> vj <i>d.</i>
P ^d for the ij ^o bell brasys x ^{li} & ^s di of his owne brasse at iij <i>d.</i> the pownde : and for the casting of our owne	

In S. Lawrence's accounts for 1548-49 (Michaelmas), in the list of debts to the church :—

At this day is remayning in the hands of John Sawnders the mores appell & the bells.

Debts, 1549-50.

It ther remayneth in the hand of John Sawnders the appells belonging to the mores dawncs & the bells	} he delyv ^{ed} it to Mr Dukland as he saith.
---	---

In 1550 :—

Rec ^d for the knyll of Saunders wife	xij <i>d.</i>
Rec ^d for the grave of Saunders wife	vij <i>s.</i> iij <i>d.</i>

1 Phil. & Mary. Sunday next after all halow-day (= 1st Sun. in Nov., 1555).

paid to John Sawnders for a crosse and a pair of cansticks	x <i>s.</i>
paid for a sakeryng bell	xiiij <i>d.</i>

* Perhaps the canons were broken, and holes had to be drilled through the crown of the bell, to hang it.

In 1556, a churchyard was granted, and a new wall built at “vijs. the perche ; each perche being xvij footes ;” among the subscribers is :—

John Sawnders j pche vij^s.

S. Mary's accounts record, under 1558-59 :—

Payd to the goodman Saunders towards casting of the bell ... LII^s

S. Lawrence's accounts, for the year ending Michaelmas, 1559 (1st Elizabeth), have :—

The Great Bell—Itm for the goodman Saunders knyll	...	xx ^d .
The Best Pawle. Itm for the goodman Saunders buryall	...	vj ^d .
Graves. Inprimis for the goodman Saunders grave	... vij ^s .	iiij ^d .

These refer, without much doubt, to the bellfounder himself.

In Edward VI.'s reign (1547-53), a Joseph Saunders was turned out of the Corporation of Reading, for alleged seditious words.*

“Nicholas Saunders,” who appears in S. Lawrence's list of the defunct, in 1586-7, was no doubt a relation—very likely a son—and “Will. Saunders,” who rented seat No. 12, in “the North Ile,” in 1607, at a charge of 3*d*., was probably the representative of the family a generation later again.

The baptisms of two daughters of the latter are recorded in S. Lawrence's Register—Mary, February 7th, 1605 ; Alice, 4th September, 1608.

A John Saunders, who died in 1638, and was buried at Uffington, Berks, gave to S. Lawrence's “One large” silver “Flagon.”

Saunders, of Woolston, is mentioned in Ashmole's *Visitation of Berks*.

The following inventory of Saunders' goods, was copied by Mr. Tyssen, at Oxford :—

(About the end of 1559). The inventory of the goods & catells of John Saunder late of Redyng in the county of Berks Bellfounder. pased by Robt Bowyer mayo of the Borogh of Redyng John Okhm Steward ther John Tatley & John Cowner.

(The following rooms are mentioned: the hawle, pler, chamber over hawle, another chamber over the shop, chamber over kitchen.)

In the litle hawle—

It viij pounds of woole in a baskatt	...	...	v ^s .
It vj brasse potts vj chafars† iij pannys	...	iiij ^d .	vj ^s . viij ^d .
It fyve basons of laten	...	...	... v ^s .

* Man's *History of Reading*, p. 362. (*Ex. inform.* A. D. Tyssen, Esq.)

† Saucepanns.

It a chafer ij chafyng dyshes ij potts & a mortar	...	x ^s .
It iiij brochis* ij paire of pott hoks ij gredirons	}	xiijs. iiij ^d .
ij cobbards† ij dryppyng pannys & iij pott hengers		
It xxj candelstycks	... ..	x ^s .
It C xxxviiij ^z of pewter	... ..	... xlvjs. viij ^d .
It olde bell mettall the value	... ..	x ^{li} .
It ij pannys	... ..	... x ^s .
It coolys‡	... ..	... v ^s .
It xv new cast potts	... ..	... x ^l s.
It pott molds	... ..	iiij ^z . x ^s .
It molds for bell hedds	... ..	... x ^s .
It iiij loods of hay	... ..	xxvjs. viij ^d .
It bell molds & tolys|| apptayning to the bell howce	xiiij ^z . vjs. viij ^d .	
It woode	... ..	... vjs. viij ^d .
It ij hoggs	... ..	... vjs.
It a cow	... ..	... xx ^s .
It a mare	... ..	... xx ^s .
It xvij new potts in the shop & a xj hande bells	vj ^z . xj ^s .	
It a xj kettells & olde metall in the shopp	vj ^z . vjs. viij ^d .	

Sm. iiij^{xx} one pounds ijs.

What happened to this ancient foundry when Saunders died, is not clear. There is a manuscript book preserved among the archives of the Corporation of Reading, entitled *The Booke of the Names and Ordinnances of the Cutlers and Bellfounders Companye*. Unluckily it is undated. It contains lists of "The Cutlers, The Bellfounders, Brasiers and Pewterers, Smithes, The Pinners, The Barbors, The Carpenters," and a variety of other trades; and some "perticuler Orders" regulating some of them. It gives the names of three bellfounders (presumably separate businesses) co-existing in the town, namely, William Welles, William Knighte, Vincent Gorowaye. Mr. Tyssen§ considered the date to be about 1565, but Mr. Stahlschmidt¶ thought it should be put somewhat earlier, for, in the books of the Founders' Company, of London, for 1518, he found the name of Winsent Galaway, while a William Knight was Under Warden of the Company in that year, Upper Warden in 1528, and Master of the Guild in 1530-31.

This book contains also two "Generall orders agreed uppon by the said Mai^r & Burgis^ses & theier said comē Councill," as follows:—

* For broaches = spits. † ? Sideboards, or Cupboards. ‡ Coals.
 || Tools. § *Bells of Sussex*, p. 20, foot-note. ¶ *Bells of Surrey*, p. 94.

“ Itm—that no mañor of psonne from hensfourthe shall set upp occupy or use any trade mistery sciens crafte or occupacion within the said Boroughe of Reading or the Liberties of the same other then suche as be or shalbe allowed & registred Freemen of the same Boroughe unlesse the said pty or pties do first agree & compound wth the Maior & Burgisfes ther.”

“ Itm—that every Strannger & Forryner that shall happen to com to inhabite occupye or use any occupacion within the said Boroughe or the Liberties thereof as is afsorsaid shall pay to the use of the Hall of the said Boroughe suche Fines at the leaste apporcioned alowed & stalled* for the said sciens & occupacion as hereafter followeth w^{ch} fines shalbe payed fourthwth upon his or theier allowannce or admittannce.”

Then follows a list of “ The Fines apporcioned allowed & stalled for the sciences & occupaçons of The Cutlers & Bellfounders Company,” among which is :—

Bellfounders fine to be at the least ... iij^l.

which is £1 more than is put upon any other trade.

Another volume among the Reading Archives, is the *Book of Freedoms*, which begins in 1603. It classifies upwards of forty trades and occupations, but bellfounders are not mentioned.†

Probably all three of the above founders learnt the business in the old Reading Foundry, and eventually each set up for himself independently. I find Knight (or a son and namesake) casting on his own account from 1567 (and he probably began earlier), and as his and his descendants' business seems to have been disconnected with the old foundry, it is here treated as a separate affair further on.

(VINCENT GOROWAY.) No bells by Goroway (or Galaway, etc.) are recognised, and he may be dismissed with a very brief notice. In the churchwardens' accounts of S. Lawrence (Reading), is :—

1564. Recd of Vincent Gorway for x^{li} of certayne brasse ... xij^s.

In the churchwardens' accounts of S. Giles' parish (Reading), is the following, which seems more likely to refer to him than to anyone else :—

1569.

Itm paid for the castinge of the Bell xxix^s iij^d
 Itm payed to Vyncent‡ for the pte of Castinge of the Bell ... xij^s iij^d

In the Marriage Register of S. Mary (Reading), are :—

* I.E., *ordained*, or *made*. † *Ex inform.* A. D. Tyssen, Esq.

‡ Vincent occurs as a surname in these accounts, in 1508, 1522, etc., but in this item it seems at least quite likely to stand for Goroway's christian name.

- 1574* ffebrua Jonas (?) Gorowaye to Alice Okhame iiiijth
 1585 Septem Robart Gorowaye to Rose Watlington xijth

Among the "Chryftenynges" at S. Giles' (Reading), are :—

- 1578 The 20 of June Annis Goroway Baptized
 1588 the 10 of november Thomas Garoway Baptized
 1590 The 19 of Apprell James Gorowaye [and another] was Baptized
 1592* The 1 of Januarie Elizabth Gorowaye baptized
 1593* The . 24 . of march Elizab: Gorowaye
 1598 December The . 3 . Willm Goroway

The name appears as "Conawaye" (with further variations), in S. Lawrence's Registers, during the seventeenth century.

William Welles has been considered as the successor of **WILLIAM SAUNDERS**, though there seems hardly more reason to suppose that he was such, than in the case of Goroway. Knight, I think, may well have branched off into an independent business some years earlier.

There only remain, so far as I am aware, two Reading bells of uncertain authorship, still to be described. These are, the treble at Leckhampstead, inscribed, like the last bell attributed to Saunders, in his larger black-letter, without any stop or ornament, but spaced out with such extraordinary irregularity, as almost to suggest that the stamps were applied to the *cope*, just after the founder had been entertained to dinner by the churchwardens. The spaces vary from two to seven inches :—

g a b d e b i r g o m a t r

Possibly this bell was cast during Saunders' reign, but as Leckhampstead is over forty miles distant, as the crow flies, from Reading, he may have sent his assistant (? Welles) to cast it on the spot.

The other bell, the treble at Radclive, has an interesting mixture :—

[☞]Sancte □ George □ ora ○ M v

The S is a clumsy imitation of the crowned Wokingham set, and so is probably the G, though it is not crowned. These, and the capital O, are

* As previous to 1752 the year began 25th March, this would belong to the following year, according to the present (Gregorian) calendar; and so with other dates quoted further on.

shown on Plate XIX. The smalls are the same large black-letter, except the o (in George), which is oval, and not black-letter, and smaller than the other letters. The two square stamps are the Royal Heads (figs. 2 and 3), usually believed to represent Edward III. and his Queen Philippa. Something of the first chapter in their history has been given on p. 11, and they subsequently passed through many hands, but were not previously known to have at any time taken up their abode in Reading. The Queen's Head (hardly, however, the original stamp) was in existence more than two centuries later again, being used by Hedderley, of Nottingham, on a bell at Duffield, in Derbyshire, in 1786.*

The circular medallion is William Dawe's well-known stamp (fig. 16), though he must have been dead nearly a century and a half when this bell was cast. It seems a reasonable surmise, that *if* Saunders undertook a business in London, in addition to that at Reading, his successor may well have done so too, and that he procured these stamps there.

The initials K V follow: for the former (lying on its back) William Hasyllwood's letter is employed; for the latter, a letter about the size of the Wokingham crowned set—perhaps a copy without the crown. It is possible that William Knight had not started his independent foundry when this bell was cast, and (as before at Ewelme), the K *may* refer to him working under Welles; and though perhaps unlikely, yet it is not impossible, that V stands for Vincent Goroway. I cannot find any possible donor's or rector's name to fit.

I found no references in S. Lawrence's (Reading) accounts to Welles as a bellfounder; but when there was a "gathering of this parrysh," "For the new casting of Kelsall, ye Great Bell," in 1567, which was executed by William Knight—among the subscribers appears the name "wyllm wells—xvj*d.*," while another subscriber was "John well*e*—vj*d.*" Among the persons whose bequests, interments, and obsequies are therein recorded, are:—

1569-70, Goodman Wells buried in the church. Wells' daughter. 1573-4, Goodman Welles. 1574-5, Alice Wells. 1593-4, Goodwife Welles. 1602, Richard Wells.

And in the Registers of S. Mary's (Reading), are:—

Baptized: 1541, John Wells. 1544, Hen: Welles. 1546, James Welles. 1595, Janua, ffanncis Welles. 1598, Sara Welles. And—1600, Mary: 1601, Phebe: 1608, Richard:—children of Thomas Wells.

Married: 1547, Agnes Welles. 1551, John Wellis. 1583, Agnes Welles to Anthonie Knight.

* *Bells of Herts*, p. 11.

Buried: 1541, John Welles. 1542, Alice Welles. 1550, ffebrua, Agnes Welles. 1552, Joan Welles. 1577, John Welles. 1589, March xvth John Welles. 1602, Agnes, wife of Antho: Knight. 1602, William Welles somtimes servant to M^o Tatnoll.

The Inventory of Welles' goods, however, at Somerset House, shows him as a bellfounder, and contains some curious items. It is not itself dated, but is docketed 1572; the latter of the above-mentioned "goodmen" Welles, was therefore, doubtless, the founder; and he probably died about March, 1572-3:—

The Invētory of the Goodes and cattells of wyllm welles of Reddinge in the countye of Barke late Defeaſed: prayfed* by Robarte wayelande John Yately & Raphe mercer/.

"The hawle" and "the parlour" contained nothing of special interest. "The chamber over the parlor." besides "ij beddſtede, a flockbedd, ij blanquette, a bolſter and a curtyn," contained,

Itm ij boſes a ſheiffe of arrowes	...	} x ^s
a habbarde a ſworde & a cōte of plate		

Then come "The chāber over the hawle," "the lyttle hawle," "the chāber over the ſhoppe," "the chamber over the kytchyn," "his apparelle." Then—In the back-howfe,

Itm a Querne to grynde mawlt	...	xiijs	iiij ^d
Itm a bowltinge whytch, † viij tobbes	}	...	xv ^s
iiij kyvers, a wellhockett			
a wyne vefſell & ij trooffe ‡			
Itm viij peyre of bellowes & a conycage||			xl ^s

In the bell-howfe.

Itm an Iron beame wth his aptenance	iiij ^z	xiijs	4 ^d
Itm ix led wayghtes. & a ſledge	...	iiij ^z	
Itm pott mowldes	...	...	xl ^s
Itm in woode	...	...	xx ^s
Itm ij meltinge pannes	...	...	xx ^s

In the ware howfe.

Itm in olde Iron & mettell	...	iiij ^z
----------------------------	-----	-------------------

In the buttrye (*inter alia*) a Dragge. § In the kytchyn (*inter alia*) a ffurnace p^{re}ce xiijs iiij^d (&c), a Iron ſlyce ¶ (&c), a poſnett. ** iij ſkillete †† (&c), a latten bafon with a Sky^{mar}, (&c), ij flower potte.

* For *priced*, or *appraised*.

† A bolting-hutch is the wooden receptacle into which the meal is sifted.—*Halliwell*.

‡ Troughs. || The earliest record I have met with of tame rabbits.

§ Probably a truck or trolley for moving heavy weights (= bells).

¶ A fire pan for wood fires; or, "an instrument of the kitchen to turne meate that is fried." Elyot, 1559.—*Halliwell*. ** A little pot.

†† A small pot of iron or copper or brass, with a long handle.—*Halliwell*.

The Inventory ends with his possessions "In lynnem."

Sm^a 61^{li} 3^s 8^d By me Roberte wayland Raffe mercer.

Itm iij Iron beames xv^s

By 1578, Joseph Carter was manager of this foundry, but whether he took up the business immediately on the death of Welles, or Goroway, or whoever the last man was, is not known.

Before beginning the chronicle of Joseph Carter's doings, it seems simplest to turn to a London business, which he afterwards took: and which, though the pedigree at that time is not clear, may very likely have been the continuation of the ancient business whose first known chief was Dawe, and about which we get a little mixed by the middle of the sixteenth century* (see p. 47).

THE WHITECHAPEL FOUNDRY.

(ROBERT MOT.) In 1570, Robert Mot appears as a bellfounder in Essex Street, on the north side of High Street, Whitechapel, London, where Tewkesbury Court now is, in the then country parish of S. Mary Matfellow. From that date to the present time the business has continued uninterruptedly. Mr. Stahlschmidt† believed that Mot was a native of Canterbury, and the son of John Mott,‡ who at the time of the reformation, did a good trade in that city, buying up old metal, the plunder of the monasteries and churches. It is not known where he learnt his trade; it may have been under William Oldfield, bellfounder of Canterbury; or, perhaps, under Thomas Kempe, bellfounder, whose burial at S. Botolph, Aldgate, is mentioned in the following extracts from the churchwardens' accounts and parish clerk's books of that parish (for which I am indebted to Mr. A. D. Tyssen). They also supply some information about Mott:—

1574 Receyved at the Buryall of Thomas Kempe bell founder the 1 day of }
 Auguste for One Afternoon's Knell with the great Bell } xiv^s
 (C W a/cs Book 1.)

* It should be recollected that there was little demand for new bells from the latter part of Henry VIII.'s reign, until well on in Elizabeth's reign.

† *Bells of Herts*, p. 43.

‡ A Patrick de la Mote was appointed Master Founder of Ordnance at the Tower of London, in the reign of Henry VII., 15th December, 1485.—*Materials for the History of Henry VII.*, I., 219, where the grant is given.

The trebble Bell changed by Mr Mott the 20th of June, 1588 (Book 3.)

1589 Memerandum that the second bell beinge cracke was taken downe and chandged the xxxth day of July ano 1589 with Robert Mott a Bellfownder dwellinge in Whyt Chappell Parrishe By Ihon Watterskott then being Church Warden (Book 4.)

the Wayght of
the Newe Second
Bell.

Memerandum that the newe second Bell being wayed at the howse of Mr. Hayar a Widow dwellinge in Bishopsgate Streete neare unto the signe of the Bull the xxx^h daye of July ano 1589 it wayed 9^c and a half and Mr. Mott was to chandge the same for viij shillings the hondrethe alowinge wayght for wayght and for the over wayght Mr. Mott was to have vjd. the pound

Chardgis for
the hanginge of
the seconde Bell.

Memerandum that Mr. Waterskott beinge Churchwarden did pay unto William Underell being the Sexten of St. Buttolphes wthowte Aldersgate the xxx^h day of July ano 1589 for hanginge of the second Bell the some of xijs. this monye was payd hem by the Clarke the 23rd of Awgust at Mr. Hayse his house

Chardgis for
Cariedge and
Wayenge of
the sayd Bell.

Payd to a Carman for Caryedge of the Owld Bell to Mr.
Hagars howse and home to Mr. Motts howse ... xiv^d
Payd for wayenge of ye sayd Bell ... iv^d
Payd for Porteredge of the sayd Bell ... ij^d

1589

Item at the said Vestrie It was declared by Jhon Waterskott that the prishe Ded stand indebted unto Robert Mott Bellfownder for the Chandge of the second Bell which Bell was Chandged with hym the xxx day of July anno 1589 Last past the some of x^{li}. xiijs. vjd. as by a Bill of the sayd Reckninge Ded Apeare the wch some the prishe is to see hem payd at our Lady Day next cominge after the date above wrighten.

10li. 13s. vjd.
payd to Robert
Mott the Bell
fownder.

Memerandum that William Thomas beinge the Church Warden Ded paye unto Robert Mott the Bellfownder Dwellinge in Whyte Chappell prishe the xv^h day of Aprill Anno 1590 the some of x^{li}. xiijs. vjd. and was for the chandge of the second Bell chandged wth him the xxxth Day of July ano 1589 This sayd Mony was payd to the said Robert Mott in the p^sents of Robert Hayse Charles Russell and Thomas Harrydance.

16 Shillings
besyds the owld
greate Bell Clapper
payd to Stephen
Stephens for a
new Claper to the
Greate Bell.

Memorandum that Ihon Woodrofe and Humphrey Scraggs beinge Church Wardens ded paye unto Stephen Stephens the ix^h day of May anno 1592 the some of xvjs. and more they ded delliver unto him the owld greate Bell Clapper wayenge xlviij^{li}. at jd. the pound which ded amount to the some of ivs. So that Stephen Stephens had in all for the newe greate Bell Clapper which doth way lv^{li}. the some of xxs. so that the new Clapper doth stand the prishe verie neare in iv^d. ob. the pownd

(Book 4.)

In the churchwardens' accounts of S. Mary, Reading; among the Receipts for the year ending April 1st, 1605, is :—

Itm of Mr Motte for 90^l of Bell mettell Lefte xliij^s.

Mot had an extensive business—Mr. Stahlschmidt has, for instance, recorded thirty-four bells by him, now, or formerly, hanging in Kentish towers—but there is no example in Bucks. His foundry stamp (fig. 39) is here given, for comparison with subsequent modifications of it by successors.



Fig. 39.

JOSEPH CARTER.

In 1606 Mot sold the Whitechapel business to Joseph Carter, who, as already mentioned, was established by 1578 (very likely earlier), as manager of the ancient Reading Bell-foundry. In that year Carter, a parishioner of S. Lawrence, Reading, re-cast one of the bells of that church,* and another one two years later. In the churchwardens' accounts these transactions are thus recorded :—

1579.					
Collection of strangers & parishioners towards casting the bells &c.	...	...	...	li	s
The charges for stocking the v bells & and the new making the wheels, the letting down two bells & having them up again & other work (Among other items—)				xv	vj
Pd for 5 hoopes for the wheels	...	...	...	ij ^s	
Pd for a drugg† to cary ye bells to ye founders	...	...	...		vj ^d

* *History of S. Lawrence's*, p. 86.

† A timber carriage.

P ^d for bred and drink geven to them that helped downe ye two bells, and did help up ye gret bell againe	...	...	...	...	xviiij ^d
P ^d for a plank to make plate to keep the gudgens of the bells clene	...	...	...	...	xviiij ^d

1580.

Rec ^d of the parishioners of St. Mary's towards the casting of the great bell	...	xxiiij ^s	vj ^d
of our parishioners more this year in part	...	lviij ^s	obj.
paid to the bellfounder in part	...	xij ^{li}	
paid for making the two obligations	...	ij ^s	
p ^d for nails (duble xd) to amend the boxe of the bellrope	...		j ^d

1581.

Rec ^d of Mr Gryffen for ye pennance of our rent allotted to ye great bell by ye official	...	...	...	vij ^s
Rec ^d of goodman Moore towards ye casting of ye bells	...	...	vj ^s	
P ^d for bred and beer for them w ^{ch} helped down with the bells	...	...	ix ^d	
P ^d to Josephe Carter for the rest of casting the two bells	...	vij ^{li}	xvjs	
P ^d to Weston for takinge down & hanging upp ye two bells & mending ye clockhouse	...	...	xxxix ^s	
P ^d for drink at the hanging of the bells	...	...	x ^d	
P ^d for bred and drink for cariedg of Kelsall* bell to & fro	...	...	xvj ^d	
P ^d for ye making ye obgacio† for Kelsall bell	...	...	viiij ^d	
p ^d to them that took paynes to help up ye sayd bell	...	...	vij ^d	
p ^d for caringe ye clapp into london street	...	...	ij ^d	
p ^d for caringe home of ye truckes lent us to carie o ^r bells	...	...	iiij ^d	

1582.

Rec ^d of Josephe Carter bellfounder at seuerall tymes for ye rest of ye mettall y ^t was left out in casteyng ye fourth bell and gret bell	...	...	vj ^{li}
P ^d for bred and drink for them yt help to take down ye bell	...	...	vij ^d
p ^d for making Kempesall bawdrick	...	...	xvj ^d
p ^d for bred & drink for them yt helped up ye bell	...	...	vj ^d
p ^d for light when ye gret bell was hanged up	...	...	—
p ^d for the hanging up of the great bell	...	...	xxj ^s
p ^d to Gallant for helping about the bell etc.	...	...	xvj ^d
p ^d to two other men for helping at ye belles casting	...	...	viiij ^d
p ^d for caringe of Kelsall to & fro	...	...	iiij ^d

1584.

Itm paid to Joseph Carter bellfounder for rest of his dew for ye bell castinge	xviij ^s	vj ^d
Itm to Weston for taking down the 4 ^{to} bell	...	iiij ^s

* The tenor or "great bell," named after its original donor—Harry Kelsall. In the account for 1503-4, is, "It rec^d of Rendall Kelsall for wast of torchis at ye yer mynd of Harry Kelsall, x^d." It was cast by William Hasylwood in 1498, and re-cast by William Knight, in 1567.

† Obligation, or bond.

1585.

Item collected in the parish towards the paiment of casting a bell	iiij ^{li}	xiiij ^s	iiij ^d
Paid to Carter due to him by the churchwardens in ye yere before	v ^{li}	xiiij ^s	iiij ^d
paid for the cariage and re-cariage of ye bell	...	...	viiij ^d
paid for hanging ye second bell	...	...	iiij ^s
paid for making ye obligasion for ye bell	...	...	xij ^d

In the account for 1588, under "Profits of the women's seats," comes :—

Some removed to higher seats.

Jos. Carters wife	vj ^d
-------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----------------

In 1593, Joseph Carter was churchwarden of S. Lawrence, and the following most sensible resolution seems undoubtedly his suggestion :—

toling by
the clapp. Whereas there was through the Slothfulnes off the Sextine in times paf^t, a kind off toling ye bell by ye clapper rope : yt was now fforbedden and taken away : & that the bell shoud be toled : as in times paf^t : & not in anie fuch Idle forte. J. SMITH, (*the Vicar.*)

It is a pity there is not an equally efficient churchwarden in every parish at the present day, to put a stop to the pernicious practice of "clapping" or "clogging"!

1594-5

The charges of hanging of ye gret bell	...	...	...	viijs	viiij ^d
To Bartlaight for a daies worke	...	...	...	...	x ^d
So remaineth in my hand towards the casting of the gret bell	...	...	...	iiij ^{li}	vij ^s j ^d

By this account appeareth that the sextine gave ov^e the maintening of the tackling that belonged to the belles, as ropes &c and therfore bated of his receits xxij^s

(This sounds like another reform effected by the worthy churchwarden.)

At this accompt also yt was agreed That our gret Bell shoud be cast againe, and not so much the Tune of the bell was cared for. as to have yt A lowd bell and hard ffar. And the churchwarden, Joseph Carter, consented and agreed, to cast yt before Midsomer ffollowing : And fo he was chofen againe Churchwarden the second Time. There being p^rsent— m^r ffranceys More, m^r. Johnson, m^r. Lydall, goodmā Ruffell, the churchwardens, wth others.

JOHN SMITHE, Vica.

(Joseph Carter, Robert Malthus, churchwardens)

29 of December 1596. a^o 39 Reginæ Eliz

Kelsall. The accompt concerning the gret bell

The gret Bell waied when he was firft taken downe 34^C. 38^{li}.

The fame Bell hanged vp againe ys increafed in mettall to 36^C. 49^{li}.

So the overplus of metall ys 211 ^{li} . for w ^c . ys allowed to Joseph Carter, at vij ^z . the poūd	...	...	...	...	...	vj ^z xvij ^s j ^d
Also he ys allowed for the casting of the bell, by the ffirst bargin	...	...	...	...	...	vij ^z
And forasmuch as y ^t fell out that he was inforced, by misfortune of a fall, in the first casting, to cast him twise againe. Therefore there ys allowed in curtesie to the sayde Joseph, being o ^r . neighbour, aboue his bargin of increafe	...	...	...	...	...	x ⁱ
So the somme off the whole	...	...	...	...	...	xv ^z vij ^s ij ^d
Whereof paide by the arreraigies of the last accompt remaining in his own hands						} iiiij ^z vij ^s j ^d
Rest due to him	...	...	...	...	xj ^z x ^s	

(The same year, 1596) the accompts of Robert Malthus being the
accountant:—

Paid to Howse the carpenter ffor taking down and having up the gret bell	} xx ^s .
...	

(This entry comes twice).

To Mr Burgesse Carter	...	...	...	...	vj ^d
paid to Gallant for strappes for the bells	...	...	...	...	xij ^d
Kelsall cast | Geven to the belfounders workmen that cast the gret bell	...	...	...	...	xij ^d
Paid to those that drew the gret bell to the church from Jos Carters howse	...	...	...	...	ij ^s
Paid to Howse for the old whele of Colsall	...	...	...	...	iiij ^s
Paid to Howse towards the new fframe more than otherwise I received	...	...	...	...	xvij ^s ij ^d

(Robert Malthus was then discharged. The following note added next
year):—

Note the cause whie Joseph Carter was nott discharged accordinge to the ordinarie
proceedings of this place was because the yeere before (as yt appeareth by the same
accompt) the church remayned in his debt for casting of kelsall & other expenses then
sett dowē xj^z x^s w^{ch} he doth receive by this next accompt as followeth

Joseph Carter his accompt taken the [] of December 1597 Thoñs Clercke his
ptner

P^d to Joseph Carter for debt dewe to him by his old accompt ... xj^z x^s

(Subsequently J. Carter was present at parish meetings, April 16th,
1599, and May 1st, 1603.)

Ap. 16. 1599. P^d Greffin the Smith for mending the Ladie Bell clapp ij^s

Ap. 11. 1602. Item p^d to Mr Carter for heweinge (?) the iiiijth bell ... v^s

This entry seems to show something amiss with the fourth bell, and the
following entries probably refer to its eventual recasting either by Joseph

Carter's successor at Reading, William Yare, or by the principal Reading founder of that day—Henry Knight :—


Ap. 11. 1613. Item collected towards casting the 4th bell ... xiiij^s xvj^s vij^d
 Item paid for newe castinge the 4th bell and expended in workman
 shippe, stuffe & laborers, at for & about necessary affaires of the } xxxj^s xiiij^s vij^d
 churche, as by a bill of the pticulers seen and allowed ... }

I have notes of fifty-one bells by Joseph Carter, dated from 1581 to 1609; viz.: in Berks (sixteen), Oxon (nine), Bucks (eight), Sussex (seven), Hants (six), Kent (three), Essex and Surrey (one each). There is also a bell at Pamber, in Hants, dated 1579, which is probably by him. It appears to have been the second of a contemporaneous ring of four, the first and third of which were recast by him a few years later, inscribed :—

1. Glory be to Thee O Lord (former bell dated 1598)
2. ⊕ THAT HAST SENT VS THY H◇LY W◇RDE 1579
3. O Lord even for Thy Holy Name (present bell by Carter, dated 1582)
4. Inflame our hearts to love the same (former bell dated 1579)

During twelve years beginning 1581, he used several clumsy sets of black-letter, sometimes alone, sometimes with one or more capitals, from an equally varied assortment of clumsy sets; the inscription always taking a devotional form.

The Bucks examples are: the third at West Wycombe :—

Blecced be the name of the lorde 1581 
Joseph carter

The third at Dorney has the same inscription, in the same lettering (except the B); with the coin and R. L. shield—each repeated twice, in place of the small quadrilateral stop; and dated in the following year.

The tenor at Weston Turville has the same inscription, but without the name, in heavier lettering, with the addition of the coin, and dated 1590.

There appears to be no bell by him (extant) between 1592 and 1597; from this latter year his inscription is secularised into the form shown on the tenor at Oakley, which is inscribed partly in the same lettering as the two first Bucks bells, the remainder being made up from a still clumsier set :—

Thiſ bell waſ made 1601 ꝥꝰꝢ

This shield is an exact copy, plus the insertion of his initials on the field, on either side of the lower bell, of a stamp used originally by the Richard Brasyers, of Norwich, or, at any rate, by the junior of the two, in the second half of the fifteenth century (fig. 55). Its history is traced, as far as possible, in treating of the Leicester and Bedford Foundry.

In this year Carter became possessed of a very pretty small set of Lombardic capitals, which do not occur in Bucks, and first used them at North Stoke (Oxon) for his sole reproduction of a mediæval Latin inscription, with the royal monogram, fig. 40.

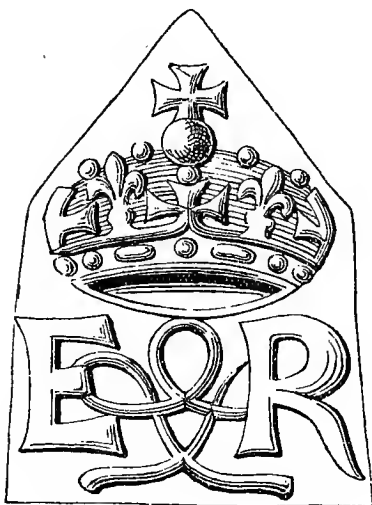


Fig. 40.

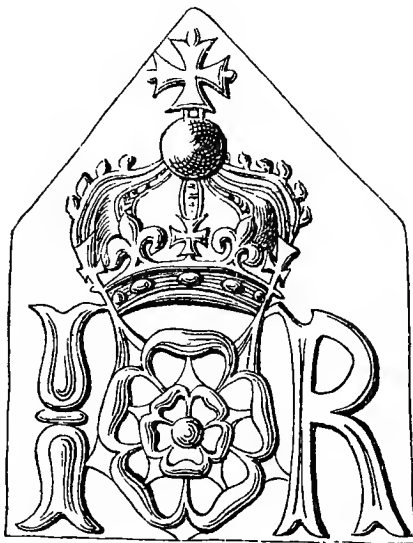


Fig. 41.

In 1602, he reintroduced Saunders' set of quasi-Lombardic capitals (the upper set on Plate XX.), the Wokingham set of smalls, and the stamp of arms of the See of Winchester, fig. 37. There are two examples in Bucks thus inscribed, dated the following year:

The fourth at Little Missenden:—

 I R
 thiſ bell waſ made 1603 ꝥꝰꝢ

The change of sovereign in this year is marked by the new royal monogram, fig. 41.

The second at Great Missenden, cast in the same year, has the same inscription in the same letters, but instead of the royal initials above the inscription, it has the addition of what are no doubt churchwardens' initials, and fig. 37 repeated a dozen times. This is the last year that he used any of his old sets of black-letter.

In 1606, as above said, Joseph Carter took Robert Mot's Whitechapel business, in addition to his own at Reading. Mot then retired, and died in 1608.

In 1606, Carter began using a perfectly plain set of Roman capitals, of which style Bucks has one example, the fourth at Weston Turville, with the same shield :—

THIS BELL WAS MADE 1608 IUC

and all round, above the inscription, runs the pattern shown on Plate XX.

In 1608, he adopted from Mot, the large ornate set of Lombardic capitals, shown as the lower set on Plate XX. Bucks has one such example, the third at Wingrave :—

JOSEPHS CARTER ME
HEE 1608 john theed

the last name being in very narrow black-letter "smalls," not belonging to any previously known set.

Carter may have procured any of the three sets of letters used on these two last bells from London, though he put his son William in charge of that business, and he, himself, continued founding in Reading until his death, which occurred in May, 1609. The entry of his burial, in the register of S. Lawrence, Reading, is given in full on p. 90.

His will is dated February 14th, 1609, and was proved April 2nd, 1610 :—

(Principal Registry H.M. Court of Probate. Prerogative Court of Canterbury).

In the name of God Amen.

The Fowertenth day of February Anno Domini A Thowsand six hundred and nine And in the seaventh yeare of the raigne of our sovereigne Lord James by the grace of God King of England Fraunce and Ireland and of Scotland the three and fortith I **Joseph Carter** of Reading in the Countie of Berks Belfounder being sick in body yet of good

and perfect mynde and memory (thanks be given to Almighty God) Doe make and declare this my present testament conteyning herein my last Will and Testament in manner and forme followinge that is to say Fyrst and principally and before all things I commend my Soule to Almighty God my Maker and to Jesus Christe his only sonne my only Saviour and redeemer by whose most pretious death paynfull passion and glorious resurrection I faythfully trust and stedfastly beleve to be saved and to have everlasting lief and by no other meanes And I will that my body shalbe buried in S^t. Laurence Church in Reading aforesaid And as concerning the disposition of all and singuler my goods cattles chattles plate debts Leases and other thinges. whatsoever moveable and vnmmoveable whereof I am possefsed I whollie give and bequeath the same in manner and fourme following That is to say Fyrst I give and bequeathe to and amongst the poore people of the parish of S^t. Laurence in Reading aforesayd the somme of fortie shillinges of good and lawfull money of England And to the poore people of the parish of S^t. Mary in Reading aforesayd Twentie shillinges And to the poore people of the parish of S^t. Giles in Reading aforesaid xx^s. And to the poore of the parish of S^t. Mary Matfellon in Whitchappell London Twentie shillinges All which I will shalbe distributed and given amongst them where most neede shalbe within one yeare next after my deceasse by my Executor hereafter named, and by the discretion and oversight of the Overseers of the poore of the sayd severall parishes Item I give and bequeathe to my daughter Alice Burden the wief of John Burden six pownds thirteene shillinges and fower pence in money To be payd her within one yeare next after my deceafse Item I give vnto Roger Burden the sonne of the sayd Alice the somme of Tenne pounds sterling And to Catherine Burden Joane Burden Alice Burden and John Burden the other children of the sayd Alice my daughter the some of Twentie sixe poundes thirteene shillinges and fower pence of like money to be devided amongst them That is to say To every one of them the somme of six poundes Thirteene shillinges and fower pence To be payd vnto them at such tyme and tymes as they shall attaine and come to their severall ages of one and twenty yeares or be maried which first shall happen chaunce or come And if it fortune any of my sayd daughters children to dye before they shall come to their severall ages of one and twentie yeares or be married Then I will that the other of them surviving shall have the parte and portion of him her or them soe dyeing part and part like to be equally devided amongst them Item I give and bequeathe to my (*sic*) Anne Yare the wief of William Yare Sixe poundes thirteene shillinges and fower pence in money To be payd her within one yeare nexte after my deceafse Item I give to John Yare and John (*sic*) Yare the children of my sayd daughter Anne the somme of Thirteene poundes sixe shillinges and eight pence in money To be devided betwixt them that is to say to either of them six poundes thirteene shillings fower pence To be payd vnto them at such tyme as they shall severally attayne to their ages of one and twenty yeares And yf either of them happen to dye before he shall come to the age of one and twenty yeares Then I will that the other of them surviving shall have the portion of him so dyeing Item I give to my sister Elizabeth Bennet Five poundes sterlinge To be payd her in five yeares nexte after my deceafse after the rate of twentie shillinges the yeare Item I give to Franncis Bennet her sonne Twentie shillinges of like money Item I give to Thomas Bartlett my servaunt Twentie shillinges And to Elizabeth Hide my servaunt Tenne shillinges Item I give and bequeth vnto Catherine my wief All and singuler my goods Chattells cattells plate household stuff and other thinges whatsoever moveable which at the tyme of my deceafse I shall have

remayning in and about my dwelling house in Reading aforesayd (excepting all my Bells Bell Mettall, Moulds for making of Bells Beames scales weightes and other thinges incident belonging or in any wise appertayninge to the arte science or occupation of a Bellfounder) Item it is my will and I doe further devise and give vnto the sayd Catherine my wief the vse and occupation of all those severall roomes and partes of my dwelling house in Reading aforesayd which hereafter are particularly named That is to say The parlor, the parlorchamber, the gate-house chamber, the litle Buttry, the Loft over the yele house* the Colehouse within adioyning to the parlour All the garden, libertie to brewe and bake in the kitchen and to laye woode in the Backside with free ingrefse egrefse and regrefse into and out of the sayd severall roomes and partes of the sayd house and premises in by and through the vsuall wayes thervnto now vsed To have and to hould vnto the sayd Catherine my wief for terme of her naturall lief without any rent payeing therfore Item I devise and give vnto John Burden my sonne in lawe the vse and occupation of that Tenement with th'appurteñnces wherein he now dwelleth To have and to hould vnto him his executors and asignes during all the tyme and terme of yeares which in my lease is yet to come, without any rent payeing therfore he keepinge the same in good and sufficient reparations Item I devise and give vnto my sonne in lawe William Yare all my goods chattells and moveables whatsoever which I have remayning and being in and aboute my workehouse in the Towne and Countie of Oxōnt And twentie poundes in money Item I give to my servaunt John Higden Tenn shillings and to my Apprentice William Wakefeild sixe shillings eighte pence All the rest and residue of all and singuler my goods cattells chattells leases and debts whatsoever (not bequeathed) my debts being payd my funerall and legacies perfourmed I wholly give and bequeathe them to William Carter my sonne whome I make full and sole **Executor** of this my last Will and Testament And I request my loving freindes Mr. Robert Mavthus and Roger Knight to be Overseers of this my last Will, desireing them to be aydinge and afsistinge to my sayd Executor and to be a meanes as much as in them lyeth to cause all thinges in this my will conteyned to be setled and perfourmed in peace betwixt my wief and children And for their paynes therin to be taken I doe give them Tenn shillings apeece And as concerning the disposition of all my mefsuağs lands tenements and hereditaments wherof I am seised of any estate of inheritance or freehould my will mynde and intente is as followeth that is to say First I give to the Maior and Burgefses of the Borough of Reading aforesaid one annuitie or yearely Rent charge of Twentie shillings to be yfsueing payable and going forth of those my two messuages or tenements sett lyeing and being in Reading aforesayd over against St. Edmunds Chappell and now in the severall tenures of Thomas Randall and John Percey or their asignes To have and to hold vnto the said Maior and Burgefses and their Successors for ever vpon this condiçon that they shall and will yearely for ever employ and bestowe the same vpon the relief of those poore people and fatherlefse children which hereafter shalbe kept and relieved in the Hospitall in Reading‡ and to none other intente vse or purpose And yf the sayd yearely rent shalbe at any tyme

* Brew-house.

† "Workhouse" is, of course, not to be understood in its modern sense, but as "work-shop." Nothing is known about this possible branch foundry.

‡ The Union Workhouse now covers the site of these two tenements, but the payment is still kept up, and Joseph Carter's name is preserved in the list of benefactors.

vnpayd, it shalbe lawful for them and their successors to distreyne for the same Item I devise and give all those my sayd messuages landes tenements and hereditaments with all the rents and proffitts therof vnto the sayd Catherine my wief for terme of her ñrall lief And after her decease I will that the same shall remayne and come to the sayd William Carter my sonne and to his heires for ever charged with the sayd yearely payment of Twentie shillings towards the relief of the sayd poore people in the Hospitall In witnes wherof I the sayd Joseph Carter to this my last Will and Testament conteyning five sheetes of paper I have to every sheete therof subscribed my name in the presence of, **John Charlton and William Wilmer Sc̄r, Joseph Carter.**

Probatum fuit suprascriptum Testamentum apud London coram venerabili viro Maġro Johanne Hone legum Doctore Surrogato venerabilis viri Domini Johannis Bennet militis legum Doctoris Curie Prerogative Cantuariensis Magistri Custodis sive Commifsarij legitime constituti Secundo die mensis Aprilis Anno Domini Millesimo Sexcentesimo Decimo Iuramento Willielmi Carter Executoris dicti defuncti in huiusmodi testamento nominati Cui Commifsa fuit Administratio bonorum Jurium et creditorum dicti defuncti De bene et fideliter administrand eadem Ad sancta Dei Evangelia Jurat.

(30 Wingfield, 22 f^o O.B)

The following are the notices of this family down to the date of William Carter's death.

From the Registers of S. Mary, Reading (beginning 1538) :—

Baptisms : 1556, Eliz : 1583 Janua, Johan. 1599, Mary. 1604, Elizabeth, dau. of Thomas. 1606, Thomas, son of Thomas. 1608 February, Grace, dau. of Thomas. 1609, Thomas, son of Thomas. 1611, Ellynor, dau. of Thomas. 1614 Janua, Edward, son of Thomas. 1616 March xijth, Joane, dau. of Thomas.

Marriages : 1578, Lewis, to Anne Sawde. 1581 January, Nicholas Stockwell to Alice. 1582, Jeames, to Agnes Astill. 1599, Thomas, to Tomsen Bassett. 1602, John Watts to Johan. 1603, Thomas, to Johan Stringer. 1611, Richard, to Elzabeth Neall.

Burials : 1572, John. 1579, Christiã. 1603, January, Thomasine, W. of Thomas. 1606, March first, Elizab : dau. of Thom : 1608 February, Grace, dau. of Thomas. 1611 February, John, " a poore man dro : " 1614, Ellen, dau. of Thomas.

From the Registers of S. Lawrence, Reading (beginning 1605) :—

Baptisms : 1612 Januarey, Richarde, son of Richard. 1614, Richarde, son of Richarde. 1615 March 3, John, son of Richard.

Marriages : 1612, Richard, and Elyzabeth Neall.*

Burials : 1609 may M^r Joseph Carter set 21. 1612 Januarey, Richard.

Among the persons whose bequests, interments, and obsequies are recorded in the churchwarden's accounts of the same parish, are † :—

* Already solemnized that day twelvemonth (Julie xijth) at S. Mary's.

† For *sepultus* = buried.

‡ Kerry's *History of S. Lawrence's*, p. 80.

1582-3 Joseph Carter's child. 1599, Katherine Carter. 1603 Mrs. Carter's sister.

(Probably two children and a sister-in-law of Joseph.)

In "The ratement & payment for Seats" in S. Lawrence, Reading, in 1607,* "Josephe Carter" held Seat 2, in the Middle Aisle, at viij*d.* Three other Reading bellfounders' family names appear in the same list—Roger Knight had Seat 3 in the same aisle; while in "The North Ile," at 3*d.*, Will. Saunders had Seat 12, and John White, Seat 13.

On the death of Joseph Carter, in 1609, his son William **WILLIAM YARE.** being engaged in the Whitechapel business, William Yare, son-in-law to Joseph Carter, succeeded to the management of the Reading Foundry.

There is only one bell by Yare now in Bucks, the saunce at Aylesbury, which has the pattern, fig. 42, running all round, except where the date, 1612, takes its place; while underneath are his initials, in plain Roman capitals, on either side of the R. L. shield (fig. 36). Elsewhere, there are

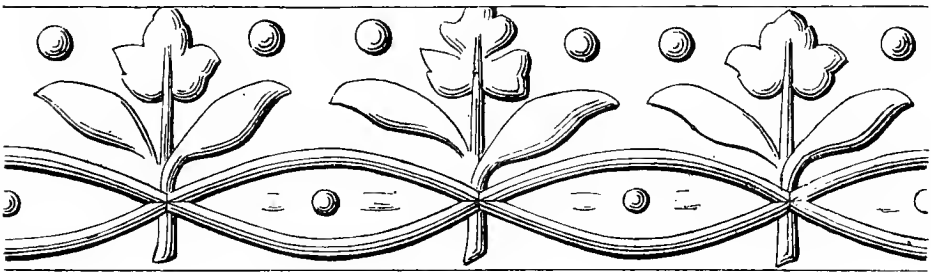


Fig. 42.

eight by him in Berks; four in Oxon, among which should be mentioned the sixth of "the bonny Christchurch bells," Oxford (in Carter's small Lombardics); and two in Hants. Quite possibly, of course, there may be a few more, still "undiscovered."

In the churchwardens' accounts of S. Mary's, Oxford, for the year ending Easter, 1617, are various items concerning the re-casting of "the first trebble" at Reading, and among them is:—

Item layd out in fyve journeyes to Readinge before William Yare his death, and since to recover the same bell, the same being (by the said Yare) solde into Buckinghamshire xv^s

Yare died early in 1616, as shown by his will, given below, and with him ended the direct line of the old Reading Foundry.

* Kerry's *History of S. Lawrence's*, p. 80.

The will of William Yare, of Reading, Bellfounder; dated 22nd January, 1615-16, proved 19th April, 1616, is as follows:—

In the name of God amen. The two and twentieth daye of January in the yeare of our Lord God 1615, and in the yeeres of the Raigne of our Souraigne Lord James by the grace of God kinge of England Scotland and Ffraunce and Ireland Defender of the ffaith &c That is to saye of England Ffraunce and Ireland the xijth and of Scotland the nyne and forth I William Yarre of Readinge in the county of Berks Belfounder being sicke in body but of good and perfect memary thanks be to God Doe declare and make this my last will and testament in manner and fourme followinge that is to saye Ffirst I commend my soule into the handes of Allmightie God my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ by whose most precious death and resurecōn I hope to be saved and my body to be buried in christian buryall wthin St^e Giles Church yarde at the discrecōn of my Executrix hereafter named Item I devise and give vnto the poore people of the parish of St^e Gyles in Readinge twentye shillings in money Item I geve and bequeath unto John my sonne tenn poundes in money to be delivered and paid into the handes of my ouerseers hereafter named within two yeares next after my decease or vpon the daye of the marriage of Edith now my wife which first shall happen by them to be employed for the use and benefit of my said sonne until he shall accomplish and be of the age of one and twenty yeres And if my said sonne shall happen to dye before he shalbe of the age of one and twenty yeres then my will and meaninge is that the said legacie of tenn pounds shall remayne and come unto Jane my daughter Item I geve and bequeath unto Hughe Walden my Man my dublet Jurkyn and hose w^{ch} I vse to weare Item I geve and bequeath unto John Daye the younger all the syluer button w^{ch} now are uppon my dublet Item I geue and bequeath vnto Anthony Higden my horse mans coate w^{ch} I vse to weare Item I deuise geue and bequeath vnto Edith my wyfe whom I make full and sole executrix of this my last will and testament All the rest residewe of my goods and chattells whatsoever my debts paid my funeral expences discharged and theise my legacies pformed hopeinge that she will bringe vppe keepe and maynteyne my said sonne John with meate drinke apparell and scholinge meete and fytt for him untill he shalbe of the full age of — yeeres And I desyre my loueinge ffriends Mr William Iremonger and M^r. Randall Walton to be ouerseers of this my will and for their paynes to be taken therein I geve them tenn shillings a peece And in Witnefs that this is my last will and testament I haue hereunto sett my hand and published the same in the presence of John Anngell servant vnto William Wylmer Scr and Anthony Higden By William Yarre. Item I geve vnto my Servant Ellen my blacke cloake

proved 19th April 1616 by Edith his relict.

(“Cope,” f. 33.)

The Registers of S. Lawrence, Reading, have entries of the baptism of two children of William Yare: John, in Nov^r. 1607, and Ana, in June, 1611: while Anna Yaare, who was no doubt his first wife, the daughter of Joseph Carter, was buried in February, 1609 (-10).

(JOHN HIGDEN.) After Yare's death, and the final closing of the original Reading Foundry, some of the stamps came into the possession of a founder whose initials were I. H. It seems probable that they stand for John Higden,* mentioned in Joseph Carter's will as his "servant," or, as he would now be described, his *journeyman*. He evidently set up, not at Reading, but in Hampshire, perhaps at Winchester, as that county has at least fifteen bells with these initials, and, with the exception of the adjoining county of Sussex, I am not aware of the existence of any elsewhere.† They first appear in 1619; by 1622 (among other stamps) he used the R. L. shield, the groat, and the cross *fleurette* (Plate XIX.). By the next year he had added the stop, fig. 38; and the R. L. shield being no doubt by this time, rather the worse for wear, he cut away the shield and initials, and stamped only the bell. His usual inscription—at first in plain Roman capitals; by 1623 in black-letter; and from 1632, in Lombardic capitals—was, IN GOD IS MY HOPE. His date extends to 1651, with a re-appearance in 1681.‡ From the similarity of inscriptions, and also from one of his earliest bells having, in addition to his initials, those of I. B., it is probable that his foundry had some connection with that of R. B., who has not, I believe, been identified or localised.

WILLIAM WAKEFIELD. It will be convenient to turn aside to dispose of another small off-shoot—or what we believe to be such—from Carter's Reading Foundry. The second bell at Wingrave bears the donor's name, the founder's initials **W W**, and is dated

O M
A N D O 1618.

* This was also suggested by Mr. Tyssen, *Bells of Sussex*, p. 44, foot-note.

† There is, however, a bell at Harpsden, in the south-east of Oxfordshire, which is connected by stamps, and may be by a still later owner. Some of the stamps are unrecognizable, and all are poor impressions, probably both from the fact of their being worn out, and also from imperfect fusion of the metal. The inscription is as follows:—

D □ ⚐ R □ □ □

The second stamp resembles "5" with the horizontal top stroke missing; next comes the bell, *razed* from the R. L. shield (fig. 36); the fourth is probably an R; the next stamp is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ of an inch square, bearing an irregular oval, like a face; the sixth stamp is quite obliterated; and the last is the later lion's head (fig. 33).

‡ At Martyr Worthy, *sic* A. D. Tyssen, Esq.

The only founder known about this time with these initials, is William Wakefield, who is mentioned in Joseph Carter's will, as his apprentice. Joseph Carter cast the third Wingrave bell in 1608, the donor being John Theed, who gave the second also, ten years later. It is quite conceivable that Carter being dead when Theed made up his mind to give this bell, he might apply to Wakefield to supply it, whom he may have known as an apprentice when the other bell was brought and hung. Whether his foundry was in Reading, or not, is unknown; he may have itinerated.

Only three other bells attributed to him are known—two in Sussex, dated 1632, and the other undated, at Kemsing, in Kent. Mr. Stahlschmidt says of this last, "The maker is readily recognisable from his habit of placing a quantity of initials on his bells." The Wingrave bell, however, does not agree with this description, nor does the lettering correspond with that on the Kemsing bell, a rubbing of which Mr. Stahlschmidt kindly sent me for comparison.

A Thomas Wakefield set up as a bellfounder at Chichester in (or before) 1614; whether he was a relation is unknown.

Though the old Reading Foundry seems to have terminated with William Yare, yet there was another bellfoundry at work in that town at the time, doubtless an off-shoot from the original foundry; and another one was established before this time at Wokingham, whence the original Reading Foundry had moved about a century before. The history of both of these is detailed further on.

(WILLIAM CARTER.) No doubt the successful competition of these two contiguous establishments considerably crippled the connection of the original business, and helped to cause William Carter (p. 87)—who was meanwhile working on at Whitechapel—to drop the provincial foundry, and confine himself to London. There is no example by him in Bucks at the present day (whatever there may have been formerly), or by his two immediate successors at Whitechapel, but as their further successors have, between them, contributed nearly one quarter of all the bells now hanging in its steeples, it would be a mistake to omit any link in this long chain of founders.

(THOMAS BARTLETT.) William Carter died in 1618, and was succeeded in the Whitechapel business by Thomas Bartlett, who had been "servant,"* *i.e.*, workman, and probably foreman, to Joseph Carter, and, no doubt, foreman to William.

* As mentioned in Jos. Carter's will, p. 88; see also p. 83.

It seems obvious that Thomas Bartlett came, like the Carters, from Reading, and learnt his business there. The Registers of S. Mary's and S. Lawrence's in that town, contain many entries of that name, which I add here.

Registers of S. Mary the Virgin, Reading (beginning 1538):—

Baptisms: 1564, Bridgett. 1567, Jane. 1600, Johā. dau. of (John *erased*) Astine. 1602, Augustine, son of Augustine. 1603, Mary, dau. of Austen. 1606, Elizabeth, dau. of Augustine. 1608, Williā, son of Augustine. 1620, George, son of Augustin. 1624, John, son of John. 1626, Willm, son of John. 1631, Anne, dau. of John. 1632, Augustin, son of Augustin. 1633, John, son of John. 1634, Margerie, dau. of Willm & Kathren. 1636, Judith, dau. of Augustin. Do., Elizabeth, dau. of John & Anne. 1639, Mary, dau. of Wm & Catherine. 1641(-2), February, William, son of William & Catharine. 1645, Agustin, son of William. [To end of 1707.

Marriages: 1563, John to Margaret Dell. 1593 [*left blank*], to Ellen. 1596(-7), February, Andrew, to Joane Parre. 1623, John, to Anne Thorne. 1625, Augustin to Joane Carter. 1643, William,* to Ursela Prise. 1644, William Simmons to Elizabeth.* 1648, George,* to Ann Hasel. [To Sept. 1654.

Burials: 1572, Marga. 1593, John, "Barber." 1600, John. 1602, Augustine, son of Augustine. 1628, Anne, wife of John. 1629, John, son of John. Do. William, son of John. 1631(-2), March, second, Augustin, "wine coper." 1634, Anne, dau. of William. 1635(-6), February, John, son of John. 1636 (?), Margerie, dau. of Willm. 1654(-5), February, Elizabeth. 1656, John. 1689, Philip. [To April, 1702.

Registers of S. Lawrence, Reading (beginning 1605):—

Baptisms: 1613, Elleseabeath, dau. of Avgostene. 1616, Margret, dau. of Avgvstin. 1628, Ann, dau. of William. 1638, Martha, dau. of John. 1653, Joanah, dau. of George. [To 1696.

Matrimonia: 1627, William, to Katherain Watte. 1637, John, to Martha Atkins. 1639, Phillip, to Elisab : Dangerfeild. [To 1654.

Sepulturæ: 1614, John. 1644, the fō of Jō. [To end of 1644, next 9 years missing.

In *Memorials of Stepney*,† the Mother Church of Whitechapel, are mentioned, 1641 and 1642, Henry Bartlet, sidesman ; 1656, James Bartlett, under churchwarden ; in 1657 he appears "in Shadwell," that is the south part of the parish, as churchwarden ; Samuell Bartlett, supposed to have been a goldsmith, was appointed in 1649, assay master to the Mint : and ejected 1660 (*State Papers, Domestic* 1649-52, 1660, etc.). I have thought it well to note these names, although it is hardly likely that they were relations of the bellfounders.

* In these three the name is spelt Barklet.

† By Messrs. Hill & Frere, 1890-91.

**(ANTHONY
BARTLETT.)
JAMES
BARTLETT.**

Anthony Bartlett succeeded his father Thomas, in 1647, and was in turn succeeded in 1676 by his son James. Their business seems to have been small, and, as before said, there are no bells in Bucks by either of the two first of this family.

By James Bartlett there are four bells left at Denham, out of the first ring of eight ever erected in the county. They are alike inscribed in plain Roman capitals:—

IAMES BARTLET MADE ME 1683

and having underneath, the medallion, fig. 43, an exact copy of Robert Mot's stamp (fig. 39), except for the insertion of Thomas Bartlett's full name, in place of Mot's initials.

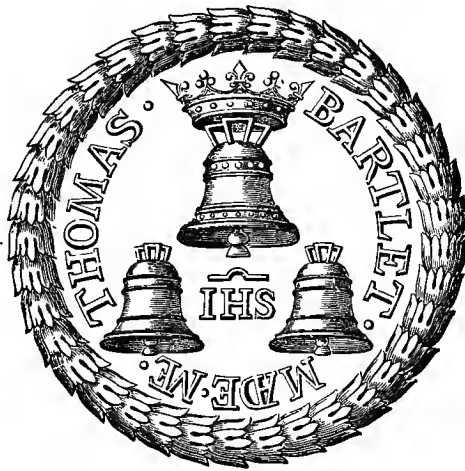


Fig. 43.

According to Dr. Raven (*Bells of Cambridgeshire*, second edition, p. 96), Anthony Bartlett used the medallion without any legend beyond the sacred monogram near the centre, as shown in fig. 44. Both Mr. Tyssen and Mr. Stahlschmidt say he used Thomas' medallion.

James was a member of the Founders' Company, paying his fine for admission to the livery in 1677, and serving as Under Warden in 1691-2, Auditor in 1693-4, and Upper Warden in 1695-6.* In 1698, he paid a fine of £4, for not serving as Master in his turn. His burial is recorded in the Whitechapel Register, on January the 20th, 1701^o:—

* *Bells of Surrey*, p. 97; *Kent*, p. 96.

James Bartlett, bellfounder from y^e High Street.



Fig. 44.

RICHARD PHELPS. Bartlett's sister, Elizabeth Bixon,* widow, was his administratrix, and she it was, no doubt, who gave a lease of the premises to Richard Phelps. "Under his management this foundry assumed the importance which it has preserved ever since," as Mr. Tyssen very truly puts it.

Phelps was born at Avebury, in Wilts. This fact he has recorded on the tenor of that church, which (in addition to the names of vicar and churchwardens) is inscribed: "Richard Phelps, London. Nat. Par. hujus fecit 1719."†

He was in business for himself before he succeeded Bartlett at Whitechapel, for there is a bell at Burham, in Kent, by him, dated 1700.‡

Where his first foundry was is not known, nor where he learnt his business. At Kempley, Gloucestershire, Mr. Ellacombe records a bell inscribed:—

ALL PRAYSE AND GLORY BE TO GOD FOR EVER. THOMAS FELPS, 1680

* The registers of Allhallows, London Wall, record the marriage of Arthyr Bickson and Elizabeth Bartlet, 1st November, 1661; and of William Luckin and Mary Bartlet, 17th December, 1665.

† Lukis, *Church Bells*, p. 110.

‡ *Surrey Bells*, p. 102; *Kent*, p. 190. I have to thank the Rev. C. A. Hoddinott, of Chichester, for obtaining, at considerable trouble, information as to another bell by Phelps, which had been reported to me as of this date.

And in the *Members' Book* of The Ancient Society of Ringers, at S. Stephen's, Bristol,* the signature of Thomas Phelps occurs in November, 1682, and November, 1685, but does not appear in a list of members in 1697. It does not follow that he was a bellfounder, nor that he was father of Richard Phelps, but both are quite possible.

There are some one-and-twenty bells remaining in Bucks by Phelps, and there were certainly six more, formerly, which are now broken and melted, and, no doubt, others. The dates are: Langley, 1706; two (remaining out of eight) at High Wycombe, 1711; two at Wooburn, 1712† and 1718, respectively; five (remaining out of six) at Great Marlow, 1719; two at Horton, 1719 and 1727, respectively; Hambleden, 1724; Slough, 1725; three at Stoke Poges, 1728; one at Radnage, and no doubt the saunce at Turville, with merely the date, 1729; probably the single bell at Biddlesden, with merely the date 1734, in small figures; and one at Amersham, from which the inscription has been cut off, and carefully filed away, but which is evidently by him, as the two little ornaments which he generally used are left—something of a *fleur-de-lis*, and a cross. He seldom put any inscription on his bells beyond stating that he “fecit,” or its equivalent in the vernacular, “made me,” and the date, except the names of vicar and churchwardens, or other functionaries; but at Horton, in addition, he placed on the bell cast in 1719:—

HONOUR GOD

and on the Hambleden treble, in addition to similar particulars, he added:—

GEORGIUS REÆ

and on the three bells at Stoke Poges he used impressions of two coins, three centimetres (nearly 1·2 inches) diameter, or they may be the two sides of the same coin. On the one (both stamps look like reverse sides) is a cross potent (or what is, I imagine, intended for that ordinary) with the letter R in the four inner angles; legend, “IN . HOC . SIGNO . VINCES . 1725.” On the other a rectangular figure, (?) perhaps a coat of arms, crowned; the legend begins with “IOANN,” but I am unable to decipher the whole of it.‡

In 1706, Phelps used a perfectly plain, heavy-faced set of Roman capitals, after the fashion of Bartlett's, but a trifle smaller. By 1711 he

* Now merely social and convivial.

† This bell was probably originally one of the Wycombe eight.

‡ Mr. A. E. Packe informs me that probably they are the two sides of a coin of John V. of Portugal (1706-50).

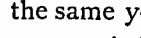
had changed to a set about the same size, but lighter—what is known as “old-faced.” By 1719 he had added a smaller set of “old-faced” capitals, which he used either by themselves, or as “smalls” to the last mentioned. The Ns in the two larger sets are reversed = ∇ . His stop was a semicolon of diamonds; and his only ornamental devices (besides the exceptional coins, latterly) are the two little ones before mentioned—something of a cross and *fleur-de-lis*, which occur in two sizes (Plate XXI).

In 1735, Phelps took into partnership his foreman, **THOMAS LESTER.** Thomas Lester, and died three years later, as appears among the burials in the Whitechapel Register,* under date 1738:—

Aug. 23, Richard Phelps, a man from y^e High Street.

By his will, Phelps bequeathed to Lester all his trade implements, business, and the lease of his premises. Lester, however, did not continue in High Street, but, in the same year, built the present foundry, number 267, Whitechapel Road, on a site previously occupied by the “Artichoke” Inn.

There are eleven bells by Lester in Bucks, dated 1741 at Chearsley and Fulmer; 1744 at Turville; the following year at Quainton and Ludgarshall; and 1749 at Burnham and Newport Pagnell, at which latter place there are five bells by him.

Lester used Phelps’ two later alphabets, substituting a new N for the old reversed ∇ of the larger; and in addition to the little cross-like ornament, he used a heart; a pattern consisting of a succession of concentric rings; a pattern composed as follows <xxx> to any length; and in 1749 appears for the first time the common “Whitechapel pattern,” formed by the intersection of segments of two circles, the ends of each pair of segments, beyond the points of intersection, forming with the next pair a lozenge, and finished at either end by a < and > respectively (); and in the same year he used on the Newport Pagnell sixth, a large rose; two figures consisting of three arms of a large Maltese cross, with a flourish in place of the fourth; a large crown; and a devil playing on a harp (Plate XXI). The Quainton tenor bears his and the churchwardens’ names, and the date 1745, *incised*.

With him began the bad style of inscription. Thus the treble at Newport Pagnell proclaims:—

AT PROPER TIMES MY VOICE ILE RAISE AND SOUND TO MY
SUBSCRIBERS’ PRAISE

* *Bells of Sussex*, p. 39.

**THOMAS
PACK.** In 1752, Lester took into partnership Thomas Pack, who had probably been his foreman. By them, Bucks has probably thirty-three bells. Four at Farnham Royal in that year (remaining out of six): the saunce at Haversham, with merely that date, and that at Great Linford, with merely the next year's date, in small figures differing from each other, are both probably from this foundry; one at Amersham, 1754; West Wycombe, 1756; Twyford, 1758; two at Wingrave and one at Beaconsfield, 1760; West Wycombe and Wooburn, 1762; Radnage and North Marston, 1763; two at Chalfont S. Giles, and the single bell at Ditton Park Chapel (Stoke Poges), 1764; the three clock bells at Eton College, 1765; probably the saunce at Marsworth, dated 1767; eight at Long Crendon, and one at Iver, 1768; and one at Newport Pagnell, 1769.

About 1763, they adopted a more "up-to-date" make of lettering.

They looked upon themselves as so closely joined in partnership, that they inscribed their bells in the singular: "LESTER & PACK FECIT," instead of the plural (FECERUNT) as one would have expected. The treble at Chalfont S. Giles has some comical orthographical errors; the bell is said to have been

RAISD BY VALENTERY SUBSCRIPTION

The fine ring at Long Crendon, in addition to the founders' names, the date, the "Whitechapel pattern," and an ornament which may be closely imitated by four Cs, with their backs placed towards the four sides of a small rectangular figure—bear the following lines:—

ALTHOUGH I AM BOTH LIGHT AND SMALL
 I WILL BE HEARD ABOVE YOU ALL
 ALL THOUGH BUT SMALL OUR TONES ARE GOOD
 JOHN BAKER BLACK SMITH FOR US STOOD
 PEACE AND GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD
 MUSICK IS MEDICINE TO THE MIND
 OUR VOICES SHALL WITH JOYFUL SOUND
 MAKE HILLS & VALLEYS ECHO ROUND
 TO HONOUR BOTH OF GOD AND KING
 OUR VOICES SHALL IN CONSORT RING
 YE RINGERS ALL THAT PRIZE
 YOUR HEALTH AND HAPPINESS
 BE SOBER MERRY WISE
 AND YOU.LL THE SAME POSSESS

IN WEDLOCK BANDS ALL YE WHO JOIN
 WITH HANDS YOUR HEARTS UNITE
 SO SHALL OUR TUNEFUL TONGUES COMBINE
 TO LAUD THE NUPTIAL RITE

This poetical effusion with some variations, was frequently used by the same founders and their successors (see Aylesbury), and is probably to be found in every county.

The seventh and eighth lines appear on the second at Iver, cast the same year, and in addition is :—

GLORY TO GOD ON HIGH

Lester and Pack frequently engraved the weight of a bell on itself, which is a very good practice.

Lester died on the 19th June, 1769, aged 66, having been taken with a fit the previous day. He had been to his lawyer's on the 17th, and had the draft of his will read over to him, and, intending to make some alterations, had not then signed it; however, on the affidavits of the two clerks who had attended to him, the will was duly proved.*

By this will, the Bellfoundry was left to John Exeter, of Hornchurch, Essex, gentleman, in trust for Sarah Oliver, Lester's granddaughter.

Lester had this year taken into partnership his nephew, William Chapman, who had previously acted as foreman, and there are some few bells, but none in Bucks, bearing this trio of names—Lester, Pack, and Chapman. Lester directed Pack, in his will, to take Chapman into partnership on equal terms; and they were to have a lease of the foundry at £75 a year.

By Pack and Chapman there are sixteen bells in Bucks; namely, Iver, 1770; Amersham and Woughton, 1771; Denham, 1772; Aylesbury (six remaining out of eight), Drayton Beauchamp, and Sherington, 1773; Amersham, 1776; Winslow, 1777; and Hambleton, 1778. The sanctus at Aston Clinton, with merely the date, 1778, is evidently by them also.

They generally used the "Whitechapel pattern," and the device resembling four Cs with their backs towards the four sides of a parallelogram.

* *Bells of Sussex*, p. 40.

They continued to use the singular, "FECIT," and, as before, frequently added churchwardens', etc., names, by incising, or engraving them after the bell had been cast. The Amersham treble has the couplet that has already appeared on the fourth at Long Crendon; while the ring at Aylesbury—of which two have been recast—were inscribed in a similar style of versification; some of the couplets being identical with those at Long Crendon.

Early in 1781 Pack died of consumption; and later in the same year Chapman cast a ring of five for Linslade Church, which were moved to New Linslade, or Chelsea, in this county, but a suburb or part of the town of Leighton Buzzard, in Bedfordshire, when that church was built in 1869.

In addition to names as usual, the treble (which is now the second, a new treble having been added) has a local adaptation, regardless of metre, of the rhyme on the Long Crendon second:—

ALL THO' BUT SMALL YET WE ARE GOOD
JOHN SWINSTEAD JUN. OF LEIGHTON FOR US STOOD

In the year 1762, as Mr. Tyssen has recorded, when Chapman was foreman to Messrs. Lester and Pack, that firm was commissioned to recast the big bell at Canterbury. Finding it more convenient to do the work on the spot, than to carry the bell to London and back again, Chapman was sent down to execute the task, and he inscribed the bell:—

GULIELMO FRIEND STP DECANO, LESTER AND PACK, OF
LONDON, FECIT 1762. WM. CHAPMAN MOLDED ME

Its diameter is seventy inches, and weight seventy hundredweight.

While engaged in this business, Chapman noticed among the bystanders a young man who seemed to take unusual interest in the proceedings. He offered to take him back to London, and teach him to be a bellfounder. The offer was accepted, and thus William Mears began his connection with the Whitechapel Foundry, where the name, through several generations of first-rate bellfounders, has become almost classic.

William Mears, having learnt his business thoroughly at this foundry, set up by 1777, somewhere in London on his own account; but in 1782, Chapman took him into partnership at Whitechapel, and the firm, under

the title of Chapman and Mears, sent nine bells, now remaining, to this county.

ROBERT PATRICK. Before, however, beginning to trace the generations of Mears, there is a branch establishment which has to be noticed.

Lester's granddaughter, Sarah Oliver, before mentioned, married Robert Patrick, a cheesemonger, of Whitechapel. He, in, or before 1782, went into partnership in a bellfoundry at Downham Market, Norfolk, with Thomas Osborn, who had been working there since 1780, or shortly before (see p. 116).

By 1784 Patrick had set up a bellfoundry in Whitechapel,* in opposition to the old-established business.

There are two bells by him at Pitstone, dated 1786; and one at Iver, dated the following year, which is the latest bell known by him. He seems to have died about that year, or, at any rate, he gave up founding, and his business was absorbed into the parent concern.

There has been a family of Olivers, church-bell hangers, in Whitechapel for many years past, working for this bellfoundry: it seems likely that they may belong to Patrick's wife's family. An Oliver hung the present ring at Great Marlow, in 1835, and uncommonly well he did his work; his grandson, likewise Oliver, hung the new ring of six at Lane End, in 1878, and quarter-turned two of the Great Marlow ring in 1892.

Messrs. Chapman and Mears cast the grand ring of eight at Buckingham, and no doubt the saunce at Great Missenden, in 1782; and the fifth at Wingrave, in the following year. The latter has only the names of the "Vicker" and churchwardens, but the Buckingham ring is embellished with doggerel much resembling the sample already given from the Long Crendon bells.

Chapman and Mears used the correct plural, FECERUNT, instead of the FECIT of their predecessors. On the tenor at Buckingham, is a circular stamp, 2.2 inches diameter, followed by names of bailiff and (four) collectors; then comes:—

I. MANDER HANG US

* The ring of eight bells at Reigate, in Surrey (one since recast), three of which bear the names of relations of mine; and the tenor at Shiplake, Oxon; are by him in this year.

(about whom I have not succeeded in ascertaining anything), followed by the date, the "Whitechapel pattern," and the founders' names.

(WILLIAM MEARS.) Chapman (like Pack) died of consumption, towards the end of 1784, aged fifty-two. William Mears continued the business by himself, but there is no example in Bucks of this period. In 1787* he took his son Thomas into partnership, and by William and Thomas Mears there are seven bells in the county—the single bell at Preston Bissett, 1788; the ring of six (second recast) at Great Brickhill, 1789, with the singular FECIT again; and the single bell at Loudwater, 1790.

WILLIAM AND THOMAS MEARS. In 1791 the foundry passed into the sole management of Thomas Mears, sen. By him we have twenty-two bells—at Little Hampden, Langley, Little Horwood, Beaconsfield, Whitchurch (two), Datchet (two), Chalfont S. Peter (five left out of six), Bradenham, Wotton Underwood (two), and High Wycombe (four); dated between 1791 and 1804; and the saunces at Iver and Shabbington, with merely the dates, 1792 and 1794, are also evidently by him.

The tenor at High Wycombe—one of the four above mentioned, dated 1802, has, in addition to a string of names, the following couplet:—

MAY ALL WHOM I SHALL SUMMON TO THE GRAVE
THE BLESSINGS OF A WELL SPENT LIFE RECEIVE

I quote this because it is quite exceptional in this class of bell inscriptions to know the author's name.

A ring of twelve was cast by T. Mears, for S. Chad's, Shrewsbury, where they arrived July 18th, 1798. The mottoes for them all, of which this is the tenor (there as here), were specially composed by Mr. Wilding, the master of High Ercall Grammar School. They appeared in the *Shrewsbury Chronicle* for July 27th, 1798, and more recently in *Bell News*, VI., 266. I am not aware that the other eleven couplets were ever repeated on other bells, and it is hardly necessary to give them here.

* In the List of Subscribers to *Clavis Campanologia, or a Key to the Art of Ringing*, published 1788, appears: "MEARS, William, Bell Founder, White Chapel, London, 20 Copies." And in Lowndes' London Directory, for 1789, Mr. A. D. Tyssen found "Mears, William, Bell Founder, 267, Whitechapel Road."

**THOMAS MEARS
AND SON.**

In 1805, the firm became Thomas Mears and Son, and under this appellation there are ten examples in Bucks—Twyford, 1805; the ring of six at Aston Clinton, in 1806; and Hedgerley, 1808; the saunce bells at Prince's Risborough and Waddesdon, dated 1805 and 1806 respectively, are doubtless also by them.

**THOMAS
MEARS, JUN.**

In 1810, Thomas Mears, jun., became sole manager, and by him Bucks has forty-nine bells, namely—Cublington (the saunce); Chesham (six); North Crawley (two); Wooburn (three); Newport Pagnell (two); Amersham; Chalfont S. Giles (two); Ellesborough (four remaining out of five); Stoke Poges; Great Missenden (two); Adstock; Chenies (six); Gawcott; Over Winchendon; Great Marlow (three); Eddlesborough (six and saunce); West Wycombe; Taplow (three); Stone; and Great Brickhill; the dates ranging between 1811 and 1840.

In June, 1818, Mr. Thomas Mears bought the property comprising the foundry, which had hitherto been held on lease, from the children of Robert Patrick, to whose wife Sarah (Oliver), her grandfather, Lester, had left it by his will as previously mentioned.

SOME LOCAL FOUNDRIES MERGED INTO THE WHITECHAPEL
BUSINESS.

At different times the younger Thomas Mears bought up four important bellfoundry businesses, and incorporated them into his own at Whitechapel.

THE HERTFORD FOUNDRY.

**JOHN
BRIANT.**

The first of these purchases was the business of John Briant, of Hertford. By him there are no less than forty-six bells in Bucks. A tolerably full account of him is to be found in *Bells of Hertford*, whence I take the following details.

He was born at Exning, in Suffolk, and his father intended that he should go to one of the Universities, and eventually take Holy Orders. He had, however, a great taste for mechanics—clock and chime-making specially engrossing his attention; and, having taken up this line, he soon (as has happened in various other instances) proceeded to bellfounding, at which he acquired a first-rate reputation. He is reported to have been an exceptionally painstaking and conscientious founder, preferring to lose by a job, to sending out a bad bell.

The earliest bell by him appears to be one at Hertford, dated 1782, and in this year Mr. Tyssen has found his name in the list of members of the College Youths' Society. The earliest date found in Bucks, is 1788, in which year he added two trebles to an excellent ring of eight, by Phelps, at High Wycombe. The names of some of his assistants are known, but two are there recorded—W. Ball and G. Harman, who were simply Wycombe tradesmen. Other assistants are, Islip Edmonds, who came to Briant on the death (somewhere about the year 1800) of Edward Arnold, of S. Neots, Huntingdonshire, to whom he had previously been foreman; Henry Skerman, a native of Hertford, who was with Briant over thirty years, and was an excellent foreman and bell-caster; and Henry Symondson, the tuner of his bells, who survived him.

Three bells in Leicestershire, dated 1803 and 1804, bear the joint names of J. Briant and B. Cort; the latter was merely an ironmonger in Leicester, through whom, doubtless, the order was received.

Briant's other bells in Bucks are one each at Nether Winchendon, Whitchurch, Newnton Longville; the ring of six at Padbury; one at Maid's Moreton; the ring of eight at Haddenham; one at Hardwick; the ring of six at Mursley; one at Hanslope; four at Halton; one at Wavendon; the ring of six at Bierton (the tenor cast previously to the upper five); the ring of six at Old Wolverton; and the latest is the tenor at Fenny Stratford, cast in 1824.

In 1825 he retired, and sold his business to Mr. Mears. Owing, it is said, to his generosity and aversion to pressing for his just dues, he fell into extreme poverty, and was driven to seek a home, in his old age, at the Spencer Almshouses at S. Albans, where he died on 27th February, 1829, in his eighty-first year. He was buried in All Saints' Churchyard, Hertford, and a muffled peal was rung on the occasion on the ten bells, by the Hertford College Youths.

THE ALDBOURNE FOUNDRY, WILTS.

(OLIVER CORR.) The Aldbourne Foundry seems to have been established towards the end of the seventeenth century by Oliver Corr. **(WILLIAM AND ROBERT CORR.)** William and Robert Corr were apparently in partnership between the years 1696 and 1719. As Oliver Corr's name appears in 1698,* they were probably his sons, commencing work

* Lukis, *Church Bells*, p. 13.

with their father. Robert's name alone, appears on a bell at Marlborough, dated 1724, and though it is not unusual to find one or other of their names alone, yet, as this is the latest known date for them by five years, it may be conjectured that William was dead by this date.

Then came John Corr, about 1728 to 1750, and Edward Read's name is given by Mr. Lukis (*op. cit.*) in 1751, and he appears at Blewberry, Berks, in 1757.

(JOHN CORR.)
(EDWARD READ.)
ROBERT WELLS. He seems to have been succeeded, about 1764, by Robert Wells, by whom there exist many bells; but the only example in Bucks is the saunce at Wendover, which bears his name and address, but no date. The saunce at Fringford, Oxon, is, to all outward appearance, a blank, but *inside*, on the waist, is, R : WELLS. It is probable that there are other examples by him, thus cryptographically inscribed. ROBT WELLS & SON occurs under date 1781, at East Hagbourne, Berks; but Robert's name, by itself, occurs again in 1786, and two following years.

At Seend, in Wilts, there is a bell bearing the names Robert and James Wells, dated 1793, which probably marks the boundary line between two generations. James was certainly casting by himself from 1800 to 1825, in, or shortly after which year, Mears bought the business, and the foundry was closed.

THE GLOUCESTER FOUNDRY.

There seems to have been a bellfoundry established at Gloucester at a very early date, but the evidence at present forthcoming does not prove its continuity down to recent years. The first glimpse we obtain of a bell-founder here, is afforded by a seal found some years ago "in the Thames," a direction fairly definite as regards latitude, but rather vague as to longitude.

This seal bore: * S' SANDRE · DE · GLOYCETRE, and a bell and a laver-pot; quite sufficient to show that this **(ALEXANDER, OF GLOUCESTER.)** Alexander, of Gloucester, was a bellfounder, or *potter*, as he would probably have called himself,* for the date of the seal is supposed to be about the end of the thirteenth century.†

* See p. 8.

† This seal is mentioned in the *Archæological Journal*, XIII., 73: Lukis' *Church Bells*, Plate XI.,: *Bells of Cambridge*, p. 11, and *Bells of Gloucester*, p. 3.

(JOHN, OF GLOUCESTER.) Half a century later, namely, in 19 and 20 Edw. III. (= 1346-47), we get the next glimpse of a bellfoundry here, when Master John, of Gloucester, cast four large bells for Ely Cathedral. The account for them of Robarte Aylesh'm, the Sacrist, has been given in full by Dr. Raven, in *Bells of Cambridgeshire*, second edition, p. 5.

After another gap of about half a century, another possibly Gloucester founder appears. A bell is recorded **(ROBERT HANDLEY.)** by Mr. Ellacombe, at S. Nicholas, Gloucester, by Robert Handley or Hendlel,* whom he conjectures to have been a founder in Gloucestershire, because his stamps occur frequently in that county, but nowhere—so far as he was aware—elsewhere. He puts the date of this bell at about 1400.

The next founder of whose existence, about a century later, there is any record, is William Henshawe.† **(WILLIAM HENSHAWE.)** Part of a brass to him and his two wives, remains in S. Michael's, Gloucester; and his name occurs as sheriff of that city in 1496 and 1501; and as mayor in 1503, 1508, and 1509.‡ To him Mr. Ellacombe attributed the bells with the initials W. H., which we now, with considerable confidence, assign to William Hasywood, of Reading (see p. 58).

Mr. Ellacombe has printed at length|| the will of **(RICHARD ATKYNS.)** “Richard Atkyns, Belfounder, of the town of Gloucester, in the parish of St. Mighell.” It is dated December 28th, 1529, and was proved at Lambeth on the 17th of the following February.

During the next century and a half, no bellfounder is known here.

In 1684, Abraham Rudhall commenced work in **ABRAHAM RUDHALL.** Gloucester as a bellfounder; in which year (spelling his name Riddall), he sent three bells to Oddington, and in the following year three to Norton—both in Gloucestershire. At the latter place Mr. Ellacombe quotes the name as Riddell. The same

* The inscription on this bell, like so many others in *Bells of Gloucester*, is given with variations, at p. 4 and p. 49. Among others, the name is quoted as HENDLEL in the former, and HANDLEI in the latter place.

† The name Henshaw, which is not a common one, occurs several times in the Registers of All Saints, Leicester: I will not go so far as to suggest that W. Henshaw learnt his business there!

‡ *Church Bells*, p. 12. *Bells of Gloucester*, p. 5.

|| *Ibid.*, p. 118.

date for the commencement of his work (1684), is given in a list of his bells, printed at Oxford in 1715, and preserved among Browne Willis' MSS. (xl.iii., 25). Up to that last-named date Rudhall had produced 1291 bells. Two bells are recorded by Mr. Ellacombe in Gloucestershire, which, at first sight, look like earlier Rudhall work, but as he makes no comment on them, we may be tolerably sure that the dates are among the numerous misprints in the volume. One of these is at Huntley, by "A R 1670," and the other at Coln Rogers, by "I R 1676." If we hazarded a guess that these dates are just a hundred years too early, we should probably not be far wrong.

It will be noticed by anyone referring to Mr. Ellacombe's pedigree of the Rudhalls, in *Gloucester Bells* (p. 79), that he entirely fails to connect the bellfounders with the ancient family of the same name,* of Rudhall, near Ross, in Herefordshire. (Rudhall, pronounced *Ruddal*, is in the parish of Brampton Abbots, less than two miles distant from Ross.)

In the *Continuation of Duncumb's History of Herefordshire*, by W. H. Cooke, Q.C., etc., 1882 (III. 165), a much fuller pedigree of the ancient family is given, beginning with Roger Rudhale of Rudhall, 9 Richard II.,† but there the family ends in the female line. The John (mentioned by Ellacombe) who died in 1636, was the only male of his generation who married, and he had only three daughters, and they all died unmarried.‡ If, therefore, the bellfounders belonged to this family, they must have sprung from a younger son of a previous generation.

There were two Johns about whose matrimonial arrangements Mr. Cooke is silent—one, Receiver-General of county Hereford in 1523, younger brother of the William Rudhale who was Sergeant-at-Law, and who was buried in Ross Church, March, 1529-30; and the other the youngest great-grandson of this William.

It is possible that one of these two married.

Mr. Cooke gives the oldest spelling of the name as Roedhale (somewhere between 1243-84).|| In 1326-7 the spelling Rudhale appears.

According to Mr. Lukis, who, however, gives no authority for the

* The identity of the arms, at so late a date, proves nothing.

† "Traditionally, their ancestors possessed estates in this locality, under the Saxon kings."

‡ According to Mr. Ellacombe, one of these daughters married: and lived until 1830, when she died, S.P., nearly *two centuries* after her father (whom, to make the jumble more perfect, he records as dying, "S.P.").

|| *Op. cit.* p. 152.

ABRAHAM statement, Abraham's son and namesake succeeded to the management of the foundry in
RUDHALL, JUN. 1718. As the father was then sixty-one, it is quite possible he may have resigned the charge to his son, who was then thirty-eight; but there seems to be nothing in the inscriptions to mark a change of hands. Neither the lettering, however, or running patterns on the numerous Rudhall bells in Gloucestershire are recorded by Mr. Ellacombe; and there is not sufficient material in Bucks to allow one to form an opinion.

By one or other of the Abrahams, there are some seventeen bells still in Bucks, *viz.*, the remains of the ring of eight at Bletchley, of which the three lower have been melted; the tenor, I regret to say, being parted with as lately as 1893. I do not know when he cast the sixth and seventh, but the third, fourth, and fifth, were cast in 1712; the second in 1713; the treble in 1717; and the tenor in 1718. In this latter year he cast the ring of six at Chicheley, and the ring of five at Shabbington.*

The Abrahams used the running patterns, and the bell, figs. 45 to 49.

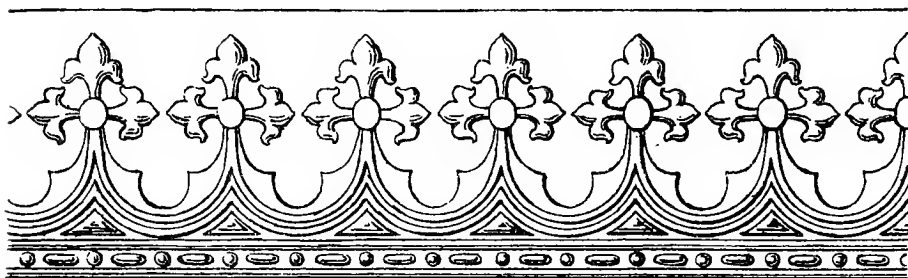


Fig. 45.

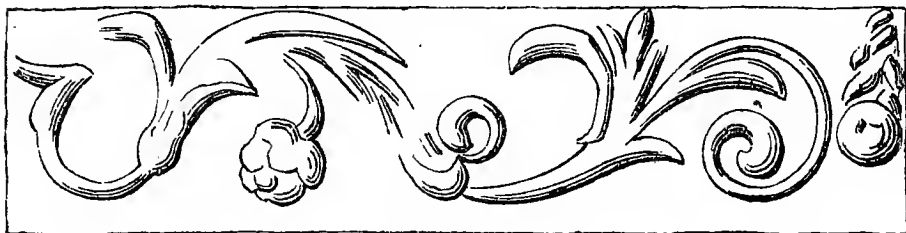


Fig .46.

* There are now six bells, a new treble having been recently added.

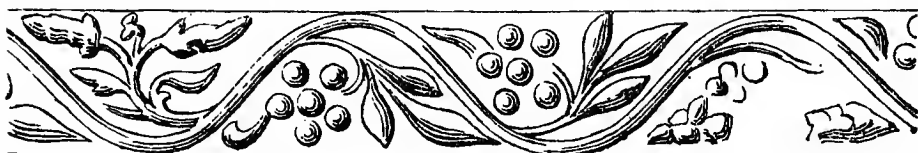


Fig. 47.

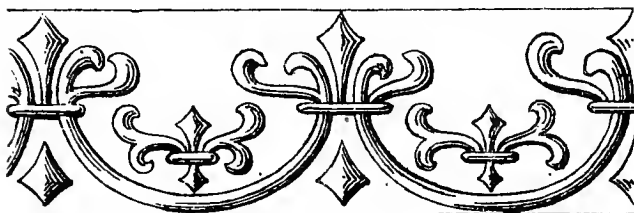


Fig. 48.

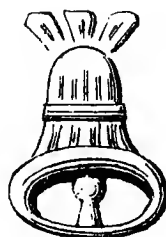


Fig. 49.

The loss of the Bletchley tenor is matter of regret, as it bore the name of that most excellent Buckinghamshire "worthy"—Browne Willis. Probably one of the effects of the munificent example he set at Fenny Stratford, is seen in the small bell there from this foundry, now doing duty as saunce, inscribed :—

THE GIFT OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE TO STRATFORD CHAPPEL 1723

It is unusual to find a Rudhall bell without initials, or, at least, some ornamental scroll-work ; the letters are a perfectly plain set, barely $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch high. It is most likely by the younger Abraham.

Fuller particulars concerning these two bells, which should have an interest for all Buckinghamshire people, are to be found under the parishes, in Part III.

Abraham Rudhall, the elder, died January 25th, 1735-6, aged seventy-eight, as stated on a mural monument in the north aisle of Gloucester Cathedral. Mr. Ellacombe* says that he was twice married, and that his first wife's name was Grace, which he apparently learnt from Abraham's will, proved in the February following his death. His (second) wife, Elizabeth, is mentioned on the above monument, together with four children—Priscilla, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph. Mr. Ellacombe's pedigree (*loc. cit.*) is, on the face of it, a jumble. Without seeing the will, one cannot be positive, but accepting Mr. Ellacombe's dates, it seems reasonable to suppose that he had children by both wives (see p. 113).

* *Bells of Gloucestershire*, p. 79.

Among other mistakes in Mr. Ellacombe's pedigree is the misprint, 1669, for the date of death of his wife Elizabeth; and the statement that the younger Abraham died December, 1735, and that his will was proved October, 1734. Either the two dates are reversed, or he ought to have said that the will was *dated* as above; or that the will was proved October, 1736. The second solution seems most likely.

ABEL
RUDHALL. Abel, the third son of the younger Abraham, succeeded to the business. By him there is the ring of five at East Claydon, cast in 1752. Four of them have the A & R and running borders, exactly as used by the Abrahams.* An extract from a letter by Abel, dated 1759, is quoted under Bletchley in Part III. He was twice married (*vide* Mr. Ellacombe, *loc. cit.*); first to Mary Holbrow, of Uley, who died 1753, and by her had Abraham, Thomas, Mary, and Charles. Secondly, to Eleanor Clifford, who died 1773, in her fifty-second year. By her he had a daughter and a son who died in their infancy, and John.

Mr. Ellacombe says that Abel died February, 1760,† in his forty-sixth year; and there are two bells cast in that year, at Tredington, Gloucestershire, one of which bears the name of ABRA RUDHALL IUNIOR. This would seem to be Abel's eldest son, a mercer. AB : RUDHALL, whose name appears on a bell at S. Mary le Crypt, Gloucester city, as churchwarden, with the date, 1769, was apparently the same individual, and so, I suppose, if the dates are not merely misprints in *Bells of Gloucestershire*, must be the founder of three bells in that county bearing the initials A R, at Staverton, 1771; Horfield, 1773; and Eastleach Turville, 1789; but he does not appear to have followed the calling of a bellfounder regularly. He died 1798, in his fifty-fifth year.

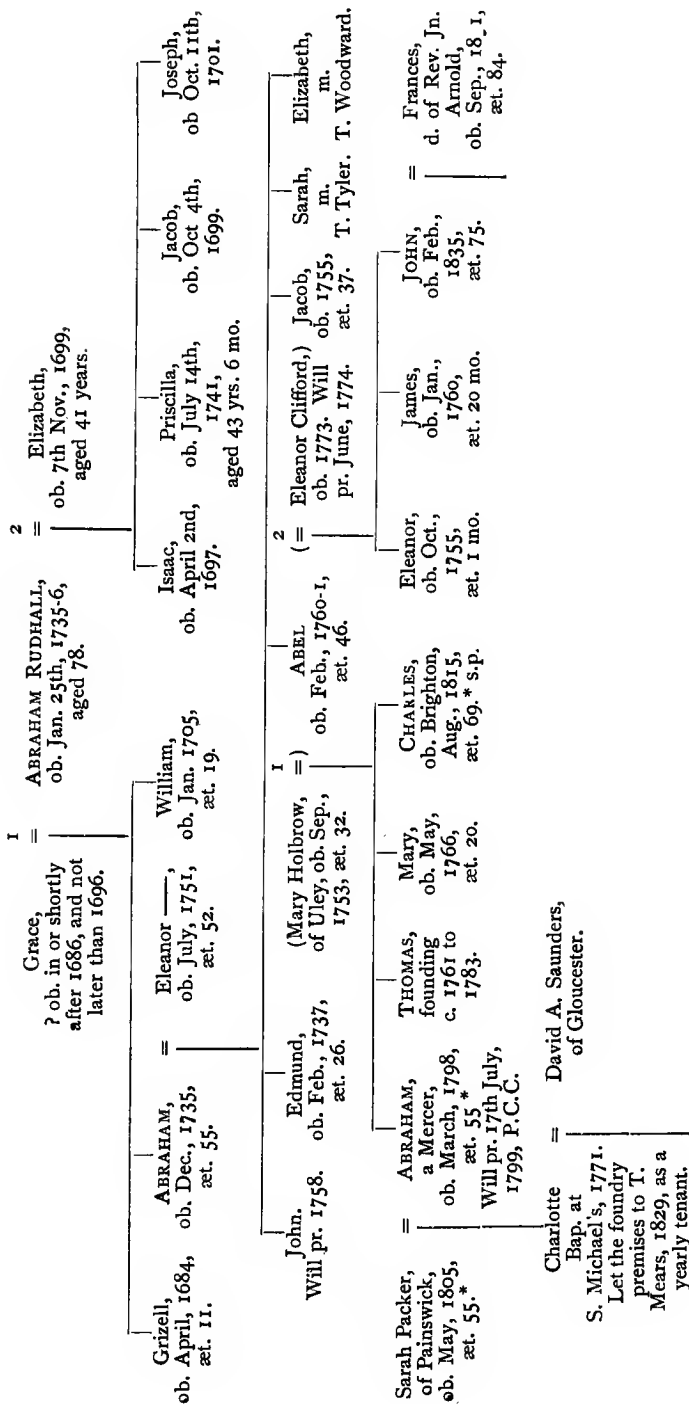
The following pedigree, though very possibly not perfect, will at least help to explain the various relationships:—

* The churchwardens' accounts of S. Michael's, Oxford, contain the following reference to him. The second bell in that tower was recast by "A R" in 1755, and in the account for that year is:—

To Mr Abel Ruddel for recasting the	}	7	„	6	„	2
Bell & carriage &c ...						

† But on p. 6 of *Gloucester Bells*, he says 1754, which is obviously one of the numerous slips in that volume.

PEDIGREE OF THE RUDHALLS (BELFOUNDERS), OF GLOUCESTER.
 (The Names of Founders are distinguished by Capitals.)



* A monument in Gloucester Cathedral, adjoining the monument mentioned p. 111.

(THOMAS RUDHALL.) Thomas (*pace* Abraham “junior,” the mercer) succeeded his father Abel in the business, and placed his name regularly on bells from 1764; and Mr. Ellacombe mentions one bell in Gloucestershire with his name on, dated 1751—that is during his father’s lifetime.

(CHARLES AND JOHN RUDHALL.) Thomas died in (or about) 1783. His brother Charles, and their half-brother John, then managed the business together. But the partnership appears only to have lasted until 1785, after which date Charles’ name does not appear again at Gloucester. Mr. Ellacombe describes him as a “bellfounder of Brighton”; but he is described on a monument in Gloucester Cathedral, as “of this city, gentleman.” He died 14th August, 1815, s. p., in his sixty-ninth year.

I. RUDDALL FOUNDER appears on a bell dated 1771, at Staverton, Gloucestershire, together with the bell already mentioned of the same date by “A ♂ R.”

JOHN RUDHALL. John continued casting bells at Gloucester, and Bucks has a single small example by him in the clock tower at Emberton, dated 1806; but the foundry belonged to Charlotte, the only child of his eldest half-brother (Abraham, the mercer), who was baptised in 1771, and married to David Arthur Saunders, of Gloucester. She, in 1829, let the premises to Mr. Thomas Mears, as a yearly tenant.

For some time Mears appears to have retained the services of John Rudhall, as manager of the Gloucester Foundry, as there are bells with his name on, after Mears bought the business, and down to 1835, in the February of which year he died, in his seventy-fifth year. Mears kept the foundry open for local work until his own death, when it was finally closed.

It is unnecessary here to give further details of the Rudhall family, beyond mentioning that when Mr. Ellacombe published his *Bells of Gloucestershire*, in 1881, the premises where the foundry had formerly been situated, were the property of the two daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Saunders, above mentioned.

It is difficult to adjudicate as to the relative merits of all the bellfounders, but* with the possible exception of the second Hugh Watts, of Leicester, the Rudhalls are “bad to beat.” Indeed, their bells being more widely known than Watts’s, I think most competent judges will be found to give the palm to the Gloucester Foundry.

* Present founders always excepted.

THE S. NEOTS AND DOWNHAM MARKET, ETC., FOUNDRY.

Thomas Mears' fourth purchase (of much less importance than the previous three) was the foundry at Downham Market, Norfolk. Thomas Eayre, the eldest son of Thomas Eayre, a clockmaker, of Kettering, Northampts, "born 26th Aug. 1691 and baptized 21 Jany. 1711,"* started

**(JOHN AND
THOMAS EAYRE.)**

**(THOMAS
EAYRE, JUN.)**

JOSEPH EAYRE.

a bellfoundry at Kettering, in 1717, in conjunction with John Eayre (probably an uncle): but that foundry came to an end in 1761, on the bankruptcy of Thomas' son of the same name, who was then the manager.

Joseph Eayre, the second son of the above clockmaker, is mentioned in the Kettering Register, as "an adult person baptized Oct. 26, 1731":* and shortly afterwards he opened a bellfoundry at S. Neots (Huntingdonshire). By him we have a long-waisted ring of six at Great Linford, cast in 1756, with Latin inscriptions. The tenor at Newton Blossomville, 1769, is doubtless by him, as the lettering is identical, but there is no name.

**(THOMAS OSBORN
AND
EDWARD ARNOLD.)
EDWARD ARNOLD.**

He died in 1771, and was succeeded by his foreman, Thomas Osborn, and his (Eayre's) cousin, Edward Arnold, who started as partners, but in the following year Arnold became sole manager. He shall be briefly dismissed before following Osborn.

Arnold had been employed by the younger Thomas Eayre, at Kettering, to complete a job he had in hand at the time of his bankruptcy in 1761. In 1784, Arnold opened a foundry at Leicester, in addition to that at S. Neots. This Leicester Foundry had no connection with, and must not be confounded with, the very excellent old foundry there, which closed in 1643, or was possibly wound up about two years later, and of which a full account is given further on.

Before Arnold's time, however, an attempt had already **(THOMAS CLAY.)** been made to revive bellfounding in Leicester—doubtless with a view to trading on the old reputation. The name of Thomas Clay exists on two bells in Leicestershire, dated 1711: he also cast a ring of eight for Southwell, "which were so much disliked, that they were speedily recast by Rudhall."† Apparently Clay's productions were inferior, and the business did not last long.

* Quoted in *Bells of Northamptonshire*, p. 47.

† *Bells of Leicestershire*, p. 72.

There is one example in Bucks from Arnold's Leicester foundry—the second at Wavendon, dated 1792.

Into the S. Neots business he received as an apprentice, Robert Taylor, the first founder of the family now located at Loughborough (see *postea*), to whom he resigned the S. Neots Foundry towards the close of the century, retaining in his own hands the Leicester business.

Thomas Osborn, after dissolving partnership with **(THOMAS OSBORN.)** Arnold at S. Neots, set up for himself in 1780 (or shortly before), at Downham Market, in Norfolk. Here, about two years later, he was joined by Robert Patrick, as mentioned, p. 103, who about two years later again, seems **(WILLIAM DOBSON.)** to have left him. About 1800, he took into partnership his grandson, William Dobson, who continued the business by himself, after the death of Osborn, in 1806.

Dobson had a large connection, but was not prosperous, and in 1833 he sold his business to Mears, and died in the Charter House, London, in 1842.

CHARLES AND GEORGE MEARS.

Mr. Thomas Mears, jun., was succeeded on his death, in 1844, by his sons Charles and George Mears, who were already virtually managing the Whitechapel business. They broke up the Gloucester business, and transferred the appliances to London.

By these brothers there are nineteen bells in Bucks, dated between 1842 and 1855: at Colnbrook, Datchet, Denham (two), Winslow, Great Horwood (two), Penn Street (three), Aylesbury (two), Slapton, Burnham, and Slough (four). The saunce at Oving, with merely the date, 1854, is no doubt also by them. They discontinued the *FECIT* or *FECERUNT* of their predecessors, putting *FOUNDERS* instead.

Charles died about 1855, but his name was kept up until 1859, as on the saunce at Upton.

GEORGE MEARS. G. MEARS AND Co.

In 1858, George's name appears alone on Big Ben, of Westminster; and in Bucks on two bells at Great Kimble, dated 1860. In 1861, the firm became George Mears and Co. Under this title we have the ring of five at Shalston, dated 1862; and one bell at Ellesborough the next year. A third brother, John, for some years managed the business for George, merely having the house for his pains, but did not attend to it very regularly.

MEARS AND STAINBANK.

About 1863, George Mears took into partnership Mr. Robert Stainbank, who found the business much neglected, but with a fine opening. He first got rid of John Mears, and in 1865 acquired the entire control, by buying out George. He, after being out of the business for some years, died at Landport, Portsmouth, on the 12th August, 1873, aged fifty-three.

ROBERT STAINBANK.

The sole name of Robert Stainbank appears on the sixth at Bletchley, dated 1867; but more frequently his bells bear the double name—Mears and Stainbank—which title is still continued. His other bells in this county are: Ellesborough, 1870; and then, in order of date, Little Marlow, Hughenden (two), Farnham Royal (two), Lane End (ring of six), and Shabbington, 1881—in all, fourteen.

Mr. Stainbank was born at Nottingham, about 1815. Before entering into partnership with Mears, he was in business as a timber merchant. He died at his residence, Spring Lodge, Lawrie Park, Sydenham, on 24th January, 1883: and was buried on the 29th, at Boston, Lincolnshire, where his parents and other members of his family are interred.*

A. S. LAWSON.

The business, under the same title, is continued exactly as before, by Mr. A. S. Lawson. He has sent up to the moment of printing, a baker's dozen to the county; namely, six to Beaconsfield; two to Iver; three to Slough; one to Granborough; and one to High Wycombe; while one is, at this moment, ordered for Penn.

In 1885, Mr. Lawson purchased, and incorporated with the Whitechapel business, the Redenhall Foundry, Harleston, Norfolk, established I believe in 1879, by Capt. Moore,† and Messrs. Holmes and Mackenzie. As there is no example of their work in Bucks, it is unnecessary to give any further account of it.

One is, of course, on delicate ground in discussing the merits of existing foundries, but the enormous number of bells turned out by this leading establishment—amounting to more than a quarter of all the bells now existing in this county—forms a stronger recommendation than anything I could say.

* *Bells of Bedfordshire*, p. 83.

† Of Weybread, Suffolk, late of the 44th Regiment. The portrait, and a biographical sketch of Capt. Moore appeared in *Bell News*, 1891, Vol. IX., No. 457.

THE KNIGHTS' FOUNDRY AT READING.

Many excellent bells, of which, in round numbers, about three hundred still hang in the towers of this and neighbouring counties, were cast by the Knights, of Reading, between some time in the sixteenth century and the early part of the eighteenth.

The name of William Knight has been mentioned (**WILLIAM KNIGHT I.?**) (pp. 63, 74, and 76) under the heading of the original Reading Foundry. It seems most probable that he learnt his work there, and that there were two generations of the same name. If the William Knight who was Under Warden of the Founders' Company of London in 1518, Upper Warden in 1528, and Master of the Guild in 1530-31 (see p. 74), was identical, as seems likely, with the Reading founder of the same name, who appears in *The Booke of the Names and Ordinnances of the Cutlers and Bellfounders Companye*, he was then, doubtless, identical with the individual of the same name who was churchwarden of S. Lawrence, Reading, in 1519, and who was buried in that church in 1535. Mr. Stahlschmidt* was inclined to think that the Knights' foundry was of London growth, but the fact of this early Reading churchwarden, and the appearance of a John Knight, in the same parish, as early as 1498, are strong arguments to the contrary.

The following are the earliest notices I have met with† of this family.

From the churchwardens' accounts of S. Lawrence, Reading :—

1498-99. It̄ payed to John Knyght for makyng of a bawdryk vj^d

* *Bells of Surrey*, p. 94.

† In search of information as to the various Reading founders, I have hunted through the Registers of the Reading parishes of S. Mary the Virgin and S. Lawrence ; and through the baptisms in the first volume of those of S. Giles. I have to express my thanks to the Rev. Canon Garry, for the very kind way in which he allowed me access to the Registers of S. Mary's ; to the Rev. C. F. J. Bourke, for access to those of S. Giles ; and to the Rev. J. M. Guilding, who, though he first refused point-blank to allow me to search those of S. Lawrence, eventually withdrew this prohibition ; also to Mr. Foxell, parish clerk of S. Lawrence ; also to Thomas Creed, Esq., Town Clerk of Reading, for the facilities he kindly gave me for searching the exceptionally interesting churchwardens' accounts of the last-named parish. Some extracts from these I have quoted from a history of this parish by the Rev. Charles Kerry, but the greater number are copied directly from the original. Quotations from the parish accounts of S. Mary and S. Giles, are from extracts taken by A. D. Tyssen, Esq., who very kindly placed them at my service.

Lady Day, 1514-15. It paid to John Knyzt for makyng croffis* to the hygh awtar & oþ ^p s ^o vice	...	...	...	...	viiij ^d
1516-17. It paid to John Knyzt for mendyng c ^o tayne thyng in the churche	...	...	...	...	ij ^s
1518-19. It of John Knyzt for his wyfe Sete	...	...	...	...	vj ^d
It paid to John Knyght for c ^o tayne befyneffe	...	...	...	...	ij ^d

“Withm Knyght” was appointed one of the churchwardens of S. Lawrence for the year beginning the feast of S. Michael the Archangel, in the “yere m^oDXIX & the xjth yere of the regne of Kyng Henry the viijth.”

1525-26. William Knight paid for the year's mind of William Lendall, who had been buried at S. Lawrence's in 1515-16.

1535-36. The great bell Rec for the knyll of william Knyght ... xij^d

He bequeathed 6s. 8d. to S. Lawrence's.

Buried: 1543-44, Thomas. 1545-46, Joan.

In S. Mary's Registers :—

1551, Richard, married Joan Steele. 1552, John buried, and Joan baptised. 1553, March vth, Thomas buried. 1554, Joan buried, and John married Sibbill Hillary. 1555, Eliza married John Baglie. 1560, Anthony baptised, and in January, John married Ellen Peryman. 1561-62, Richard buried at S. Lawrence. 1562, in S. Mary's Registers, Alice baptised. 1564, Annie baptised; in January, in S. Giles' Registers, Elyzabethe baptised. 1565, in S. Mary's, John and Alice buried. 1566, Sibbill married John Marshall.

WILLIAM KNIGHT II.? In 1567, William Knight recast a bell for S. Lawrence (Reading). It is reasonable to suppose that he was the son of the individual of the same name who died in 1535-36, and probably, therefore, the second founder of the name.

The following record of this, and subsequent recastings, is given in the churchwardens' accounts of S. Lawrence :—

The gathering of this parrysh of S. Lawrence. For the new Casting of kelsall, y^e Great Bell: 1587

The following names of persons appear, who were probably connected with Reading founders, or with founders elsewhere, who may well have learned their business here :—

John Barthlett, John Bagley, Ollyver howell (?=Aphowell), wytm wells, John welle, and apparently another distinct John welle.

* Probably the five crosses at the centre and angles of the slab or mensa.—*Kerry*.

Among the names of subscribers "Of Saynt Maryes parrysh for the fame Bell," are:—

John Knight and Jhon Bartlett

All the gatheringe (amounted to)	12 . 5 . 9		
The charges of the fame bell			
In p'mis to wittm knight for castinge the fame bell	}	...	vij ^{li} vj ^s viij ^d
Itm for drincke for thē that tooke paines to take up & downe the fame bell		...	xx ^d
for makinge the obligacyon wherein the bellfownder stooode bound to ye pifh	}	...	viij ^d
for mendinge the fame bell wheele & nayles for the fame		...	iiij ^s j ^d
for a rope for the fame bell at ij ^d ob the pownde	}	...	v ^s iiiij ^d
for mendinge the Clapper &c		...	vj ^s ij ^d
for new makinge ye fame clap gret ^o	...	xxiiij ^s	
for makinge ye bawdrick to ye fame	...	ij ^s	iiiij ^d
To martyn woodnett for takinge downe the fame bell & hanginge it up	}	...	xxxj ^s viij ^d
for xlij foote of boorde for ye fowth wyndow in the steple where the bell was taken out & in. and one hondreth & a halfe of nayles		}	...	ij^{s} vj^{d}
for mendinge the bawdricke	...		...	xvj^{d}
for mendinge the stocke &c	...	...	ij ^s
Sum of the expences of the Bell xj ^{li} viij ^s h ^d			
So resteth to the church	...	...	xviij ^s iiiij ^d

1574.

Itm to the bellfounder for the first bell casting	...	...	...	xlvj ^s	viij ^d
Itm more to him for xxxvj pound of his stuffe	...	...	...	xviij ^s	
Itm to the Bellfounders man for bringing the bell to the churche	...	...	...		iiiij ^d
Itm to Venter for a daies worke for having up of ye bell	...	...	...		viij ^d
Itm geven in earnest upon the casting of ye third bell	...	...	...		xij ^d
Itm more to him for ye same bell casting that ys for xiiij ^C xxij ^{li} and for xix pound of his stuffe at v ^s viij ^d the casting amounteth to 4 ^{li} x ^s * whereof ys paed from us	...	...	...	...	} 1 ^s
Itm to his men to bring ye bell to the churche	...	...	...
Itm to make them drink that helped up and downe w th ye bell	...	...	...		iiiij ^d
					viij ^d

* This reckoning is not very self-evident. It is 14 cwt. 22 lbs. + 19 lbs. = 14 cwt. 41 lbs. @ 5/8 the cwt. = £4 10s. 0d.

1575.

Recd of W^m Twytt towards the Casting of the Treble bell iij^s iiij^d

The Chardgs of the Treble bell.

Inprimis to Willm Knight for castinge ye same bell	... ..	xl ^s
Itm paide to him for xxxiiij ^z of mettale put into the saide bell, over the old wayght w ^{ch} was one hundred a halfe and xxviiij ^z at vj ^d the pounce	}	xvj ^s vj ^d
Itm paide to Symon Dye for having the same bell into the steeple and for hanginge her up	}	v ^s
Itm paide for drinke at the same tyme for those that dyd help up with the same bell	}	xiiij ^d
Itm paide for sawinge a new stocke for ye same bell	... ..	vj ^d

The two oldest dated bells by William Knight, now known to be in existence, were cast in 1578. One of these is at Flaundon, Herts, and is inscribed :—

+ glorio in exelcisc deo mk

The other, formerly at that church, but now at S. John's, Uxbridge, Middlesex, is inscribed with the same date :—

+ sancta iohani ora pro nobis WK

At Lilley, in Herts, is a bell which Mr. Stahlschmidt ascribes doubtfully to William Knight, inscribed :—

✠ ANNO ✠ DM ✠ 1580

He appears from this date in the churchwardens' accounts of S. Mary's, Reading :—

1581 (Receipts).

Itm of Knight for the olde bell hade of M ^r Webbe of London wayinge lxxxvj ^z at iij ^d a pounce	... ..	xxj ^s vj ^d
Itm paied to Knight for the newe bell	... ..	xij ^s

1585.

Itm paied to Will ^m Knight the belfounder for castinge of the great bell	... ..	iiij ^z x ^s
Itm paied to him for xviiij ^z of mettale put to the said Bell at vj ^d a pound	... ..	ix ^s
Itm to his men for there paynes	... ..	xij ^d

In the accounts of S. Giles', Reading, under 1586 :—

Itm to William Knight for castinge the second Bell and
for xxxvij^{li} of mettell w^{ch} he put to him at vj^d the pound ... iij^{li} viij^s vj^d

At Dunsfold, Surrey, the second bell (which is badly cracked) is inscribed :—

✠ mulfic ❁ anis ❁ reconet ❁ campana
❁ iohanic WK 1583

The former third at High Wycombe was probably the ditto of this bell.*

At Ilmer, the second has, in large, clumsy black-letter, the initials in Roman capitals 1⁷/₈ in. high :—

✠ gloria ❁❁ in ❁❁ ercescuc ❁❁ deo ❁❁ 1586
WK

Four undated bells, entirely in Lombardic capitals, may perhaps be older than any of those already mentioned, and might even be by the first William ?

At Rotherfield Greys, Oxon, the treble has :—

‡ KAL O MARI O EYL O OE O GRAS
W R

The circular stop contains a barn-yard cock, head to left. The treble at East Dean (near Chichester, Sussex), has the same inscription in the same lettering, but apparently without the stop and initials. The fourth at Chinnor (Oxon), has, in the same lettering :—

+ OWR FACHAR WICK ART IN KEWEN KALOWED
BE TLY NAME WR

and the fourth at Kintbury (Berks), has the first six words.

William Knight evidently died in November, 1586, the inventory of his goods being taken the xxiiijth of that month by Jossephe Carter, John Wellche (doubtless = Welles), John Bonybawte, and Richard Weaver. The chief items are :—

* The inscription, as given to me, reads, *Multis Annis Resonet Campana Johannis*, 1583.

It the tolles belonging to the work hows	...	xxix ^{li}	xiijs
The "Detes to be receved" are	...	v ^{li}	x ^s
and—Dettes dew to be payd out of this Innuytory		xlij ^{li}	iiij ^s

His will is as follows :—

Testamentū Willīmi Knighte de Readinge.

In the name of God Amen October 19. 1586. I Willim Knight of Readinge in the countie of Barks bellfounder sicke in bodie but of good & pfytt remembrance make this my lasts will & testam^t ffyrste I bequeathe my soule to Almightye God trustinge to be saved by the meritts of Christes passion & my bodie to the earthe from whence yt came. Inp^umis I geve & bequeathe to my daughter Christian grime one brasse pott & two pewter platters two pottingers and two candlesticks Itm I geve to my daughter Anne Knight one brasse pott two pewter platters ij pottengers & ij candlesticks. Itm I geve to Alice Knight, Dorothe Knight, Margaret Knight, my other three daughters, the lyttell portion seu^oallie to eu^oie one that is to saye one brasse pott two pewter platters two pottingers & two candlesticks a peece, w^{ch} sev'all potts to be given to eache one of them my will is theyshal be of the measure of two gallons a peece at the leaste. The Residewe of my goods cattells whatsoeu^o I geve & bequeathe to my welbeloved wyffe Jone Knight & to my sonne Henrie Knight, w^{ch} Jone & Henrie I make ioynte Executors herein, and my ou^oseers Jossephe Carter & John Welche. Geven the daye & yeaere above written. These beinge Wyttnesses Jossephe Carter John Wellshe James Greene wth others.

Probatum fuit hoc pres Testamentu cora M^{ro} Edwardo White. . .

xxvij die mensis Aprilis Anno Dni 1587.

HENRY KNIGHT I.

William was succeeded by his son, Henry Knight. I have notes of between eighty and ninety bells by him, but must here restrict myself almost exclusively to his Bucks examples.

There are two bells by him at Great Kimble, dated 1587, inscribed similarly to William's later examples, except for the change of initial, for which, Roman capitals 2 inches high are used on the third bell, and 1 $\frac{5}{8}$ inch on the fourth.

In S. Lawrence's (Reading) churchwardens' accounts for 1588, is :—

Profits of the womens seats
Henri Knights wife vjd

1591 : The tenor at Wraysbury : the cross *patée* again, black-letter Latin inscription, with Henry's initials in Roman capitals, 1 $\frac{5}{8}$ inch high.

In the churchwardens' accounts of S. Mary's, Reading, for the year ending 1st April, 1605, among other items concerning the bells, are :—

Itm paied for 55^{li} of Bell mettell of one that goodman Knight brought ... xxiiij^s vjd

Itm paid for carryinge the bell to Knights and backe again xvj^d
 Itm to Goodman Knight 22^{li} of mettle for the brasses, paid to him for
 casting them* iij^s ix^d

1607: The tenor at Datchet, with Latin inscription in black-letter, and a crowned rose (figured on Plate XXII.), between Henry's initials in Roman capitals, $1\frac{7}{8}$ inch high. 1608: The former treble at Little Marlow. The saunce at Marsh Gibbon, with only his initials, in letters $1\frac{5}{8}$ inch high, is probably not later than this date. 1610: The former tenor at Thornborough, evidently a recast, inscribed, like all subsequent bells from this foundry for the next forty-eight years, in irregular, heavy Roman capitals, which on this example averaged $1\frac{3}{8}$ inch high:—

**HENRĒ KNIGHT MADE TH IS BELL
 ANO DOMINĒ 1610 ✠ WHOSE NAME
 IS CALED GABRIĒLL XXXX**

1615: The second at Datchet, in the last-named lettering. 1616: The tenor at Chearsley, in lettering $1\frac{7}{8}$ inch high.

Mr. Lukis† records an unusual inscription on a bell at Aldbourne, Wilts, dated the next year, which appears to be Henry Knight's make:—

Humphry Symsin gave xx pound to bi this bell.
 And y^e parish gave xx more to make this ring gooe well.
 H. K. 1617. T. C.: G. A.

1618: The treble at Ilmer: lettering $1\frac{3}{8}$ inch. In S. Lawrence's, Reading, accounts, is:—

Anno 1618. Itm. p^d to goodman Knight for casting of the 4 bell 6*l*. 10*s*.
 Itm. p^d moor to him for j hundred & twenty three pound of
 mettell put into her, v^{li} xij^s the hundred, 6*l*. 15*s*.

1621: In smaller-sized lettering ($\frac{1}{2}$ of an inch) of the same description, are the second at West Wycombe, the second at Oakley, and the treble at Quainton; the three following bells in the latter tower, are also by him, in the $1\frac{3}{8}$ inch lettering; the four Quainton bells having, with his initials, and an ω -like scroll shown on Plate XXII., the following:—

* These were for the Lady Bell just cast by Mot in Whitechapel.

† *Church Bells*, p. 116.

THINKE NO COST TO MVCH
 THAT YOY BESTOW OF ALL
 TO BRINGE TO PAZ
 SO GOOD A THING*

1622: The treble at Oakley: lettering $\frac{1\frac{3}{8}}$ of an inch. S. Lawrence's (Reading), Register has:—

January 1622 8 Henry Knight fep:

A Henry Knight was baptised twelve months previously, but there can hardly be a doubt that this was the funeral of the bellfounder, and not the baby, because the following Inventory of the bellfounder's goods was made two days later:—

An inventorye of all the goodes and Chattles of Henry Knight late of Readinge in the County of Berke Bellfounder Deceased; taken the xth day of January Anno Dni 1622^o by Christopher Atey, Thomas Hatton, and Randall Walton &^s by them preifed.

(The Hall, the chamber over the Hall, the chamber over the Butterie, the Butterie)

In the workehowfe.

All the workinge Tooles of all sorte and one paire of Bellows	}	vj ^{li}	xiijs	iiij ^d
one small Beame and Scaoles one Jynn one fframe to weigh				
the Bells, one great Rope iij pullies and one Iron Rabnett,				
one wodden beame, Two meltinge pans, Seaven Hundred of				
Leaden weighte. on chayne & ^s ij hookes and one Scaole to the				
great Beame

In the Backside.

Twenty Loade of Wood	...	...	...	vj ^{li}	xiijs	iiij ^d
Bell mettle one hundred and a halfe	...	...	...	v ^{li}	xiiij ^s	
Pott mettle three hundred	...	...	...	vj ^{li}		

Debts due vppon specialtie.

At Bledlowe in the County of Buck	...	...	...	iiij ^{li}	ij ^s
At Stanton in the County of Oxon	...	...	...	vij ^{li}	iiij ^s
At Blewberie in the County of Berke	...	...	...	xxij ^{li}	
At Qaynton in the County of Buck	...	...	...	xix ^{li}	xij ^s
At West Wickham in the County of Buck	...	...	...	xij ^{li}	

* He repeated these lines the following year on a ring of five at All Saints, Oxford, where the third and fourth lines are both on the third bell: the fourth has, THAT FIVE BELLS MAY TOGETHER RING, and the tenor, a reproduction of a fifteenth century Latin inscription.

Debts without specialties.

Divers doe owe as can be accompted in diſs and fundrie places xxxvj^{li}
 The Leaſe of the houſe beinge vppon a Rake rent eſtimated worth ij^{li}
 (&c. &c.) The Totall ſume is Cxlv^{li} js viij^d

Exhibitum die Lunæ. viz 10^o die menſ Februarij Anno dñi ieſu xr 1622^o. p Ellis Knight filiū et ex^{em} in Teſta^mto dñti defuncti noiatum (Sed quia idem defunctus tempore vitæ ac mortis ſuarū hūit ut p eundem Ellis afferebatr) bona notabilia viz. ultra ſumam 5^{li} in diu^ſſſ dio^c five &c. Ideo exhibitum erat hoc Inventariū in Curia Prerogativa Cantyr.

ELLIS KNIGHT I. On the death of Henry, his son, Ellis Knight, became manager of the business, which increased and flourished. In his first year (1623) he supplied the tenors at Ickford and Wendover, and the fifth at Great Missenden, which are inscribed :—

LET YOVR HOPE BE IN THE LORD

in three different sizes of letters, (about $1\frac{5}{16}$, $1\frac{5}{8}$, and $1\frac{7}{8}$ inch high, respectively), but resembling each other, even to the O in each case being too small. The two latter have Ellis' initials, the odd saltire-shaped stop, and the larger *fleur-de-lis* on Plate XXII. Ickford has the smaller *fleur-de-lis* on the same. At Missenden there are also two pairs of initials, doubtless those of the churchwardens. Among other bells cast by him this year, may be mentioned the sixth and tenor (tenth) at Magdalen College, Oxford.

1624: The second at Medmenham (letters $\frac{1}{2}\frac{9}{8}$ of an inch, less clumsy than the previous set of this size) merely mentions the date when "this bell was made," but at S. Lawrence, Winchester,* the treble is said to have :—

ELLIS AND HENRY KNIGHT MADE MEE

This (if the date is correct) is apparently merely the keeping up of his father's name, which was undoubtedly well and favourably known. At any rate, no Henry has turned up in the Registers at this period. Again, in 1626, the fourth at West Wycombe, has :—

HENRI KNIGHT MADE MEE

* *Church Bells*, p. 76.

As Henry Knight cast a bell there in 1621, this later date may be a mere blunder, otherwise we must conclude that Ellis again thought it would pay to assume, or keep up, his father's name.

In 1625, Ellis cast the pretty little maiden ring of three at Great Hampden (using letters varying from 1 to $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch), the tenor having his original inscription; the other two having, OUR HOPE IS IN THE LORD, and PRAYES YE THE LORD; the last becoming his commonest inscription, the original one not being used after 1626. These, and a few other bells of about this date, are ornamented by the addition of a letter or two apiece in *negative* (see Plate XXII.), as if stamped from moulds used for casting the letter-stamps. After his first year he only very exceptionally put so much as his initials on a bell.

1627: Three at Towersey; lettering as the last. 1628: One at Turville; 1631: One apiece at Dorney and Boveney; the letters on these three average $1\frac{5}{18}$ inch. 1632: Kingsey; letters up to 1 inch. 1633: Two at Stoke Mandeville, letters as the last; and the treble at Wendover, in letters averaging 1 inch, and up to $1\frac{1}{8}$ inch. 1634: Two at Hambleden, and one at Radnage.

Two at Stone (letters as the Wendover treble):—

‡ AS TREBLLE BE GINN
‡ AS THIRDR RING

are apparently survivors of a ring of five; the departed bells no doubt (as may be gathered from other examples) bore:—

‡ AS SECOND SING
‡ AS FORTH SOVND *
AS TENAR HVM ALL ROVND

The inscription on the tenor is remembered.

1635: Great Kimble (the same letters). 1636: Horton (the same letters, except his initials, which are $1\frac{7}{18}$ inch), Boveney (letters $\frac{7}{8}$ inch), Stoke Mandeville (tenor, $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch lettering), and three at Monk's Risborough (letters average 1 inch). 1637: Radnage, Eton College (letters average $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch, and up to $1\frac{3}{8}$ inch), Granborough (letters $\frac{7}{8}$ inch), and two at Monk's

* For a ring of six, the fourth bears, I AS FORTH IN MY PLACE; and the fifth, I AS FIFT WIL SOVND. Sometimes the second, third, and fourth have the future—WILL.

Risborough (letters about 1 inch and $1\frac{1}{8}$ inch respectively). 1638: Two at Wing (letters average 1 inch). 1640: Great Missenden (new letters and figures, up to $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch), Wing (lettering about $1\frac{3}{8}$ inch, partly the same as the last), and three at Nether Winchendon (the letters on the second average barely $1\frac{1}{8}$ inch, while those on the third and fourth average over $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch). Among his other bells this year may be mentioned the fifth at the Cathedral, Christchurch, Oxford; and the next year the ninth at Magdalen College.

From 1623, when Ellis started, until 1642 inclusive, there are several bells in one or several of the neighbouring counties, cast each year without a break; but in the winter of the latter year, after the victory at Edgehill, Charles established a garrison in Reading, and on the 15th of April, 1643, the town was invested by the Roundheads under the Earl of Essex. On the 26th of that month Reading surrendered, and this hitherto extremely prosperous business does not appear to have turned out a single bell again for four entire years! It is difficult, even in these so-called "bad times," to realise the utter stagnation of trade which this one fact partly discloses.

In 1647, at any rate two orders for bells were received, one of which, the second at Horton, still exists. It is inscribed as so many previously: FEARE GOD (in letters about $1\frac{1}{8}$ inch high). The other order was for a new tenor at S. Lawrence's, Reading, where Joseph Carter's "lowd" bell (cast 1596-7) was broken the previous year; in the churchwardens' accounts of that parish, for 1647, appears:—

**ELLIS KNIGHT,
AND
FRANCIS KNIGHT.**

payments for repairs	...	...	...	lv ^d vijs xj ^d
of which summe the new casting of the great bell cost	...	...	...	xxvj ^d vs vj ^d
Anno 1647-8. It. p ^d to Ellys Knight & ffrancis Knight for				
casting the greate bell as by their bill appeares	...	...	...	xxvj ^d vs vj ^d

A Francis Knight married at S. Mary's, Reading, in 1630, and it was probably the same individual who witnessed a relation's will in 1666, and whose burial is recorded at the above parish in 1671. He appears from the present entry as if he were in partnership with Ellis.

There is no trace of any bell during 1648, and only one during the ensuing year (Tidmarsh, Berks). After that, there was a partial revival of trade, there being six bells from this foundry in 1650, and from one to four each subsequent year of that decade, except 1657.

**ELLIS KNIGHT,
FRANCIS KNIGHT,
AND
HENRY KNIGHT II.**

In 1651, the tenor at Chinnor, Oxon, with the names of churchwardens, and the date (averaging $1\frac{1}{10}$ inch high), has H ♣ K, indicating, apparently, the first effort of the second Henry Knight, then probably learning the business with Ellis and Francis. He does not appear again until ten years later. Three other bells dated this year, namely, the tenor at Nether Winchendon, the third at Wendover, and the treble at Dorchester (Oxon), have nothing beyond LOVE GOD, in letters about $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch, new figures to correspond; the letters on the Wendover bell about $\frac{1}{8}$ inch less. Subsequent examples have nothing on them beyond the date, with the following few exceptions: 1653: A bell at Arborfield, Berks, has the churchwardens' names; 1654: The treble at Wing (in lettering about $\frac{7}{8}$ inch high) has:—

**FOR • THE • HONOVR • OF • CAMARVAN • HERE
I • ZINGE
WISHING HEALTH TO THE NEIGHBOVRS OF
WINGE**

1656: Three at Dinton, with merely the figures, $1\frac{2}{3}$ inch high; but another bell, added two years later, has the names of the church "ARDNS," in letters averaging 1 inch.

When Ellis died is not known; possibly there was only one founder of that name, but it seems more probable that he was not in the business after 1658, and that a younger namesake then appeared on the scene. He was overseer of the poor for the parish of S. Lawrence (Reading) in 1633, and probably it was he who was churchwarden there in 1655 and 1656. An Ellis Knight was present at the annual vestry meeting in that parish in September, 1664; March, 1671-2; and April, 1677; but I think these last must refer to the younger man.

In the twenty years (1623-42) that Ellis Knight was founding by himself, I have records of about one hundred and fifty bells by him. By what figure this number should be multiplied to arrive at the actual total of his productions, I will not attempt to guess. After a four years' interval caused by the Civil War, during which his business appears to have been absolutely *nil*, he seems to have begun again, with at first one, and subsequently two, young relations (not sons), as assistants. During the

Commonwealth this firm produced some thirty-five bells, of which we have cognizance.

**HENRY
KNIGHT II.,
AND
PROBABLY
ELLIS
KNIGHT II.**

1659: The fourth at Stoke Mandeville, and the saunce at Chalgrove, Oxon, have merely the date in small figures, $\frac{11}{16}$ inch high, which subsequent bells prove to belong to this foundry. 1660: The tenor at Watlington, Oxon, hails the restoration of royalty, with FEARE GOD HONOUR THE KING. The change of stamps, in 1659, probably marks a change in the management that year, which was evidently the case by 1661, when the second Henry comes to the front, as actual manager of the foundry; Ellis and Francis apparently retiring in his favour; the latter, at any rate, did not die until ten years later. This Henry was probably the son of Edward Knight, and baptised at S. Lawrence's in 1621.

In the churchwardens' accounts of S. Giles, Reading, for 1661, is:—

Item to Henry Knight belfounder for brasses
and other stuffe and worke aboute the Belles ... £2 .. 5 .. 3

So that Henry was evidently the senior partner, and many bells dated during the ensuing twelve years, state distinctly that HENRY KNIGHT MADE MEE; but about the same number of bells, during the same period, have the shield shown on Plate XXII., which obviously indicates an Ellis Knight, and is always used with the initials H K stamped on either side of it. Several of these latter bells bear churchwardens' names, the office being indicated by the initials C W, on either side of the recumbent figure shown on Plate XXII., apparently intended to represent a typical churchwarden!

There are two bells at Soulbury, dated 1661, which both have H K on either side of Ellis's shield. The treble has the dragon and oak-leaf border, on the same plate, not recorded elsewhere; while the third has the figure of a churchwarden just mentioned. Probably another bell, by the same founders at this date, formerly existed between the two now remaining.* The lettering on these, and all subsequent bells from this foundry (unless otherwise pointed out) is $\frac{9}{16}$ inch high, and the figures $\frac{11}{16}$ inch.

1662: The treble at Marsworth is by Henry. He appears as present at S. Lawrence's (Reading) vestries from this date to 1672, being surveyor of highways in 1669, and overseer of the poor in 1671.

1663: Two at Hughenden, and one at Little Missenden, by H ∩ K, the two former have also the "churchwarden."

* The third is cracked, without much doubt from the horrible practice of "clapping."

At a vestry held at S. Lawrence, Reading, on 29th May, 1662, it was

Agreed that the five bells in the steeple be made into eight tuneable Bells and that the Churchwardens doe take care to see it done provided that noe tax be layd on the parishe towards the charge of altering the said Bells and provided that the Churchwardens doe bring and secure the said eight Bells in convenient tyme into the said steeple wthout charge to the pishe.

In the account for :—

April 1, 1662, to Ap. 20, 1663.

Rec ^d of the parishioners of S ^t Lawrence and others towards the casting of the bells	... ..	} lxij ^s vs ij ^d
Whereof payd to Henry Knight Bellfounder for casting the five bells into eight bells	... ..	} xliij ^s ij ^s iiij ^d
Item paid to John Strovd carpenter for altering the Bells frames and making the Bells wheeles and other worke about the ^r Bells	... ..	} xxij ^s
Item paid to William White Blacksmith for iron & worke about the Belles	... ..	} xij ^s vij ^d

April 21, 1663—Ap. 12, 1664.

Rec ^d Item of the parishioners of S ^t Lawrence towards the casting of the Bells	... ..	} xxij ^s iiij ^s
Payd to Henry Knight the Bellfounder for metall added to the great Bell	... ..	} vij ^s

7 Aug., 1663.

Mem. At this meeting it is agreed that the like p^rfit be allowed the church for knells on the 8th and 7th bells as was formerly for the greate Bell and 4th bells, when there were but five bells, and that the sexton shall have the p^rfit of the six smaller bells, payeing for the ropes of them from time to time as occasion shall require.

30 July, 1665.

Agreed that the p^rfit of the 6th Bell untill the 7th Bell be new cast be received for the use of the church in steed of ye p^rfit of the 7th Bell.

1665.

It paid Henry Knight for lvij^s weight of mettall to put in the two fore bells ij^s xvij^s

1666-7.

Item p^d to Henry Knight for casting the seaventh Bell and other charges xx^s xv: vj^d

In the churchwardens' accounts of S. Mary's, Reading, for the year ending April 11th, 1664, appears:—

This year a tax was made of Thirty weeks according to the weekly payment to the poor for the Casting of the fift bell being broken, and also for the discharging of a sume of monye remaying for the new casting of the saints bell wth other charges thereby arising, there being then present (14 names)

March 27, 1665.

Rec ^d of the tax	...	...	...	...	44	12	6
Paid for expence one ye belfounders	...	...	...	...	1	6	
Paid for carryage of ye bell to y ^e founders and laborers	...	...	...	...	2	6	
Paid for bringing the bell home and for laborers	...	...	...	...	7	6	
Paid Mr Knight y ^e Bellfounder	...	...	...	...	20	6	11
Paid mor to him by his bill	...	...	...	...	1	4	8

1666: The tenor at Medmenham, by H ∪ K, with the "churchwarden" figure.

In this year is dated the nuncupative will* of Thomas **(THOMAS KNIGHT.)** Knight, who was evidently a junior member of the firm— though never promoted to the honour of placing his name on a bell:—

Memorandum that Thomas Knight late of Reading in the county of Berks Bellfounder on or about the eighth day of August in the year of our Lord one Thousand six hundred sixty six being then in perfect mind & memory and having then an intençon to settle order and dispose of his estate did make and declare his last will and testament nuncupative or by word of mouth as followeth (bÿt) he did give and bequeath unto his daughter Rebecca Knight ffowerscore pounds to be paid her at the day of her marriage or at her age of one and twenty yeares which should ffirst happen It he gave unto his daughter Katherine Knight Threscore and Tenne pounds to be paid unto her at her age of one and twenty yeares or at the day of her marriage which should ffirst happen. Item he did give to the child that his wife then went with fforty pounds to be paid at his or her age of one and twenty yeares if the said child should soe long live. All the rest of his goods & chattles & estate unbequeathed he did give and bequeath unto his loveing wife Katherine Knight and did make her exix of his last will and Testam^t, and these words or words tending to the same or like effect he the said Thomas Knight did say and declare with an intent that the same should be his last will & Testament nuncupative in the prsence of credible witnesses. Witnesse hereunto with the word fforty first interlined. Ffrancis Knight.

(Long Latin account) Proved.

Suma tot Inven^{tii} 474^{li}. 8^s. 0^d.

* Mr. Tyssen kindly called my attention to it.

We may probably identify him with a Thomas Knight who was baptised at S. Mary (Reading), in 1626-7, whose father, Thomas, had married in that church in 1620; and with the subject of the following entry in S. Lawrence's accounts for the year 1663-64 :—

To Thomas Knight for opening* the greate bell js vjd

Two bells at Winslow with merely the date, 1668, engraved (not stamped) on the cope, may be from this foundry, the figures ($1\frac{7}{16}$ inch high) being very like those used between 1640-58, except that the 1s being of a somewhat black-letter form, seem to suggest Richard Keene, who certainly sent a bell to that tower two years later.

1670: Henry cast the treble at Turville, and the year following the fifth at Burnham. Towards the end of 1672 (probably in January, 1672-3), after sending at least one bell apiece to Berks, Hants, and Wilts, he died. Reckoning only from 1661, I have notes of forty-odd bells by him, or by him and Ellis, without counting those mentioned in the Reading parish accounts.

The following are the chief items in the Inventory of his goods :—

(Docketed outside—) 1672. Henry Knight sen de Reading Bellfounder.
99^{li} 9^s. Invent^{ti}

A true and perfect Inventorie of the goods and Chattels of Henrie Knight Sen^r late of Reading Belfounder deceased taken and appraised by William Knight Ffrancis Knight and Ellis Knight the ffirst day of Ffebruarie

Anno Dni 1672

In ready money and debts	...	...	xxxx ^{li}
In the shop.			
ij C weight of mettle	ij C of Leaden weights,	}	ix ^{li} vs
Beame and skales, j Mil, j furnace & Lumber			
In the Bell house.			
A Bell furnace a Ginn pulley, Rope, and Beame,			xxiij ^s
In the pot house.			
A paire of Bellowes iij brass panns, and tooles			ij ^{li} vs
In the back side.			
vij Loads of Wood and Charcole	...	...	iiij ^{li} vs
(etc) Sma totles	...	...	lxxxix ^{li} ix ^s

* That is, ringing it for the first time.

The fact of Ellis's name being placed last among the three executors, is an argument in favour of his being a junior, and not the old man.

Francis was perhaps son of the other Francis, and baptised at S. Lawrence's, 2nd December, 1635. William was most likely Henry's younger brother, born 1625.

In the churchwardens' accounts of S. Mary's, Reading, for 1672, appears :—

Paid for casting the tenor brases to Henry Frwin 8 0

Possibly he was foreman to Henry Knight II., and cast these brases just at the time of Henry's death, before his successors

**ELLIS
KNIGHT (II. ♀)
AND HENRY
KNIGHT III.**

actually took possession. These were Ellis Knight—probably No. II.; and Henry's son—Henry Knight III., who was baptised at S. Lawrence, Reading, in 1649.

There are thirteen bells in Berks, Oxon, Hants, and Bucks, dated 1673 and two following years. Seven of these bear the joint names (in the same plain Roman capitals, about $\frac{9}{10}$ of an inch high). Four others have the names of churchwardens; two of them having also Ellis's shield, with the initials disposed thus: $\begin{matrix} & K & \\ E & \square & H \end{matrix}$ The remaining two have nothing but the date. The Bucks examples are the treble at Buckland, and the second at Aston Sandford, both dated 1675.

In 1676, I only know of two bells (Berks and Hants respectively), with merely churchwardens' names, and then no more until 1680, when a single bell (Bullington, Hants) appears, with the sole name of Henry.

In the churchwardens' accounts of S. Mary, Reading, for that year, is :—

Paid Henry Knight 3
paid to Knight ... 12 6

The following year, one more example (Aldermaston, Berks), with HENRICUS KNIGHT FECIT. These seem to show that Ellis retired after 1675, and that Henry's business had shrunk to a very small out-put. He died, or perhaps retired in disgust, in about 1682, and Ellis once more put himself in harness, for in 1683 appears a bell at Strathfield Sturgis, Hants, bearing the initials E K.

1684 saw the first of Samuel Knight's castings, and Ellis, having evidently handed over the business to him, proceeded, in the following year, to make his will, which was not proved until April, 1694, when an Inventory was also taken; so that he probably lived about ten years in retirement :—

The last will & Testam^{te} of Ellis Knight of Reading in the county of Berks Belfounder made the last day of August Anno Dom 1685 to my daughter Sarah the wife of William Wright one shilling to be paid her on demand. All the rest to Margare my well-beloved wife. . . .

Proved April 20, 1694, by Margaret Knight.

The inventory was taken Ap^l 17th, 1694, by Francis Knight, maulster, and Hugh Newman, clothier.

As Samuel is not mentioned in either the will or **SAMUEL** inventory, it seems most likely that he was not Ellis's son. **KNIGHT.** His first known bell, at Stanford Dingley, Berks, is inscribed as follows :—

⊙ HENRY ⊙ KING ⊙ C ⊙ W ⊕ SAMVLL KNIGHT MAD M 1684 ⊙

The only bells by him the next year that I know of, are two recorded by Mr. Lukis, at Collingbourne Kingston, and Netheravon, both in Wilts.

In 1686, his only bells seem to be two at Wimborne Minster, Dorset, which deserve a more detailed notice.

The present third is inscribed :—

SVM MINIMA HIC CAMPANA AT INEST SVA GRATIA
PARVIS S K 1686

M : R (Pattern) T P C (Pattern) W T (Pattern) B

THIS · BELL · WAS · ADDED TO · Y · FIVE · IN · 1686

The fourth :—

SMV PVLSATA ROSAMVNDI MARIA VOCATA SAMVEL
KNIGT FEE SET 1686

MATHEW RAINCLE THOMAS POTTELL CHVRCH
WARDENS (Pattern) T B

It seems probable that these bells were not actually cast by S. Knight, but that T B was the founder, for Knight's account. A Thomas Bilbie was founding half a century later* at Chewstoke, Somerset, and at Collumpton,

* By 1734, and probably earlier.

Devon ; this is the best identification I can offer. The very large, clumsy initial letters* were used on two bells in the Curfew Tower, Windsor Castle, by I W, in 1612. These latter are probably by John Wallis, of Salisbury, whose date is about 1580 to 1636. The big letters, doubtless, never belonged to Samuel Knight, but had passed into the possession of T B more or less directly from the Salisbury Foundry.

In 1687, Samuel Knight cast a bell for Tidmarsh, Berks, on which is recorded the name of John Knight, churchwarden. As this place is only seven miles from Reading, John may well have been a relation. An individual of that name was baptised at S. Mary's, Reading, in 1649, and another one at S. Lawrence's in 1653. One of them was churchwarden of this latter parish in 1701. During the next three years I have notes of seven bells in the counties of Berks, Oxon, and Hants. In 1691, only the treble at Medmenham. Nothing the next year. In 1693, one bell at Downton, Wilts. In 1694, the saunce at Great Marlow, with merely his initials, $\frac{9}{8}$ inch high ; the figures as before. Nothing known during the next two years. In 1697, one in Herts. In 1698, five at Binfield, Berks. The following year, one in Surrey. Nothing in 1700. In 1701, the little clock-bell at Burnham, in the $\frac{9}{10}$ inch set, except the letter H, which belongs to the $\frac{5}{8}$ set ; one in Oxon, and five at Ropley, Hants (one now gone).

In the churchwardens' accounts of S. Mary, Reading, taken that Easter Monday, is :—

Pd Mr Knight ye Bellfounder for woorke & Bras 1 18

In 1702, a ring of five at Penn, of which the second was recast seventy-eight years later, and the fourth was unluckily split in 1892. They were inscribed :—

I AS TREBELL DO BEE GIN
FEARE GOD HONOVR THE KING

Then, no doubt, "Samvell Knight kast this ring." †

IN PENN TOVR FOR TOO SING
VNTO THE CHVRCH I 'DOO YOY CALL
GETH TO THE GRAVE WILL SVMMANS ALL

followed by the churchwardens' names.

* Their average height is about $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches, the extremes being about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch more and less. The "smalls" are about $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch.

† So at least at Binfield, Berks, 1698.

These are the latest of Samuel Knight's bells in this county ; but there are some later in Berks, beginning with four in 1703, and three in 1704.

In the accounts of S. Lawrence, Reading, dated 11th February, that year,* is :—

Agreed that the 7th bell be taken downe and new cast, and Samuel Knight to doe it & be paid 18*l.* for the same by the churchwardens, Samuel Knight to be at all manner of charge in taking downe & hanging up the same.

And in those of S. Giles, taken Lady Day, in the same year :—

Item pd to Knight the bellfounder for a Branch to the sconch, 8*s.*

In 1705, three more examples in Berks. No bells known during the next three years, but in 1709 he sent a ring of six to Mortimer Strathfield, in Berks, the second of which was apparently not a success, as the present bell is dated the following year. Samuel occasionally, down to the tenor of this ring, used Ellis's shield, and the "churchwarden" figure.

Probably, in this latter year, Samuel Knight finding his business, as the above list goes far to show, very intermittent, left Reading, and removed to the parish of S. Andrew, Holborn, London ; his actual foundry is not known, but Mr. Stahlschmidt believed it was in Shoe Lane.

Up to this time (excluding the bells mentioned in the Reading parish accounts), he had sent at least twenty-eight bells to Berks, eight to Bucks, six to Hants, three to Wilts, two apiece to Oxon and Dorset, one each to Herts and Surrey. Of course the complete investigation of some of these counties may increase the number.

After twelve or eighteen months in London, during which he seems to have received absolutely no orders, business improved ; and beginning in 1712, he sent at least thirty-six bells to Sussex towers, as recorded by Mr. Tyssen ; and beginning in 1721, between eighty and ninety bells to Kentish towers, as recorded by Mr. Stahlschmidt ; also one to Herts in 1716, two in 1738, and five in 1739. In Surrey he contributed the renowned ring of twelve (two recast), to S. Saviour's, Southwark, in 1734-5 ; two other bells to that county in 1737, and one in 1739.

His will shows that he died near the end of this latter year :—

Principal Registry, Court of Probate : Prerog. Court of Canterbury.

In the Name of God Amen

I Samuel Knight of the Parish of Saint Andrew Holborn London Bell Founder being of sound mind memory and understanding do hereby make my last Will and

* Kerry's *History*, etc., p. 89.

Testament in manner and form following to wit First I give devise and bequeath to my loving sister Jane Knight Spinster the sum of Five pounds of lawfull money of Great Britain I also give to Anne Hillier Widow the sum of Ten pounds of like lawfull money I also give devise and bequeath to Mr. Robert Catlin all the rest residue and remainder of my Estate whatsoever and wheresoever And I nominate constitute and appoint him the said Robert Catlin sole Executor of this my last Will and Testament hereby revoking all former Wills by me made In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this fifteenth day of November in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and thirty nine — **Samuel Knight** — Signed sealed published and declared by the said Samuel Knight the testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who in his presence at his request and in the presence of each other have subscribed our names as Witnesses hereunto—John Pilkington—Benjⁿ Lockyer

Proved at London before the Worshipful John Andrew Doctor of Laws and Surrogate on the 19th December 1739 by the Oath of Robert Catlin the sole Executor to whom Administration was granted having been first sworn duly to administer.

(Henchman, 262.)

Before speaking of his successors in the business, I will clear off the Knight family, by giving all the entries referring to them from the Registers, etc., of Reading, which have not been already quoted. All entries prior to 1567 have been already given.

From the Registers of S. Mary the Virgin, Reading :—

Baptisms: 1587, Robart. 1588, Marc xxijth x̄xer (? Christopher). 1591, Elizabeth. 1598, Alice. 1600 ffebrua, Elnor. [Anthonie Knight, C W for year ending Feb., 1602, and again the following year.] 1605, Margaret, dau. of Anthonie. 1608, January, Antony, son of Antony. 1622, Febr., John, son of Thomas; Dec., Alice, dau. of John. 1623, Elizabeth, dau. of Thomas. 1625, John, son of John. 1626, Thomas, son of Thomas. 1630, ffebruar, Jefferie son of John; March, Marye, dau. of John. 1632, Naomie, dau. of Mr Walter. 1633, Elizabeth, dau. of John. 1634, Penellopey, dau. of Walter. 1635, Walter, son of Walter and Naome. 1638, Januarie, Letiscia, dau. of do. (No entries from December 22nd, 1641, to August 10th, 1643.*) 1649, John, son of John. 1650, Edward, son of Willam. 1653, ffebb., Willam, son of Willam; Oct., Thomas, son of John and Marie. 1657, William, son of John and Elizabeth. 1658, May,

* Will Moore entered as follows, on the first *paper* page of the first volume of the Register: "When I came to be Clark of this parish I found noe Children registred from December the 22th 1641 to August 1643 nor any paper wherby I could collect any; neither in the time of warr could any Register be well kept, for people made use of whome they could gett to baptize their children; likewise for buryalls wthout Minister, Clark, or bell; so that no register could be truly kept, but what I could collect or gather together I have done to the uttermost of my power to satisfie people in after times, I could not doe it in an orderly way but as neere as possibly I could I have done it —"

Elizabeth, son of Do. ; Oct., Sarah, dau. of W^m & Emlye.* 1685, January, Mary, dau. of William and Mary. 1686, Elizabeth, dau. of Do. 1688, William, son of Do. 1689, Mary, dau. of John & Mary. 1690, Ann, dau. of William and Mary. 1692, William, son of Do. 1694, Sarah, dau. of Do. 1698, Jane, dau. of Do. "1704 Octo Elizabeth Knight of John & Temprance Lab. the 15th." "1705 January Ann Knight of Sañil & Mary Labour the 1." "1706 October Infant of Samwell Knight . . . Lab the 17" "1707 May Elias Knight of Josias & Elizabeth Labo the 19." [To end of 1707.

Marriages: 1583, Anthonie, to Agnes Welles. 1586. Richard, to Marge: Pyper. 1615, Isack Butler to Ellen. 1616, John, to Elizabeth Eliot. 1620, Febr., Martin, to Alice Stevens; June, Thomas, to Katherin Bristow. 1627, Jan., James Warner, to Margaret. 1630, ffrancis, to Ursula Merick. 1641, Jasper, to Sarah Wells. (July, 1641, to August, 1643, missing). 1644, Januara., Thomas Wilder to Ann. 1646, William, to Martha Paine.† 1647, Febu., John, to Lida rose (?).

"1654, ^{August} ~~September~~ Alexander Blagrave of this pish and Leticea } ye 3^d."
Knight of St Lawrence pish 3 times published ... }

Burials: 1570, W^m. 1590, Elnor. 1592, John, "p^risoner."‡ 1595, John. 1602, Agnes, wife of Antho: 1615, Alice, dau. of Anthoni. 1620, Febr., Alice, wife of Martin. 1623, Anthony, son of Anthony. 1629, M^r Anthonie. 1631, Alice. 1634, Penellopey, dau. of Walter. 1637, ffebruari, Walter, son of M^r Walter.

1639, January, Elizabeth, wife of John bur. 21; John, her husband bur. 23, "feavers pestilentiall." (No entries between May, 1641, and Sept., 1653.) 1654, March xviiijth, Tho., son of John. 1655, Lidea, wife of John. 1658, John. 1671, August y^e 18th, ffrancis. 1672, Mary, widow. 1678, ffeb., Ann. 1689, William. 1691, January, Mary. 1696, Elizabeth. 1702, ffeb., John, "Labowerer." [To April, 1702.

The churchwardens' accounts|| of S. Lawrence, Reading, record the following burials:—

1577-78, William's daughter. 1581-82, Elizab. 1584-85, wife of Thomas. 1585-86, "Knight," buried in S. Lawrence, sounds like the founder, William, but if so, the date must be a mistake for the following year. 1591-92, Alice. 1593-94, Jone.

In 1603, Roger, was churchwarden, and in 1607 he paid a rental of 3*d*. for Seat 3, in the middle aisle. In 1701, John was churchwarden.

* I cannot resist quoting the following, though it has no reference to our subject:—

1662, Decem., Henry Elyot, of John and Ann, this childe was borne att y^e } ye 10th
very time when all y^e planets were in one Conjunction ... }

† She was probably the owner of the token (after her husband's death), MARTHA . KNIGHT . IN = 1669. READING . LIN . DRAPR = M . K (*Boyne's Tokens*, Edit. 1889, Berks, No. 90; Original Edit., Berks, No. 66).

‡ Probably *parishioner*, not *prisoner*.

|| *Kerry's History*.

The Registers of this parish only go back as far as April, 1605. They contain the following notices of the family :—

Baptisms: 1605, John, son of Roger. 1606, Jane, dau. of Richard. 1607, Richard, son of Roger. 1608, Margerye, dau. of Thomas. 1609, William, son of Roger (bapt. "at St. gyles"). 1610, februarye, Wyllyam, son of Rychard. 1612, Elizabeth, dau. of Mr Rogere. 1616, Anne, dau. of Mr Roger; Do., John, son of Richard. 1621, January, Henry, son of Edward. 1625, Joseph, son of John; Do., william, son of Edward. 1626, february, Catherain, dau. of Thomas. 1627, January, Mary, dau. of John. 1629, Nov., John, son of John; March, Elisabeth, dau. of Thomas. 1632, Agnes, dau. of John. Do., Ann, dau. of Elizeus. 1633, Elifeus, son of Elifeus. 1634, Michael, son of John. 1635, ffrancis, son of ffrancis. 1637, Thomas, son of Elizeus; Do., January, margaret, dau. of william. 1639, ffrancis, dau. of ffrancis. 1640, Ruth, dau. of Mr Walter. 1642, January, Nathan, son of Walter. 1648, Elizabeth, dau. of William, "was borne." 1650, William, son of William, "was borne." 1651, Joanna, dau. of Witt, "was borne." 1649, Henry, son of Henry, "was baptifed." 1653, John, son of Henry, "was borne."

Matrimonia: 1613, Gilbert Brackstone, and Joane. 1614, Richarde, and Julyan Crockfforde. 1615, John Knot and Alis. 1616, Edward, and Joan ftroud (?). 1620, february, John, and Mary Raunce. 1621, January, Edward Creede and Sarah. 1626, Thomas, and Elifabeth Huddle. 1630, Januar. John Hall and Elifabeth. 1641, Richard Cliffe and Judith. 1648, Henry, and Jane Pryer. 1649, William, and Emery Witten.

Sepultura: 1607, Richard; Do., Jane, dau. of Robert. 1612, Elyzabeth. 1614, Janne. 1616, Anna. 1618, margaret; Do., John. 1619, wittm. 1622, January, Henry. 1628, Catherain. 1629, Elifabeth; Do., Thomas. 1630, Elifabeth. 1631, februar., John. 1634, mary. 1635, Mr Roger; Do., Richard.* 1638, ffrancis; Do., March, mris Ann. 1641, ffrancis, son of ffrancis: Do., Januarie, Vrsula, wife of ffr. 1643, † widowe Knight. "Lost from 1644 to 1654 in Burials" 1653, The widdow Knigt. p. ‡

Of the Registers of S. Giles, Reading, I have only searched the "Chryftenynges" contained in the earliest volume, which begins 1564, and ends April, 1599. There occur, besides one previously quoted :—

1567, februarie, margaret. 1590, Alfe. 1592, margarett; do., feb: Tho.

ROBERT CATLIN.

Samuel Knight's successor in his London Foundry, was Robert Catlin, who appears in his will as executor and residuary legatee. His first appearance is on the fifth bell of a ring of six, at S. Michael's church, in S. Alban's, Herts, cast by Samuel Knight in the last year of his life (1739). This bell announces that

* In 1635 is the entry: "A franger choked while he wifhed the fame."

† In 1642 and the following year, numerous soldiers, belonging to both sides, were buried.

‡ Perhaps for *plague*.

SAMUEL KNIGHT MADE ME, and that ROBERT CATLIN HUNG US ALL, etc.

Bucks possesses four examples by him ; namely, the second and fifth at Chalfont S. Giles, dated 1742 ; the tenor at Amersham, 1745 ; and the tenor at Iver, 1747.

I know nothing of Catlin's personal history, except that he was admitted a "Love Brother" (Hon. Member) of the Founders' Company in 1740,* and died in 1751.† He kept up his predecessor's connection with Reading to some extent, by recasting the important rings of S. Lawrence and S. Mary, in that town.

Catlin's successor was Thomas Swain, by whom Bucks **THOMAS** has at the present time twelve examples, *viz.*, Horton, 1752 ; **SWAIN.** Hitcham (two) and Burnham, 1755 ; High Wycombe, 1756 ; Little Marlow, 1757 and 1777 ; Dorney, 1771 ; Stoke Poges, 1772 and 1773 ; Eton College Chapel, 1777 ; Penn, 1780.

In 1756, he began to use a very roughly-executed sixteen-point asterisk, 1.7 inch broad, by about .1 less in height, and in the following year he added a bell (fig. 50) and a circular foundry stamp (fig. 51).

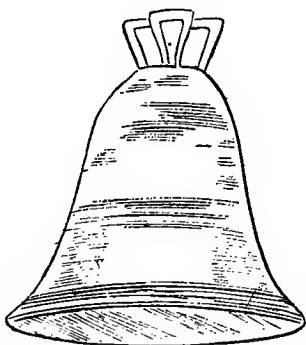


Fig. 50.

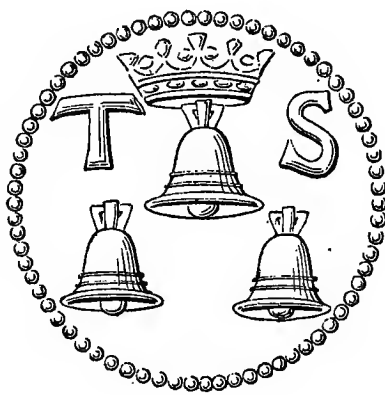


Fig. 51.

Swain came, I believe, of a Reading family, though not necessarily born there, and this in no way disagrees with what is said about him in *Bells of Surrey* (pp. 101, 121), nor with his grandmother having probably been Barbara, a daughter of William Eldridge, the bellfounder of Chertsey. From the number of entries of Swaine and Eldridge, in the Reading

* *Bells of Kent*, p. 107.

† *Bells of Herts*, p. 53.

Registers, it seems likely that both families came from that town: *viz.*, in S. Mary's Registers:—

Swaine: 1592, Avis married. 1627, Richard married. Baptisms in 1633 and 1635; a burial in 1639. 1654, Elizabeth (of Mapledurham, in Oxon, only four miles distant) married. 1659, John buried. 1682, Sarah, a widow, buried.

In S. Lawrence's Registers:—

Bapt., Januarye, 1608, John, son of Cornelys. Marr., februarie, 1619, Barnabye. Bur., March, 1606, Joane.

The Eldridge entries are given under the heading of that family of bellfounders.

Mr. Stahlschmidt (*op. cit.*) says, "Swain was a Middlesex man, the eldest son of Thomas Swain, of West Bedfont. During the later years of his life, he lived at Longford, in the parish of Harmondsworth." He found "him so described in deeds dated 1777 and 1781." Swain retired from business in this latter year, and was buried at Harmondsworth, on 26th April, 1782,* and with him this foundry came to an end. His autograph exists in the churchwardens' account book at Taplow, where he recast the treble in 1770, and possibly one of the other bells in the following year.

THE LEICESTER AND BEDFORD FOUNDRIES.

(JOHN, OF STAFFORD.) Mr. North† believed that Johannes de Stafford was established in Leicester as a bellfounder, at least as early as the middle of the fourteenth century; and it is known from the Fabric Roll of York Minster, that a founder of this name was living in 1371. A John of Stafford was Mayor of Leicester in 1366, and again in 1370, and was, in all likelihood, the same individual. A bell at Aylstone, in Leicestershire, inscribed in the same lettering and stamps that were used by John, bears the name of the donor, who was living early in the fifteenth century, and thus shows the continuity of the foundry, either in John's hands, or more likely in those of his immediate successor.

* *Op. cit.* p. 120.

† For fuller particulars of this foundry, see *Bells of Leicestershire*.

**(WILLIAM
MILLERS.)****(THOMAS
NEWCOMBE I.)**

The next Leicester founder who has been discovered, is William Millers; he was admitted into the Leicester Merchants' Guild in 1499, and died in December, 1506. His widow, Margery, married for her second husband, Thomas Newcombe, who carried on the foundry until his death, which happened between March and August, 1520,* leaving two sons—Robert and Edward—and three daughters. His widow, Margery, married a third husband, Thomas Bett, who continued the bell-foundry. He was Mayor of Leicester in 1529. He survived his wife Margery, and married again, and died towards the end of December, 1538, or perhaps during the January following.

To him I attribute, though perhaps without sufficient ground, one bell in Bucks, the second at Hardmead, inscribed :—

O Sancta maria ora p nobis

In place of an initial cross, it has a large circular stamp (fig. 52) of a heart with the blood-vessels converted into stems of plants which bear flowers. It does not appear to have been met with previously. Peculiarities about the inscription are the use of a capital letter for the first word only (fig. 53), and the abbreviation of *pro*. These peculiarities were, I think, adopted by Bett's predecessor, for the second bell at Aston Flamville, Leicestershire, of which, unluckily, Mr. North does not describe the lettering, has :—

∩ Sca caterina ora p nobis

In place of initial cross is a rebus shield, not known elsewhere. Two

* Mr. North (*Bells of Leicester*, p. 41) says, "He was buried in All Saints' Church, Leicester, where his tombstone was, it is said, to be seen a few years ago, stript of its brasses and of the emblems (three bells) of his calling."

A large stone—evidently this one—is now kept in the tower of that church. Above are the counter-sinkings of three bells; then, on the right, a man, the square cut of his hair being still conspicuous; on his left, a woman. Below came the inscription, which must have been rather a long one—half a dozen lines or more, probably. All round, near the edge, was a border of brass, which probably bore a single line inscription, and at the four corners were evidently the emblems of the evangelists.

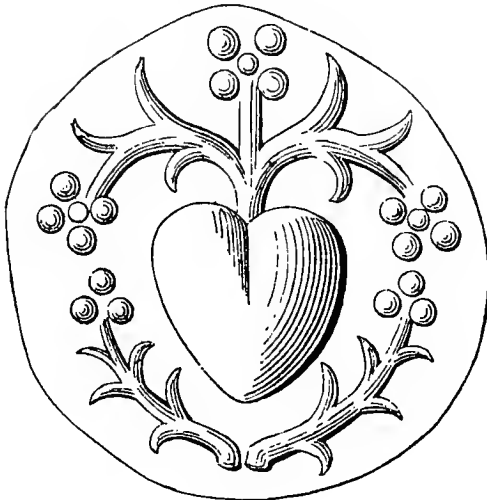


Fig. 52.

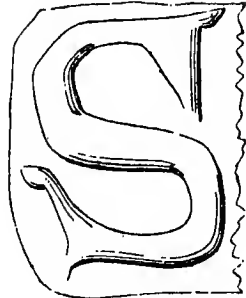


Fig. 53.

varieties of it, however, occur; one of which bearing the initials **Ƨ** **Ń**, is known to have been the mark of a grandson and namesake of Thomas Newcombe's. The second variety is intermediate in character between the other two stamps, and bears the initial **R**. In all probability this intermediate variety was the stamp of the elder Robert Newcombe,* son of the first Thomas; and one can hardly doubt that the Aston Flamville shield was the mark of Thomas I.—the "type" from which his son and grandson made variations.

The treble at Bristol Cathedral has on it a shield charged with a bleeding heart, the auricles showing no blood-vessels or flowering plants (as at Hardmead), but pierced by three nails, with the initials **I** **Ń**. The form of the inscription is somewhat similar to the last two; but without a more particular description than is given of it in *Gloucester Bells*, it would be quite unsafe to attempt to draw any conclusion as to its authorship.

Bett was succeeded (at the beginning of
(ROBERT NEWCOMBE I.) 1539) by Robert Newcombe, son of Thomas I. He married Bett's daughter (? by a former wife) Katherine; and his father-in-law and step-father, by his will, left him nearly the whole of his property. He was Mayor of

* A bell at Dalby on the Wolds, Leicestershire, bearing this variety of the shield, is dated 1584, at which date the *second* Robert Newcombe was manager of the foundry, but as there is no reason why he should not have continued its use, this in no way invalidates the theory.

Leicester in 1550. Four children survived him—Thomas (II.), Edward (I.; his uncle and namesake, is not known as a founder), Anne, and Robert (II.).

**(THOMAS
NEWCOMBE II.)** Robert (I.) probably died previous to 1562, as in that year Thomas II. was employed to recast “o^r Ladye Bell” at Melton Mowbray. Some entries in the Church and Town wardens’ accounts referring to this transaction, give the clue to the ownership of the shield which occurs on this bell, which has just been mentioned. This shield is frequently associated in Leicestershire with the cross, No. 4 on Plate XXVI., which, in the seventeenth century, came into the possession of James Keene. Thomas Newcombe II. died early in February, 1580; his will (which is imperfect) is given in *Bells of Leicestershire*.

**(ROBERT
NEWCOMBE II.)** The business was continued by his brother, Robert (II.); but here it becomes necessary, or at any rate convenient, to leave this family for the present, in order to trace down to this point another family of founders working also in Leicester, into which Robert married. The subsequent history of the two families is so much interwoven, that it will be best to bring them along, as nearly as possible simultaneously.

THE WATTS’ LEICESTER AND BEDFORD FOUNDRY.

A second foundry, which eventually became of more importance than the older one, and some of whose productions have seldom, if ever, been surpassed in quality, existed for a number of years side by side with the original foundry in Leicester.

**(HUGH
WATTS I.)** “Hew Watts” appears on the treble at South Luffenham, Rutland, in 1563; and in the churchwardens’ accounts of S. Martin’s parish, Leicester, for 1617–18, is a receipt for charges at the “buryall” of “olde Mr. Watts,” **(FRANCIS
WATTS I.)** whom Mr. North (*Bells of Beds*, p. 58) supposed to be the above “Hew.” He was probably the father of “Fraunces Wattes,” who bought some bell-wheels when they were taken down from a church in Leicester, in 1564. Francis died in 1600; his will is quoted in *Bells of Leicester* (p. 60). From it can be gathered most of the items of the following pedigree, but not the exact order: and it does not mention William, or Hugh II.’s wife and children:—

Francis Watts (I.) in his will (1600) leaves a bequest to his "Daughter Hellen Newcombe," and as the Registers of All Saints, Leicester, record the burial on May 22nd, 1606, of "Ellen Newcom wife of Robert Newcom," it is inferred that Robert Newcombe II., married the daughter of Francis Watts. Anyway these two founders, instead of being bitter rivals, as might have been expected, went into partnership; an agreement which seems to have been continued, off and on, but not as a hard and fast arrangement, by their successors.

**HUGH
WATTS II.
WILLIAM
WATTS.
(FRANCIS
WATTS II.)**

Francis Watts was succeeded in his Leicester business by his son, Hugh, born about 1582, whose first known bell was dated the year of his father's death.

Hugh is mentioned as the *second* son (of Francis I.) in the Book of the local Merchants' Guild (*Bells of Leicester*, p. 62); his wife and *three* children are on the authority of his will (*do.*, p. 70). His second son, Francis II., who was working with his father in 1633, seems to have predeceased him, as he is not mentioned in the will, where everything belonging to the trade was left to his elder son, Hugh, who did not continue the business.

By 1589 (or earlier), William Watts, who was probably Francis Watts I.'s eldest son, seems to have opened a branch foundry in Bedford.

There are over a score of fine bells in Bedfordshire, most, or all, of them probably cast in Bedford—recorded by Mr. North as inscribed in the large ornate capitals, which Mr. L'Estrange called "Brasyer's smaller alphabet," and examples of which lettering are figured in Plate XXIII. They all bear "Brasyer's sprigged shield" (fig. 54), but very few have a founder's name, and many are undated. The earliest date on any of them is 1589. 1590 is the only dated bell on which William Watts's name appears. Two bells, dated 1603, bear Hugh Watts's name.

Other bells in Beds of this make are dated 1593 and 1597; 1600, 1601, 1602, and 1603; then 1609, 1610, and 1617; then, after a long break, come others dated 1635, 1636, and 1637.

There are numerous bells in Leicestershire and Northamptonshire, inscribed in these letters, but as they are not distinguished in Mr. North's volumes from examples inscribed in a plainer set of Lombardic capitals, we can glean little or no information from them. We can only say, that as this plainer set does not occur on any bells in Beds, it evidently was not used at the Bedford Foundry, nor was, in all probability, Hugh Watts II.'s set of Roman capitals.

There is nothing to show the date of William's death, but Mr. North was probably correct in supposing it occurred between 1590 and 1600. Hugh is not known to have been casting before this latter year, and was then only about eighteen years old ; so if William died before then, Francis Watts may have taken charge of the Bedford Foundry, in addition to his own at Leicester ; or, perhaps, as seems more likely, Edward Newcombe I. became the manager (see pp. 154 and 158).



Fig. 54.

There is one bell in Bucks, the tenor at Westbury, bearing seven of the above-mentioned letters (Plate XXIII.), without any initial cross, or other device, and which is consequently difficult or impossible to "place" with certainty. The letters are :—



The beginning may be anywhere. I begin with the H, merely because there is rather a greater interval between it and the preceding letter than elsewhere, with an interval of secondary degree between that preceding letter and the G.

Judging by two bells in Leicestershire (second at Houghton-on-the-Hill and fourth at Narborough), where various stamps are used with nonsense inscriptions in what appear (in Mr. North's volume) to be this set of letters, the Westbury bell is *perhaps* by Hugh Watts in partnership with Edward Newcombe I.*

* It seems possible that this nonsense inscription is simply due to the fact of Westbury being fully thirty miles distant from Bedford (and still further from Leicester). Watts and Newcombe may have sent an illiterate assistant to cast the bell on the spot. In the case of the two examples in Leicestershire, they are both close to Leicester, but the orders may have been executed in the same way from Bedford.

Bucks has three other bells which may safely be ascribed to the Watts' Bedford Foundry, although the two sets of letters employed have not been previously recorded on bells by any of the Leicester or Bedford founders ; but with so many bells by the Wattses, in Leicester, Northampts, and Beds, it is hard to believe that these letters were reserved for one tower only !

These bells are at Sherington (only eleven miles from Bedford). Two of them are inscribed in beautiful capitals, which I take to be the set called by Mr. L'Estrange, "Brasyer's larger alphabet," but not figured by him. They closely resemble the "smaller alphabet" used on the Westbury bell, but are a size larger. See Plates XXIV. and XXV.

The second has :—



preceded by "the Brasyer sprigged shield" (fig. 54), and followed by the cross shown on Plate XXIII. The circuit of the bell's shoulder is completed by the running pattern on the same plate.

The tenor has the alphabet, in the same capitals, twice ; the first time as far as Q, the second time as far as S, with the sprigged shield at the beginning, and at the end the date, 1591, in remarkable, long-shaped figures. Above, the running pattern goes right round.

The fourth bell has this same pattern all round, except the space occupied by the date, 1591, in the same remarkable figures. Underneath, preceded by a cross, which is extremely indistinct, but is probably a smaller edition of that used on the second bell, comes the alphabet, in black-letter smalls, the letters *a*, *r*, *s*, being in duplicate, and *f* and *w* omitted ; *z* is followed by two letters more resembling *r* and *r* reversed, than anything else, and then comes *w*. These last letters are shown on Plate XXIII. Perhaps they stand for Watts, the founder ? Or they may be the initials of three of the Newcombe brothers. The alphabet and extras are repeated, and a third time as far as the letter *t*, where the circuit of the bell is completed.

The Brasyers, who originated the two very handsome sets of capitals, the shield, the cross, and probably the smalls also, and some other stamps which will be mentioned a little further on, were working during the fifteenth century at the ancient and important foundry at Norwich, of which it seems well here to give a slight sketch.*

* See *Bells of Norfolk*, p. 25, etc.

THE NORWICH FOUNDRY.

**(WILLIAM
OF NORWICH.)**

The first known Norwich founder was William de Norwyco, or, of Norwich. He was possibly identical with "William Brasiere de Notyngham," admitted to the freedom of the city of Norwich in 1376.

The donor of a bell by William of Norwich is identified with an individual who died in 1384, which helps to fix William's date.

**(JOHN
SUTTON.)**

John Sutton, "Bellejeſt," is the next name which has been found. He was admitted to the liberty of the city in 1404. No bells by him are known.

**(THOMAS
POTTER.)**

Thomas Potter, "Brasyer," was also admitted to his freedom in the above year. He seems to have been succeeded by Richard Baxter, who was working from before 1416 to after 1424.

**(RICHARD
BAXTER.)****(RICHARD
BRASYER I.)**

The foundry next appears in the hands of the Brasyer family. Richard Brasyer was admitted to the freedom of the city of Norwich in 1424. Several generations of the family occur previously, but he is the first who was certainly a bellfounder. The wording of the entry of his freedom leaves it doubtful whether his father, Robert, was not also a bellfounder, though he was more probably a mercer (possibly he was both!). Richard's will is dated 1475, and proved 1482.

**(RICHARD
BRASYER II.)**

His son Richard succeeded him, and died 1513. Only one bell bearing his name (the fourth at S. Peter Permoungate, Norwich) is known. It bears the sprigged shield (fig. 54).

Two slabs remain in S. Stephen's church, Norwich, one having the effigy of Robert Brasyer and his wife; the other the effigies of the two Richards. There was formerly a shield at each of the four angles of this latter slab, one of which was charged with a coronet between three bells.

Besides the shield with the sprigged or diapered ground (fig. 54), there is one (as well as a smaller edition) having an ermined ground (fig. 55). Mr. L'Estrange says,* "It would appear probable that the diapered shield . . . was the earlier form of Brasyer's mark, the ermine field being an afterthought, and added to make the mark more heraldic. This can only

* *Bells of Norfolk*, p. 31.

be conjecture, for there are but two or three of Brasyer's bells to which a precise date can be assigned."

The ermined shield is on a bell cast in or about 1469 (which would, I suppose, be the first Richard; but Mr. L'Estrange carefully avoids discriminating between the two), and the smaller edition of it is on one dated 1484.

The Brasyers introduced the two beautiful sets of capitals figured on Plates XXIII. to XXV., used by later founders at Sherington and Westbury, and also (judging by the same letters being in duplicate) the set of black-letter used on another bell in the former tower.

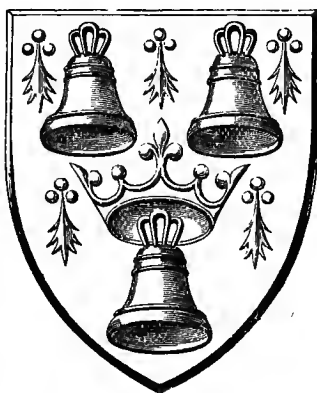


Fig. 55.

On the death of the second Richard Brasyer in 1513, **(WILLIAM BARKER.)** a break occurs in the list of Norwich founders. William Barker was admitted to the freedom of the city in 1530. He occupied the same foundry in S. Stephen's parish—the house was known as the "Three Bells"—and probably used the same stamps. He died June, 1538. No bells are known by him.

Thomas Laurence, bellfounder, was admitted to the freedom of the city of Norwich, March, 1541. He was **(THOMAS LAURENCE.)** buried at S. Stephen's, 3rd December, 1545. He is probably identical with the Thomas Lawrence, of London, already mentioned (p. 45); but no Norwich-cast bell by him is known.

John Brend, "Belfounder," was admitted **(JOHN BREND I.)** a citizen in 1573, but he had been settled in **(WILLIAM BREND.)** Norwich some years before then. Died 1582.

William Brend succeeded his father. He removed the foundry to All Saints' parish by 1586. He used the two ermine

shields, but apparently not the sprigged pattern. Buried 1st December, 1634.

(JOHN BREND II.) John Brend succeeded his father William ; he gave up black-letter, and the old stamps, and used Roman capitals. Buried 18th September, 1658.

(E., R., & T. BREND.) Elias Brend (died 1666), Ralph Brend, and Thomas Brend appear more or less simultaneously.

(EDWARD TOOKE.) Edward Tooke appears by 1671. Buried at All Saints, October, 1679.

(SAMUEL GILPIN.) Samuel Gilpin, 1679. Buried at S. John Sepulchre, June, 1705.

(CHARLES NEWMAN.) [Charles Newman, 1684-1703, was doubtfully of Norwich. He was, during his earlier years, at Lynn, and later on apparently at Blakeney, also in Norfolk.]

(HENRY PLEASANT.) [Henry Pleasant, of Colchester and Sudbury, was working at Bracondale, Norwich, about 1705.]

(THOMAS NEWMAN.) Thomas Newman, 1701-1744, worked at Bracondale, but seems to have been absent from Norwich (? itinerating) from 1716 to 1727.

(JOHN STEPHENS.) During this interval, John Stephens occupied Newman's foundry. Buried at S. John Sepulchre, October, 1727.

(THOMAS GARDINER.) Thomas Gardiner, 1745-1753, removed to Norwich (from Sudbury) at Newman's death. Returned to Sudbury by 1754, when the Norwich foundry seems to have been finally closed.

THE LEICESTER FOUNDRY (*continued*).

To return to the Leicester Foundry: .

EDWARD NEWCOMBE I. Robert Newcombe II. seems to have died in, or shortly after, 1598,* and was succeeded by his surviving brother, Edward Newcombe (I.).

* But if he had died before his wife (see p. 147), one would have expected her to be described as "widow."

Mr. North suggests* as a likely explanation of the Norwich stamps migrating to Leicester, that the father of Francis Watts (who was, he supposed, the above-named "Hew"†), had been employed at the former foundry, and leaving at its temporary closing on the death of Richard Brasyer in 1513, found his way to Leicester, bringing some of the old stamps, etc., with him, and opened a foundry there on his own account. But if he is correct in identifying this "Hew" with the individual buried in 1617-18, he could hardly have left Norwich over a century previously!

At Olney (ten and a-half miles from Bedford), the second bell is inscribed:—

□ 603 □ SANE □ THE □ 1599

followed by a date, of which the two last figures are exceedingly indistinct,‡ but I am nearly certain that it is 1599. D is an inverted C; and both U's are inverted. These letters (fig. 56) have not been previously figured. Are they the plain set mentioned by Mr. L'Estrange as found on bells at Eaton and Witton, in Norfolk, probably cast by Thomas Potter? The inscription is preceded by a faint impression of a tiny shield, about $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch diameter, charged with a bell.

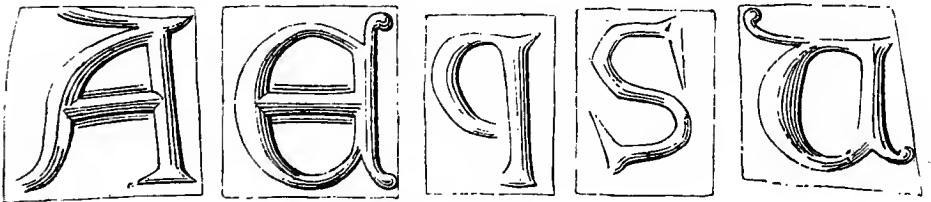


Fig. 56.

The three stops between the words are (like the date) very indistinct, being apparently impressions of worn-out stamps. The second one is fig. 58, while the first and third are probably both fig. 57; but the first of them *might* be an impression of the somewhat similar head figured in *Norfolk Bells*, p. 26, which was originally used by Thomas Potter, of Norwich. Figs. 57 and 58 were first used by Baxter, of the same foundry. The corners of the stamps are here cut off, and they are so much trimmed, that, though the size of Potter's and Baxter's stamps are quite different as figured in *Norfolk Bells*, it is not so obvious which the first one here is.

* *Bells of Leicester*, p. 63; *Northampts*, p. 90; and *Beds*, p. 61.

† *Bells of Beds*, p. 58.

‡ Even a cast is not conclusive.

By the evidence afforded by carefully going through the inscriptions in *Bells of Leicester* and *Bells of Northampts*, I gather that fig. 57 was used by both Thomas Newcombe II., and Robert Newcombe II.; and that fig. 58 was in the possession of the Watts family. It is therefore probable that the Olney bell is by a Newcombe and a Watts when in partnership, and cast in Bedford. One cannot fix the individual member of either family with any certainty, but the Newcombe would perhaps be Edward I., and the Watts would *probably* be either William, or if he was dead by this date, then Francis I.



Fig. 57.



Fig 58.

From what Mr. North says in his *Bells of Leicester, Northampts, and Bedford*, I gather the following as probabilities:—

Hugh Watts (II.) seems to have kept open his Bedford Foundry until about 1610, and then left that field clear for the Newcombes. In the following year, or 1612, Edward Newcombe probably died, and his Leicester Foundry was then merged into Hugh Watts's at that town. The latter became, or was already, even by that date, more famous than any of his predecessors of either family.

Thomas Eayre, of Kettering, in recasting a bell of Hugh Watts's at S. Margaret's, Leicester, in 1739, gave him the following "unsolicited testimonial":—HUGH WATTS OF LEICESTER THE FOREMOST IN HIS ART CAST THE 6 LARGEST BELLS 1633. etc. Mr. North gives many interesting particulars about him in his *Bells of Leicester*, especially an anecdote about the tenor of this very ring; but I must content myself with saying that this prince of bellfounders died in 1643, in his sixty-first year.

His foundry at Leicester appears to have been worked (GEORGE CURTIS.) for a short time after his death, by his foreman, George Curtis, but probably merely long enough to wind up the business. Curtis died in 1650, and portions of the Leicester Foundry gear passed into the hands of the Nottingham founders.

Edward Newcombe had at least three of his sons associated with him in founding at Leicester, and, as I think (see p. 160), all four.

ROBERT IV., (III.) appears from about 1604 to 1611; and
THOMAS III., William, c. 1610, in which year he cast "Great Tom,"
of Lincoln, in partnership with Henry Oldfield, of
EDWARD II., Nottingham. This partnership was supposed by
Mr. North to have extended to that one transaction
only, but the treble at Sapcote, in Leicestershire, dated
AND the following year, which is a typical Newcombe
WILLIAM example, with the addition of an Oldfield running
NEWCOMBE. pattern, points to an extension of the partnership;
while the second at Ashby Parva, in the same county, inscribed, NEWCOMBE
. OF . LEICESTER . MADE . MEE . 1607, with the addition of the same
pattern, seems to indicate that it was of some few years' standing.

Mr. North has shown (*Beds*, p. 40) that Edward Newcombe I., or, one or more of his three sons, Robert, Thomas, and William—and, as I think, all these, and his other son Edward (II.) as well—set up a furnace at Bedford. In proof of this, he quotes as follows from the oldest Register book at Hargrave, Northamptonshire:—

John Smith clerke

January 13th Anno 1599

the lytle bell was cast at bedford
this year 1599 by newcñ
tho. browne Junior Ed Aspyn churchwardens
the same yeare *

It seems quite possible that, by some friendly arrangement, the Newcombes eventually took over the Bedford business from Hugh Watts.

The Bucks examples in this group, number seven, besides one recently melted.

Five of these eight are of the same make, *viz.* :

The tenor at North Crawley:—

NEWCOMBE OF LEICESTER MADE ME A^o 1613

(This has been a particularly good bell, but was cracked by improper treatment. To begin with, the bell has been "turned" in the most stupid

* Also quoted in *Northampts*, p. 290.

way, so that the clapper strikes on the place already worn dangerously thin by the blows of the clock-hammer; and, as if that method of putting an end to the bell was not quick enough—when the clapper broke in 1886, instead of its being at once repaired, the broken clapper was used to strike the bell with by hand, with the inevitable result of instantly breaking what must have been one of the best-toned bells in the county.)

The second at Lathbury:—

NEWCOME MADE ME .A.º 1614

The treble at Milton Keynes is similar, even to the inverted and crookedly-placed figure 4, with the exception of the omission of .A.º. The old tenor there has been recast, and the new bell was to be brought from Bletchley station on the day following my visit to the tower. The rector, the Rev. the Hon. W. S. T. W. Fiennes, told me the old bell was inscribed, "Newcome of Leicester made me A.D. 1614." No doubt it was a fellow to the treble, and the "A.D." would therefore have been ".A.º."

And the treble at Ravenstone has a precisely similar inscription:—

NEWCOME MADE ME .A.º 1616

The remaining three bells in Bucks of this group are of a different make, inscribed in smaller letters:—

NEWCOMBE MADE MEE

These are the treble at Shenley, dated 1615; the second in that tower, and the treble at Wavendon, dated 1616.

It seems at least very possible, that all the bells by the Newcombes in the seventeenth century, were cast at Bedford, and that OF LEICESTER was simply added to show the connection. I have tabulated the varieties in their inscriptions during this period, with the following result.

The couplet:—

BE YF KNOWNE TO ALL THAT DOTH ME SEE
THAT NEWCOMBE OF LEICESTER MADE ME

(which does not occur in Bucks) is found in 1602, 1604 to 1609 inclusive, and 1611 and 1612.* On one of the bells of 1602 (Beds), the name is quoted as NEWCOME, and on the only bell of 1608 (Cambs). The shorter

* The interesting "Music Bell," at S. Mary's, Oxford, is of this date.

inscription, NEWCOMBE OF LEICESTER MADE ME, is found in 1603, 1604, 1606, and 1611. NEWCOM OF LEICESTER MADE MEE (Leicester), 1609. NEWCOME OF LEICESTER MADE ME, in 1611 and 1613. NEWCOME MADE ME, in 1613, 1614, and 1615. And NEWCOMBE MADE MEE, in 1615, 1616, and 1617.

The Leicester founders may be more easily followed from the list on the following page.

In the extracts from the Registers of All Saints', Leicester, concerning the Newcombes, quoted by Mr. North,* besides certain inaccuracies in the spelling, etc., the following are omitted :—

1589. [blank] Nucom son of Edward Nucom baptized.
 1603. 1 Aprill Marye Nucom the daughter of Robarte Nucū baptiz̃.
 1573. Edward Nucom married Elizabeth Marcote.†
 1603. 11 decem̃ ffrancis harifson and Katheren Ncom (?) married
 1576. 4 Octobr̃ Margaret Ward *alias* Newcom was buried.

I found the following references to the Watts family in the same Registers :—

1577. 20 Septemb̃ Margery Watte daughter of Henry Watte baptized.
 1604. 7 Septem̃ Thomas Wattes sonne of henrie wattes baptiz̃.
 1605. 22 Decem̃ Elizabeth Wattes daughter of Henry baptized.
 1574. 2 Maie Ales Wattes was buried.
 1575. 17 June Blafe Wattes was buried.
 1579. 22 March Anne Wattes was buried.
 1584. 14 septemb̃ Blafe Watte was buried.
 1601. 22 March Helene Watte vxor Henrie Watte buried.
 1604. 7 Sep̃r Joan wates wyfe of henrie wattes was buried.

In the Registers of S. Mary, Bedford :—

1608. Johes Watte filius Edwādi Watte bãp̃ fuit 30° die octobris.
 1608. Johes watte filius Edwādi watte sepultus fuit—3° Novembris.

It seems probable that Edward Watts was connected with the foundry, it being not a local name.

With regard to the site of the bellfoundry in Bedford, the Rev. L. Woodard, vicar of S. Paul's, Bedford, kindly made some enquiries for me, and ascertained that after a great fire in S. Peter's parish, in Bedford, in 1800, when more than one hundred houses were destroyed, on digging the

* *Bells of Leicester*, p. 58.

† Not Martin, as quoted by Mr. North.

THE LEICESTER FOUNDERS.

1. John, of Stafford, second half of fourteenth century.
2. (Probably one or more founders, whose names are unknown.)
3. William Müllers, c. 1499, ob. 1506
4. Thomas Newcombe I. - ob. 1520 } Husbands of Margery.
5. Thomas Bett - - - ob. 1538 }
6. Robert Newcombe I. (son of 4), probably ob. by 1562.
7. Thomas Newcombe II. } ob. Feb., 1579-80.
8. Robert Newcombe II. } (9 sons of 7) ob. c. 1598.
9. Edward Newcombe I. } Founding at Bedford by 1599. Perhaps succeeded W. Watts.
10. Robert Newcombe III. (son of 7), ob. *Buckingham*, 1591.
11. Robert Newcombe IV. } bap. 1576 } Perhaps all worked at *Leicester* until c. 1613, and probably at *Bedford* until 1617.
12. Thomas Newcombe III } (6 sons of 10) } bap. 1584
13. (Edward Newcombe II.) } bap. 1585
14. William Newcombe } bap. 1590
5. Francis Watts II. (son of 4), c. 1633, ? Predeceased 4
6. George Curtis (foreman to 4), ob. 1650.

(AT BEDFORD.)

3. William Watts (? son of 2), of *Bedford*, c. 1589; ob. between 1590-1600. [If William died before 1600, Francis I. may have continued the *Bedford* Foundry, but more probably he was succeeded by Edward Newcombe I. by 1599.]

foundations for rebuilding them, a quantity of fine, very dark-coloured sand was found on the spot where the Conservative Club now stands. It seems very possible that this may mark the site of the bellfoundry.

By the kindness of the Rev. L. Woodard, vicar of S. Paul's ;* the Rev. W. Hart Smith, rector of S. Peter's ; Mrs. Downer, wife of the rector of S. Cuthbert's ; and the Rev. Canon Brereton, rector of S. Mary's, I made what proved to be an almost entirely fruitless search into the Registers of the various parishes of Bedford for any traces of the founders. For the benefit of any future worker, it is well to particularise exactly how far I searched :—

S. Paul's—1599, to March, 1607. S. Peter's—1599 to 1621. S. Cuthbert's—which only begin in 1607, to end of 1618. S. Mary's—1599 to end of 1618. I should have searched these from at least ten years earlier (1589) ; but, however, as it was, I fully employed the time at my disposal. The Rev. G. Parker,† kindly gained me access—in the rector's absence—to the Registers of S. John's, but they only begin in 1669—too late to be of assistance.

THE KEENES, OF (BEDFORD) WOODSTOCK (AND ROYSTON).

At Ecton, in Northampts, three bells (out of six) are dated 1612, which is presumptive (though not conclusive) evidence that they were cast at one and the same foundry. Unfortunately Mr. North does not describe the lettering, so we can only infer (from the type used, etc.) that all three are in the same lettering, and that that is Brasyer's smaller alphabet (Plate XXIII.). The third and fifth each have the sprigged shield (fig. 54), and are respectively inscribed with the alphabet **A** to **O**, and **FOR GOD** ; and are unquestionably Watts bells, with or without a Newcombe partner ; no doubt also, they were cast at Bedford, which is about seventeen miles distant, Leicester being nearly double. The other bell—the second—has :—

+ **GOD** □ **SAVE** □ **OUR** □ **KING**
1612 **IK** **E Æ N**

* I have also to thank very much, Mr. Fitzhugh, parish clerk.

† Formerly Rector of Quainton.

(The square stop has a design of acorns and oak-leaves, which does not occur in Bucks.) The initials, I K, are in the lettering shown on Plate XXVI., and form the well-known and undoubted mark of James Keene, in whose possession the cross (No. 2 on that plate) and the stop are both found later on. He appears here as if an assistant at the Bedford Foundry, and the initials E N (which, though not specified, are probably in the same lettering) doubtless denote another worker there. The bell between the latter letters may show that he was the master, and Keene the actual founder, or have some such signification. Mr. North missed the inference suggested by this combination; but it seems to me there is very little doubt that the latter initials are those of the younger Edward Newcombe, who perhaps became manager of the Bedford Foundry this year, on the death of his father, the first Edward; in which also his elder brothers, Robert IV. and Thomas III., and his younger brother, William, all probably took some part.

It should be remarked that the latest occurrence of the name Newcombe on a bell is in 1617; and that the next appearance of Keene is in the year following (six years after his first appearance), when there are three bells in Beds—one at Odell and two at Puddington—alike inscribed:—

‡ GOD SAVE OVR KING 1618

The initial cross (No. 3 on Plate XXVI.), and the inscription itself, connect them with Keene, although no initials are on them, and Mr. North does not describe the lettering.

In the following year, a bell at Easton Maudit, in Northampts, is duly recorded by Mr. North, who has again, as I think, missed the inference to be drawn from it:—

‡ GOD □ SAVE □ OVR □ KING □ 1619 E N T2AW

The cross is No. 3 on Plate XXVI. again.* The last word is surely intended for *Watts*, while E N would be the initials of the actual caster, or moulder.

The fourth bell at Wootton, Northampts, dated 1620, and inscribed:—

‡ SIMVL VENIRE FRATRES IN VNYM

* The intervening stop is given differently by Mr. North, in *Bells of Northampts*, in the body of the work, and in the inscriptions. The former is probably the correct one, as the latter belonged to Mot, between whom and Keene no connection has been traced. Neither of the stops occurs in Bucks.

is evidently by Keene, with the same cross. The quotation from the 133rd *Psalm* is helped out by four bells by him at Towcester, in the same county, in 1626, and partly again by two at Tyringham, in 1629.

The earliest bell by James Keene, existing in Bucks, is at Hulcot, dated 1621, and inscribed like the Odell and Puddington bells of 1618 (except that in this instance I can be sure that the letters are his usual set), and underneath, in the ornamented capitals shown on Plate XXVI., come I K E N.

There are three bells by him, dated this year, in Northampts: two at Collingtree, inscribed, + PRAYSE (and PRAYE² respectively) YE THE LORD, with the same two pairs of initials underneath, and one at Mears Ashby, bearing: + GOD SAVE I K OVR KING 1621 E N. The cross on the two first is No. 2, and that on the last is No. 3, on the above Plate.

In 1622, a bell at Broughton, exactly like that at Hulcot, is the last appearance of E N. In the same year the third at Hardwick is inscribed in the capitals from which J. Keene and E N selected their initials—the only instance of such a use that I know of:—

✠ **PRAYSE** **YE** **THE** **LORD**

The cross is No. 1 on Plate XXVI.

From this year Keene evidently worked the business single-handed; possibly he continued at Bedford for a few years longer, but sooner or later he removed to Woodstock, in Oxfordshire, with which place his name has been hitherto exclusively associated.

Much stress cannot be laid on the geographical situation of his productions, since the distance between these two towns is only about forty-four miles; but, so far as this evidence goes, a large majority of his castings are nearer Bedford than Woodstock. Thus:

In Beds, Mr. North records twenty-three bells—all nearer Bedford—dated between 1618 and 1641.

In Northampts (omitting duplicate bells of the same date in the same tower) Mr. North records bells by him in three towers, nearly half-way between the two places; while there are eighteen nearer Bedford, and only four nearer Woodstock. The half-ways date 1625, 1626, and 1628; the Bedfords range from 1612 to 1641; while the four Woodstocks (all *decidedly* nearer there) are dated 1626 (King's Sutton), 1629 (Croughton), 1635, and 1651.

In Oxfordshire I only know of five of his bells; all these must be

placed to the score of Woodstock, although one (Oddington) is dated as early as 1626; the others are 1640, 1648, 1652, and 1654.

The Bucks examples (which shall be enumerated) show (omitting duplicates as before) seventeen nearer Bedford, two about half-way, and only five nearer Woodstock. The first date between 1621 and 1640; the half-ways (Hardwick) 1622 and 1625; while the last are dated 1624, 1625, 1626, 1628, and 1654.

The remaining Bucks examples are :

1624 : The saunce at Brill, in very small Roman capitals, with the running patterns, figs. 59 and 60, and the smallest *fleur-de-lis* on Plate XXVI.

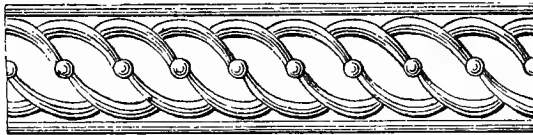


Fig. 59.

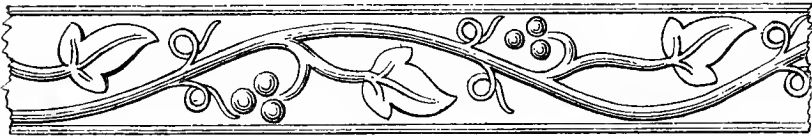


Fig. 60.

1625 : Hardwick (fourth), Haversham (second), and Ravenstone; all in his ordinary lettering, with his initials in the ornate set, but without initial cross or other ornament. The second at Kingsey has a fresh form of inscription, in a fresh set of lettering :—

IAMES ❁ KEENE ❁ MADE ❁ MEE ❁

with the initials of a probable churchwarden, and the date; and underneath is the running pattern, fig. 61. The *fleur-de-lis* is No. 5, on Plate XXVI.

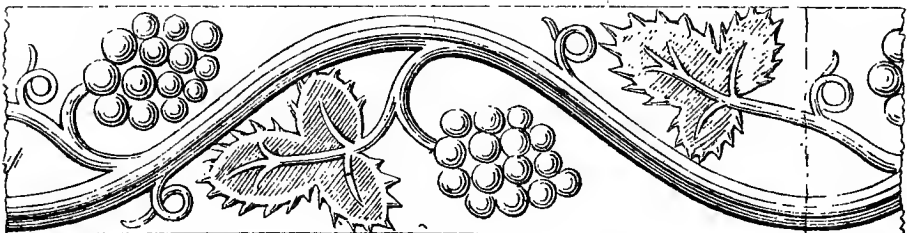


Fig. 61.

1626.* Edgcott; the same lettering and inscription and *fleur-de-lis* as the last, without the running pattern underneath, but followed by the pattern No. 8, on the above plate.

1627: Lathbury (third), in the former lettering, GOD SHAVE OVR KING, preceded by the initial cross No. 4,† on Plate XXVI., which is another link connecting Keene with the Newcombes (see p. 145). Each word is closely followed by the *fleur-de-lis* No. 6, on the same plate; then follow the date, his initials, and, in smaller letters, those of the churchwardens. The second at Oving has the same initial cross, inscription, and *fleur-de-lis*, but without churchwardens' initials; the treble there has merely the cross, date, and his initials. At North Marston, the second and third are similar to this last; while the treble has, with the same lettering, initial cross, and *fleur-de-lis*:—

+ SONORO ❁ SONO ❁ MEO ❁ SONO ❁ DEO ❁

followed by the date, and Keene's initials underneath.

This inscription, and also Keene's most common one, **(ROBERT OLDFIELD.)** were used occasionally by Robert Oldfield, and I am not aware of any one else who did so. Mr. Stahlschmidt believed him to be a Hertfordshire founder, but wrote,‡ “Researches at Somerset House have failed to produce his will.” Just previously to his death, but too late to reach him, Mr. Cheyne informed me that Robert Oldfield's Admōn Bond had turned up at Somerset House. It is dated 7th May, 1650, and describes him as of S. Andrew's parish, Hertford, in the Archdeaconry of Huntingdon, Hitchin division. It is natural to suppose that Oldfield belonged to the family of Nottingham founders of the same name, of whom a short account is given a little further on, but his pedigree is not known.

* The Rev. W. C. Lukis, in his *Account of Church Bells*, published in 1857, in giving a list of bellfounders, has “Woodstock:

Richard Keene	} 1626-1681,”
James Keene	

” simply implying that these were the extreme dates he had met with. When Marshall wrote his *History of Woodstock*, he made no original investigations into the subject, but merely mentioned the fact of a bellfoundry having existed here between those dates, thus perpetuating error, by turning what was only intended as a provisional statement into an apparently authoritative one.

† All the examples of this cross in Bucks are so indistinct, the stamp being apparently worn out, that my figure is in part copied from Mr. North's; in *Bells of Northampts* (p. 81), where he also remarks on its usually abraded condition.

‡ *Bells of Herts*, p. 38.

1628: Kingsey (the tenor), inscribed like the second bell there (of 1625), except that the ornaments are the incomplete arabesque, fig. 62, and the *fleur-de-lis*, No. 7, on Plate XXVI.

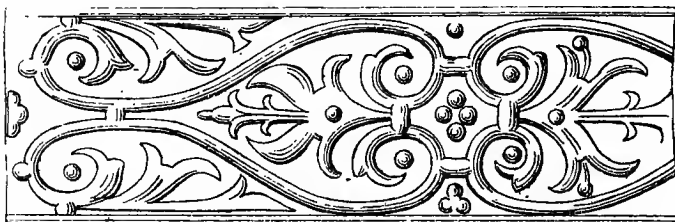


Fig. 62

1629: The tenor at Lathbury, with the "usual" inscription and lettering, without cross or other ornament. The treble and third at Tyringham, in the same lettering, preceded by the cross No. 4, on Plate XXVI., bear portions from *Psalms* cxxxiii., already met with at Wootton and Towcester, in Northampts:—

+ ECCE QVAM BONVM ET QVAM IVCYNDVM
 + SICVT ROS HERMON IN MONTE SION

1630: The tenor at Simpson, in his usual style, with the same initial cross. The second at Chellington, Beds (inaccurately recorded in *Bells of Beds*), has:—

+ PRAYE YE THE LORD 1630

The cross is No. 4, on Plate XXVI. (and not as recorded by Mr. North); the lettering is a plain heavy set of Roman capitals, slightly over an inch in height, which—except a few figures used by James Keene subsequently, that appear to be identical—I have not met with elsewhere. Possibly these letters may indicate a temporary connection between him and some other founder (*e.g.*, Robert Oldfield).

1631: The tenor at Astwood (cross No. 2), in his usual style.

1634: The treble at Bow Brickhill; and the third at Cheddington (both with cross No. 1). In each case the two last figures of the date are of a clumsy set—perhaps that used at Chellington—not matching the remainder of the inscription.

(1635: The second at Thornton with nothing but the date, may be by

James Keene, but as the 1 seems to be identical with Richard Chandler I.'s, his cotemporary at Drayton Parslow, the bell may perhaps more likely be by the latter.)

1637: The saunce at Broughton, with GOD SAVE THE KING, in a small, light set of letters, preceded by a small cross *patée* to correspond, and followed by the plait pattern, fig. 63. Underneath comes the date, the two last peculiar figures of which are shown as fig. 64. I am by no means certain that the last figure is a 7, and not a 5 reversed; if it is the latter, it would considerably strengthen the case of the Thornton bell against Keene, as the figures there (also very peculiar) are totally different.



Fig. 63.

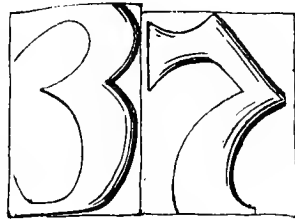


Fig. 64.

1638: Cheddington (treble), Haversham (tenor), and North Crawley (treble), are all inscribed "as usual." The first has no cross; the other two have No. 2. Haversham has a small reversed ϵ in the date, with an 8 that matches the remainder; in the other two both figures match the remainder.

1639: Little Brickhill (second), in the usual lettering, has:—

+ AD ✻ CONVOCANDVM ✻ CŒTYM

with his initials. The cross is No. 2, and the *fleur-de-lis* No. 6, on Plate XXVI. Dunton (second) has the usual inscription, and the same cross.

1640: The treble at Moulsoe has merely the date—the 4 being one of the clumsy figures again—and the initials on the waist. At Stanton, Gloucestershire, Mr. Ellacombe records a bell inscribed, HVMPRY KEENE AND JAMES KEENE MADE THIS RING. 1640 The three succeeding bells in the ring there have merely the same date. Perhaps Humphry was a son who was sent there to cast them on the spot, but this is the sole record that we have that such an individual ever existed.

The following year, Keene sent one bell to Northampts, and three to Beds. Then came the disastrous Civil War, and during the next six years I know of nothing to show that he had any business at all.

In 1648, he cast the tenor at Bloxham, Oxon (weight about thirty-six hundredweight), inscribed in his heavier lettering with the names of churchwardens, and several initials; also fig. 62 (in this instance the arabesque is complete), and the *fleur-de-lis*, No. 7, on Plate XXVI., with the bottom cut off, and the pattern, No. 8, on the same plate; also a small saltire and a pattern containing three roses.

In 1651, he sent one to Northampts (Middleton Cheney); and Mr. Ellacombe records a bell at Bledington, Gloucestershire, inscribed, SAMUEL KEENE MADE ME 1651. Nothing is known about him, but as before with Humphry, he may have been a son sent to execute a distant order on the spot.

During the next two years Keene supplied bells to Cassington and Eynsham, in Oxon.

1654: One at the latter place, and three (remaining out of no doubt four) at Stowe. The treble has:—

JAMES KEENE ✽ MADE THIS RIND 1654

The other two have each one churchwarden's name; all three have the same *fleur-de-lis* (No. 7, Plate XXVI., with the bottom cut off), and the date. These are the latest bells known by him. He died towards the end of December, this year.

Early documentary notices of James Keene are still wanting. The following are extracts from the churchwardens' accounts of S. Martin, Oxford* (better known as Carfax), dated June, 1631:—

Item paid to Keene for casting of the first bell and to the Smith for iron worke about the hanging of him	} 3 14 —
Item for chardge of carrieing the said first bell to Woodstock and back againe	} — 11 4
Item paid to Keene the Bellfounder for earnest money for makeing a bond for his sufficient castinge of the greate bell, for cariage of the same bell to Woodstock and back againe and charges to see the same don. ...	} ... 3 1 8
Item paid to the same Bellfounder in pte of payemt. for casting of the said greate bell	} ... 5 — —

May 30, 1632.

Item. paid to Keene the Bellfounder in full for casting the greate bell for mettell and chardges expended in journies	} vj xij ij
aboute the same	

* Kindly supplied by Mr. Tyssen.

Woodstock, in Oxfordshire, eight miles from Oxford city, is the place usually associated with James Keene's name ; and I believe we may point with certainty to the actual site of the foundry which he established here, probably between 1622 and 1631.

Mr. Morris, parish clerk of Woodstock, lives in a house in Oxford Street in that town, which was bought by his father in 1806. In the garden is a large substantial out-house, having in one of its walls two round-headed arches (now built up) about five feet high, one being higher than the other. Close outside these arches Mr. Morris has, at different times, dug up a quantity of bell metal, and a small amount in other parts of the garden. Perhaps these arches were the mouths of the furnaces? The supply of metal has long since come to an end ; it was all given to the late Rev. Vaughan Thomas, rector of Yarnton (between Woodstock and Oxford), who died as long ago as 1858. It would be interesting to hear of any notes by him, or scraps of metal still preserved in the possession of his family.

On the death of James Keene towards the end of
RICHARD December, 1654, the business passed to Richard Keene,
KEENE. who was in all probability a son, but born before the arrival of his parents in Woodstock, so that his baptism is not recorded in the register there.

The earliest bells by him that I know of, are the second and fourth at Ludgarshall ; the former has merely his initials in James Keene's latest set, which Richard adopted regularly, and the date 1658. The latter has churchwardens' names, with the same date, and the *raisted* form of the *fleur-de-lis* No. 7, on Plate XXVI.

The next bell by him, that I know of, is at Eynsham, Oxon, the following year.

1660 : The second at Stowe, with nothing but the date, is easily recognisable as by him, by the form of the figure 1.

1661 : A small bell at Boarstall Tower (= House, not the Church).

1662 : The tenor at Ludgarshall (lately melted), bore merely the date. Up to this year, Richard seems only to have cast single bells, or "splices," but there were formerly three bells by him, of which only one now remains, at Staverton, Northampts ; the second was inscribed, "Richard Keene first Ring 1662." At Longworth, Berks, are three bells by him (*inter alias*), the second of which has, "Richard Keene mad this ring 1662." The tenor of the former ring at Guiting Temple, Gloucestershire, was likewise inscribed, RICHARD KEENE MADE THIS RING 1662.

1664: The saunce at Oakley, with merely the date, in James's very small set of figures.

1665: The tenor at Stowe, with his full name.

1668: The fourth and fifth bells at Winslow, have merely the date, scratched on the *cope*, not stamped. Though I cannot profess to recognise Keene's handwriting, yet the forms of the 1s reminds one of his stamps. The bells might also be by the Knights, of Reading, as mentioned p. 133; but from what Lipscomb says (III. 548), we must conclude they are by the former. Probably they were "run" on the spot, and the founder omitted to bring stamps with him.

At Mickleton, Gloucestershire, one bell remains out of a "RING" by Keene. The inscription, exclusive of the date, contains fifty-six words. In the same year he cast a ring of five for S. Michael's, Oxford,* of which the following particulars appear in the churchwardens' accounts of that parish,† under date May 14th, 1669:—

Item paid Christopher Home for going to Woodstocke				
& other worke	...	...	...	2 6
Item paid Mr Lyne for writeing the Bond for				
casting the Bells	...	...	...	5 0
Item paid Mr Keene the Belfounder for				
casting the fower bells into five	...	... }	... £	40
Item paid Mr Keene for 256 pounds of				
mettle at 12 ^d p pound	...	... }	... 14	‡
Item paid Mr Keene for one new wheele				
one new clapper & other iron to complete	...	... }	... 3	10
the Treble ...	...	...
Item paid Thomas Keene, William Keene				
and William Cox for waying the Bells				
when they were carryed to Woodstocke and				
carrying the waites and scales	...	... }	... 4	6
Item paid for carrying the waites and				
scales several times to way the new bells	...	... }	... 3	
Item paid for expenses several times at				
Woodstock and elsewhere about casting the bells	...	... }	... 4	9 2
Item paid for horsehire to Woodstocke	...		...	9 6
Item paid for 2 Iron hookes to way ye bells	...		...	8

In the accounts of S. Martin's (Carfax), Oxford, for the same year, is:—

* The treble recast, and an extra treble added later on again, by two of the Rudhalls.

† For these I am indebted to Mr. A. D. Tyssen. ‡ Some mistake.

Item paid Keene for making a new stock ...	}	1	4	10
for the greate bell and for hanging itt & the first				
& fourth bells and nailes				

In this year (1669) he cast the second at Water Stratford, which bears a Latin inscription, in James's smallest heavy lettering.

1670: The third at Winslow; with names of churchwardens.

1676: He recast the five bells at Carfax, Oxford, into six, and hung them. The third seems to have been unsatisfactory, and again melted, as it is now dated 1678.

The churchwardens' accounts of that parish, for 1677, tell us as follows:—

Inpris. p ^d Richard Keene for new casting the bells and for adding mettle to make the old ffive bells six and for making the frame for them and hanging them up	}	89	8
Item spent at Richard Keen's house in Woodstock & at his severall times coming to Oxon to tune the bells	}	6	6
Spent at several meetings about the agreement with Richard Keene	}	8	6
Spent in going to Yarnton to take measure of the frame	}	...	4
Paid for horeshire foure times for M ^r Payne the Braseier to ride to Woodstock	}	...	6
Paid for horsehire for M ^r Orum	}	...	9
Paid for horsehire for Robert Dicke the Clarke	}	...	10
Paid a messenger for fetching the brasses	}	...	1
Spent upon M ^r Read when he came over to tune the bells	}	...	6
Gave the ringers	}	...	3
Paid John Reston by M ^r Duckworth's order, for doeing something to the bells }	}	...	5
paid for seaven ropes for the bells	}	...	1
Paid M ^r Baker for makeing ye articles betwixt vs & Richard Keen (and other things)	}	...	1
(With other items.)	}	Total expenses	186
			10
			1

1679: These accounts continue:—

Sept. 19. Inprimis. paid M ^r Houghton for draweing the articles between us & M ^r Keene to cast the third bell	}	...	8

Item paid for horsehire to go to Woodstock	}	...	10
about it			
Item paid for expenses at Woodstock when we went about it ... ..		...	1 4 6
Item paid Mr Keene for casteing of the bell		...	6 7
Item paid Mr Amuley (?) for weighing the bell		...	2 6

Mr. A. D. Tyssen found a Mortgage Deed,* dated 21st December, 1665, made between Richard Keene, of the Borough of New Woodstock, in the county of Oxford, "Belfounder," and Thomas Godfrey, of Woodstock Park, in the same county, Keeper. By it Richard Keene, in consideration of £30, assigned to the said Thomas Godfrey, for twenty-one years, at a peppercorn rent, a house in Oxford Street, Woodstock, then in his—Richard Keene's—own occupation. The Deed bears an endorsement to the effect that a further sum of £120 was advanced on the 23rd December, 1674, making together £150. On the 3rd December, 1695, the above-named Thomas Godfrey assigned all his interest in the mortgage for £150 to John Godfrey, who is also described as of Woodstock.

A cooper named Godfrey has recently died in a house in Oxford Street, immediately opposite Mr. Morris's (the parish clerk); he probably belonged to an old Woodstock family, in whose occupation the house was likely to have been for several generations.

In the Woodstock Registers, a Richard Keene appears "livinge in the Common acker." This locality I failed to identify. Mr. Morris's garden, which was enclosed by his father, runs down at the back to a lane or backstreet called "The Back Acre," which is the nearest approach I could find. As a Richard Keene is described as of Begbrook (two and a-half miles distant), it is possible that the Common Acre, if not identical with the Back Acre, was in that parish.

In 1672, Richard Keene cast a ring of six for Braunston, Northampts, and apparently recast the third in 1681. These are his latest bells in that county.

1683: A ring of four at Bledlow.

1686: A ring of three at Chilton; and the tenor at Stanton Harcourt, Oxon. I know of nothing by him, between these and

1692: The treble at Great Missenden, with merely the date.

The fourth and fifth bells at Cowley, respectively dated 1693 and 1694, are apparently his latest in Oxfordshire.

* Mentioned by Mr. North (*ex inform.* A. D. T.) in *Bells of Northampts*, p. 106.

1695: The treble at Towersey is his latest in Bucks.

1698: A bell at Wytham appears to be his latest in Berks.

Each year between 1699 and 1703 inclusive, there are bells in Cambridgeshire with no name, but attributed to him by Canon Raven.

It would appear, therefore, not unlikely, that the date of Richard Keene's removal from Woodstock to Royston, in Cambridgeshire, was in the latter part of 1698. Unfortunately, Mr. Stahlschmidt's death, just before his completion of the *History of the Bells of Essex*, has delayed the publication of that county for the present; but in a letter to me, dated May, 1888, he says, "I am writing away from all books, and simply from memory. I *think* Keene's Essex examples range from 1698 to 1703—which confirms your theory, if my memory be trustworthy." He hoped to get the Royston Register searched, but that was not, I believe, carried out, and meanwhile the coincidence in dates of a Richard Keene being buried at Woodstock in July, 1704, *may* show that he returned to that place, after the execution of his last order in 1703.

Mr. Morris says there is a local tradition that the great bell known as "Tom," of Christ Church, Oxford, was cast at Woodstock; which is an interesting survival, for, though the present bell is the work of Christopher Hodson in 1680, when itinerating, it was, as recorded by Browne Willis (MSS cix. 34), "cast 3 times twice by one Keen of Woodstock."* And further, it is quite likely that when Richard gave up the mighty job in despair, Christopher might hire the local foundry for the convenience of the furnace and its other appointments.

With Richard Keene's departure from Woodstock, the foundry there came to an end, and I am not aware that anyone succeeded to his "goodwill" in Cambridgeshire.

Several blank bells, with peculiar sloping shoulders, seem more like late examples by Richard Keene, than any other founder's productions that I have seen; but it is impossible to be positive, unless, perhaps, a careful comparison of a series by the help of crooks, might prove or disprove the supposition.

With regard to the quality of the Keenes' bells, I should be inclined to put James first; but neither of them come up to their trade parents—the Newcombes and Wattses.

The Woodstock Registers† contain the following entries of the name:—

* See under Christopher Hodson, for the full quotation.

† Very many thanks to the Rev. A. Majendie, Rector of Bladon with Woodstock, for kindly allowing me to search them.

Baptisms: 1661, James Keene the sonne of Richard Keene was baptized the 14 day of Desember. Aprill the 5: 1664 Thomas Keene the sonne of Richard Keene of the comon acker was baptized. May the 19: 1664 Marie Keene the daughter of Henrie Keene was baptized. Elizabeth Keene the daughter of Richard Keene was baptized the 29 day of November; 1664. Elizabeth Keene the daughter of Richard Keene livinge in the Common acker was baptiz^d the : 30. day of September: 1666. Marie Keene the daughter of Richard Keene was baptized the 28 of February 1666. Thomas Keene the sonn of Herklis (?) Keene was baptized the 20 day of October 1671. 1690 Mary the daughter of James Keen was baptized October 9th. 1727 Ann y^e Daughter of Thomas and Ann Keene was baptized October y^e 6 [Searched to 174c.

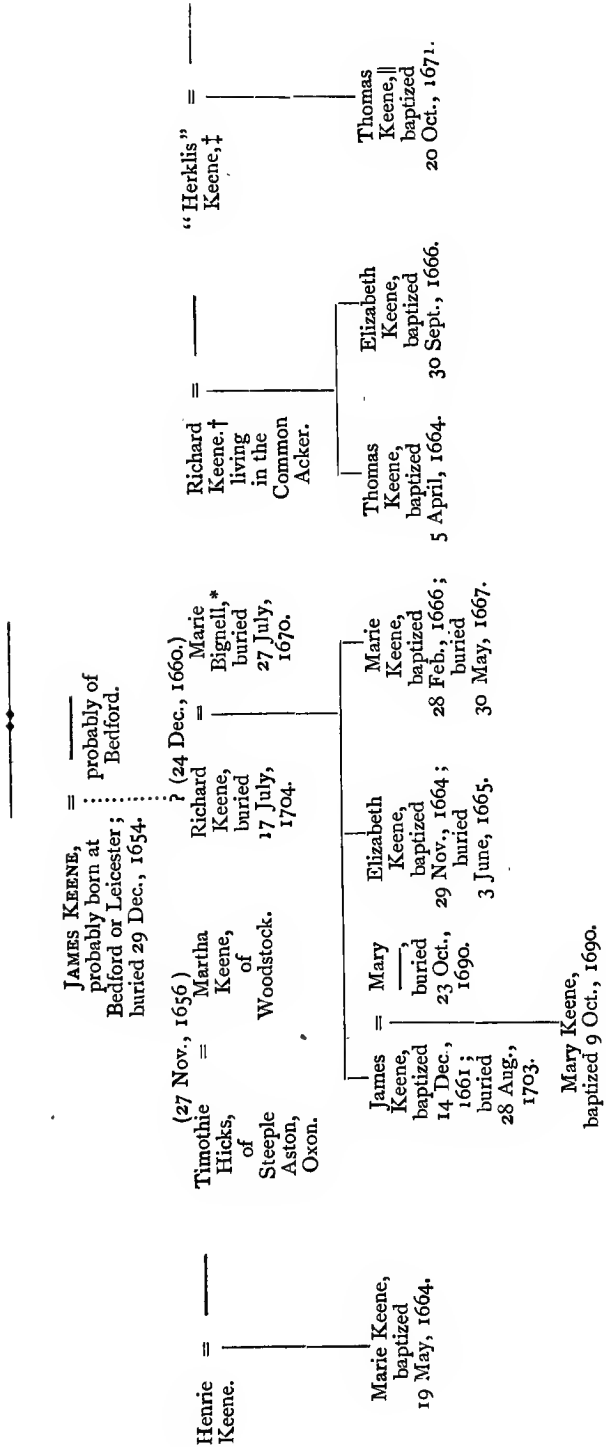
Marriages: 1656 Timothie Hickes of Steeple Aston in the Countie of Oxon and Martha Keene of Woodstocke in the same Countie were married upon the 27. of November by Mr. Nicholas Mayott justice of the peace for this incorporation. Intention being previously advertised three several market days. 1660 Richard Keene and Marie Bignell both of this Burrough in the Countie of Oxon were married upon the 24. of December. Richard Meene* and Katherin Coales were married the 15 day of November 1674.

[Searched to 1702.

Burials: 1654 James Keene was buried upon the 29 of December. June the. 3; 1665 Elizabeth Keene the daughter of Richard Keene was buried. Mary Keene the daughter of Richard Kene was buried the 30 day of May 1667. A childe of Richard Keenes of Begbrook was Buried the 2 of february 1670. (Three leaves cut out, 1667-70, and a quarter-page sewn in, on next leaf, over the above entry.) 1670 Mary Keene was Buried the 27 of July. 1689 — Keene Shepeard was buried Aprill the 17th (In two Registers, in one spelt Keen; the Christian name not inserted in either.) 1690 Mary wife of James Keene was buried October 23th. (In two Registers, in one spelt Keen.) 1690 — Keene Widdow was buried December the 21th. (In two Registers, in one spelt Keen; the Christian name not inserted in either. In one there follows :) For — Keen Dec. the 27th sworn by Ann Trowsden before Mr. Johnson. 1703 James the son of Richard Keene was buried August the 28. For James Keene September y^e 2^d sworn by Elizabeth Haws before Thomas Painter. 1704 Richard Keene was buried July the 17. For Richard Kene July the 24 sworn by Elizabeth Haws before Thomas Painter. [Searched to 1726.

* This initial is a distinct M, but as that name does not occur again in the Registers, I have thought it best to record the entry here, in case the name was intended for Keene; although Mr. Stahlschmidt, whom I consulted, gave as his opinion, "Dubito."

ATTEMPTED KEENE PEDIGREE.



* "Both of this Burrough in the Countie of Oxon."

† "A childe of Richard Keenes of Begbrook was Buried the 2 of february, 1670." This was perhaps the same individual, Begbrook being two and a-half miles from Woodstock, and within the parliamentary borough.

‡ No doubt intended for *Hercules*, which name occurs a little later on, in the Register.

|| "Ann ye Daughter of Thomas and Ann Keene was baptized October ye 6, 1727, was perhaps his daughter."

There are two other entries of the name of Keene, but possibly not related: "—— Keene Sheppard was buried Aprill the 17th, Anno Dni 1689," and the following year, "—— Keene widdow was buried December the 21th."

"Richard Meene" (a distinct M) "and Katherin Coales were married the 15 day of November 1674." As this name does not occur elsewhere, it is perhaps an error for Keene?

THE BUCKINGHAM FOUNDRY.

While there seems every probability that some, if not all, of the fourteenth century bells described on p. 14, *et seq.*, were more or less *local* productions, we can say nothing more definite as to their place of origin; and it is not until two centuries later, namely, the year 1552, that we have actual evidence of the existence of a bellfounder in Buckingham; how long the business had then been established, there is absolutely nothing to show.

In the oldest remaining volume of churchwardens' accounts of Thame, in Oxon (about eighteen miles distant from Buckingham in a straight line), which begins in 1528, is as follows, in the account for the year ending at Ascensiontide, 1552:—

**IOHN
APPOWELL.**

Iſm for the great bell fold vnto John Appowell weyinge xxç iij q ^r rſrs. At xxxiijs y ^e C fñ. xxxiiij ⁱⁱ xjs viij ^d . De qb ₃ deduct for coſt ^e charges and loſſes in y ^e fall of Money, xvij ^s ix ^d & fo reñ ...	}	xxxiiij ⁱⁱ xij ^s xj ^d
---	---	--

Further notices of John Appowell, quoted below, show that he was an actual bellfounder, living in Buckingham.

The older volume of the Thame churchwardens' accounts (mentioned already, at pp. 56 and 57), which is now lost, is frequently quoted from, in the *History, &c., of the Prebendal Church, &c., of Thame*, by the Rev. Frederick G. Lee, D.D., F.S.A. (London, 1883). He mentions a bellfounder named Thomas Swadling, who was employed there, under date 1450 (*ib.* p. 182). Unfortunately no hint is given as to his locality, but if he was a veritable bellfounder, we may suppose that he was more or less *local*, though by no means necessarily of Buckingham. Under 1465, "A man from Ewelme" (Oxon) was perhaps a bell-hanger, or carpenter, rather than a founder. Dr. Lee further states that, "The Powells, or Ap Powells, of Buckingham, had been likewise employed at Thame, as early as the year 1503." One much regrets one's inability to refer to the accounts for confirmation and further particulars. The name is, of course, of South Wales origin—Ap Howel.

In the Thame accounts for the year ending Ascension, 1548, is:—

Iſm Rec for y ^e great bell & iij litle hand belle fold to Richarde hylton wayinge xxviiij ^C li. Afre the rat of xxvj ^s y ^e C. fñ	}	xxxvj ⁱⁱ viij ^s h
---	---	---

As the parish had previously had plenty of dealings with London (and Reading) bellfounders, braziers, etc., I will not attempt to claim Hylton as a local; but anyway, he is as likely to have been a marine-store dealer, as a bellfounder.*

John Appowell's name next appears in the Records of the Borough Court of Buckingham, contained in the oldest MS. volume preserved at the Town Clerk's† office, which is bound in a black-letter MS. on vellum.

The Records begin, "fexto die maij An° Edward fexti," etc., "capite fēdo," = 1548. Appowell's name appears in them several times; generally either as plaintiff or defendant in actions for small debts.

I quote the first entry concerning him *in extenso*, as a sample; for the remainder, it will probably be best to omit the crabbed Latin of the original entries, and merely give their substance in "the vulgar tongue."

Under date then, of 6 Edward VI. = 1552, appears:—

xiiij° die Decembꝛ An° sup̄ dicī
pꝛ ē distꝛ Johes Aphowell queꝛ ūsus Johānē foxley Gent de pꝛit
Debit sup̄ dd xxxvij^s.

Which means that John Appowell commenced an action for the recovery of a debt of 38s., against John Foxley, gentleman.

At a Court held in May of the next year, two men are appointed "Cunft" = constables; two others "Tasterç of lether"; and two others again, "Tasters of vyctuallyç," the first of the last pair being, "Johes Aphowell."

Later in the same year, but in a new reign (1st Mary), "Johes Appowell" appears as the first of the two "Cust" of the borough.

On 24th April, 1554, "John Apoell" appears in a List of Jurymen.

In the interesting churchwardens' accounts of Wing, are various references to this foundry, in the account for the year ending at Trinity, 1556; they are given in full under that parish, so I will here merely quote:—

If payde for our coste at buckyngam when we made }
bargayne for the bell } xxj^d

* The following were probably nothing more than "local carpenters," but I mention them in case they should ever turn up again in other accounts:—

1531, Thomas Bloxham and Rd. Burford finished the frame of the great bell. 1535, John myllar, or millar, mended bell wheels, etc. He was doubtless identical with "the miller of Crendon," who was paid "for mendyng of the belle" in 1540; and with John Ploughemaker of Crendon, who was paid for similar work on two occasions in 1543.

† I have to record my indebtedness to T. R. Hearn, Esq., Town Clerk, for courteously giving me access thereto.

Among other references to the same transaction in the following year's account, is :—

It payde to John appowell for the bell iij^{li} vj^s viij^d

In July, 1556, Thomas Kyng of Buckingham, dyer, is plaintiff in an action "verf Joñem aphowell de Buck pæ Belfounder," for the small sum of 6s. 8d.

On the next Court day (August 17th) "Johel Aphowell" appears by his attorney, John Skelly, and asks for time for license to accord with Kyng.

On 7th September (the matter not having apparently been settled out of court), Thomas Kyng again commences an action.

On 30th August, 1557, "Johes Appowell" commences a cross-action against Kyng.

On the same day, Kyng's attorney, John Gattes, applies for a copy of the plaint, etc.

And on the 12th of October, Kyng applies for license to accord with Appowell in the action.

In the following April (1557-8), "Johes Aphowell" is plaintiff in an action for debt, "verf Johanam love de Bourton,"* widow.

On the 20th June, "Johes Appowell" starts an action for debt against "Elizabethe Turno^r de Buck," widow, administratrix of the testament and last will of her late husband deceased; and the same John is plaintiff in an action "verf Joñem lucas de Bourton in Coñm Buck," husbandman.

In July, 1558, the claim in the action of debt between John Appowell and John Lucas is dismissed. It is ordered that distress be made on Elizabeth Turnor, widow, that she may appear at the next Court to answer to John Appowell in the action of debt.

On the 20th September following, "coram Joñe Appowell," he appears as plaintiff against John Lucas of Bourton, Bucks, husbandman, in an action of debt, and gives pledges to proceed with the action. Also as plaintiff *versus* John Bristowe of Buckingham "boche," in an action of Detinue.

On the 3rd October Appowell appears as present at the Court with other burgesses, the Bailiff being "Johes Gate," who has already appeared practising as an attorney.

On the 5th December, in the same year (now 1 Elizabeth), "Joñe Appowell Burgenf p^{nt}ent," with others, order is given to the Bailiff to distrain on John Brystowe, to answer Appowell's complaint in the action of debt.

* A hamlet in the borough of Buckingham.

On the 26th of the same month, "Johē Appowell Burgenf," and others being present, the suit between Appowell and John Bristowe is dismissed.

On the following 6th of February, "coram Johē Appowell Burgenf," he claims against John Bristowe in an action of debt. He gives pledges, etc. And the same plaintiff against Johanna Love of Bourton widow executrix of the Testament and last will of Richard Love of Bourton yeoman lately her husband, deceased, in an action of debt.

On the 27th of the same month, It is ordered that distress and a second distress be made on Johanna Love of Bourton widow of her goods and chattels that she may be at the next Court to answer John Appowell in the claim of debt.

On the 20th March, "Johēs Appowell de buckinghām," against Elizth Turnor widow in an action of debt, gives pledges to continue the action, etc.

At the same time his action against Johanna Love widow, for debt, is by consent adjourned to the next Court day.

On the 1st May, Appowell and other burgesses being present, he appears as plaintiff in an action for debt of 49s. 10*d.* against Thomas Coxe of Bourton yeoman and Johanna his wife, lately the wife and administratrix of the goods and chattels of Richard Love lately her husband, deceased.

To this Court came Elizabeth Turnour widow in person, and confesses in open Court that she owes 10s. to John Appowell. Wherefore the Bailliff is ordered to provide a certain portion of the principal debt when levied, with 21*d.* for the plaintiff's costs, by the next Court day.

John Appowell was Bailliff of Buckingham for the year 1559–60, and the name reappears in the Thame accounts for the year ending Ascensioⁿtide, 1560:—

Itm payd to John Appowell for Makyng
of Certayne Iren about the bells ... } iij*d*

and in the account for the following year, ending Sunday before Ascension, 1561:—

Itm p^d to John Appowell for xv female barre
of Iren for the west wyndow in the Churche } iij*s* j*d*

I cannot help thinking, however, that these two entries do not refer to the bellfounder of Buckingham, but to a namesake who was probably a blacksmith, living in Thame.

In 1566, when William Harley, "Clarenceaulx King at Armes," made

his Visitation of Buckingham, John Appowell is mentioned among the "Burgefses and late Bayliffs of the faid Towne & Borough."—*MS. Brit. Mus.* 5868, f. 10.

In the Thame churchwardens' account for the year ending Ascensio[n]tide, 1567 :—

payd to John Appowell of Buckingham the bellfoundrē for Casting of the bell ...	} xliij ^s iiij ^d
pd for Making the obliga[ti]on betwene the the (<i>sic</i>) fayd John Appowell & y ^e churchemen.	

Then in the account for the year ending Ascension, 1568 :—

1568. I ^m pd to John Appowell for the laft payment of the bell ...	} xliij ^s iiij ^d

And in the next year's account :—

In p ^m is payde for the Cariinge of the ... bell to Buckingham & bringinge y ^t home agayne	} xjs.

In 1569, John Appowell served the office of "Bayliff" of Buckingham for the second time, and in 1572, he was churchwarden.

In the churchwardens' accounts of Shillington, in Beds, the following allusions to this foundry are quoted by Mr. North,* but without comment, as no founder's name is mentioned :—

1574.

Payd to James Deare for bred and Drinke at y ^e setting upp of y ^e poste to way y ^e great bell	iiij ^d .
--	---------------------

1575.

Receyvid of the belfounder	vli.
Paid for makeinge y ^e quittance when we receyved money of y ^e belfounder	vjd.
Paid y ^e belfounder in earnest when he toke y ^e bell to caste	xijd.
Paid for his supper	xjd.
Payd when they went to buckyngham when they went w ^t the great bell	xxijd.
Paid y ^e same tyme for theyre suppers at Woburne	xijd.
Paid for theyre brekfaste in y ^e mornyng	vij ^d .
Paid to Willm. ffolwre for carringe the bell	xs.
[George Edwards] He laid forthe at buckingham when they went w ^t y ^e bell	ijs. iiij ^d .
He laid forthe homeward at Woborne	xxd.
He paid Wil ^m ffolwre for carrynge the bell	xs.
He laid forthe at Amptill as they came homeward w ^t the bell ...	ijd.

* *Bells of Beds*, p. 186.

Subsequent entries in 1578, 1579-80, 1580-1, and 1581-2, show further recastings, but nothing whatever to indicate the foundry. Other local founders are referred to in later extracts from these interesting accounts.

In a List of Bailiffs ("Balliv") of Buckingham, on the last page of the second volume of the old Court Rolls, a quarto volume, bound in limp vellum, under date "19° E" (=Elizabeth) "Johes Apowell B" appears as holding that office for the third time, that is to say, for the year beginning 1st May, 1576.

The following facts are vouched for by entries in the Buckingham Registers, and certain wills, which are given in full further on.

John Appowell married first, Jane or Johan —(?) . By her he had issue—Richard, -George, William, Jane, John, Thomas, and Johan. His wife died in September, 1567, and in the following June he married his second wife, Mary, daughter of Edward Stevenson; and by her had a daughter, Katherine. There were probably other children, who predeceased their father. He died at the beginning of April, 1577, the entry in the register, given further on, may be thus translated: "John Appowell, Member of the Grocers' Guild, and Bailiff of Buckingham, buried on Good Friday (=Good Friday)." That would be during the last month of his tenure of office as Bailiff.

As will be seen by the wills given further on, his second son, George, succeeded him in the bellfounding business. He was married in the following February (1577-8), and died in October, and his young widow evidently only survived him a few days—dying, as we may reasonably suppose, in child-birth (*vide* his will).

Whether any other of John's sons succeeded to the business I have failed to ascertain, but in the second volume of the Buckingham Court Rolls, on the 22nd September, in the 40th Elizabeth, = 1598, the name of his son, "Willm^{us} Apowell," appears as a "Prebend," "nat." So at the "Seffio geñalis," on the 8th January, in the 41st Elizabeth, = 1599, he appears in the same category. So also in October, 42nd Elizabeth, = 1600; and in April, 43rd Elizabeth, = 1601. In October of that year his name appears again, low down in a List of Burgesses of the Borough; and in the same way in the following April and October, 44th Elizabeth, = 1602. He died here (according to the Register) in 1621, and with the exception of a widow named Elizabeth (and whose wife she had been I cannot say), seems to have been probably the last of the family residing in this town.

I am inclined to suggest that John Appowell may have come from

Reading, and learnt his trade at that celebrated foundry. The churchwardens' accounts of Thame, in Oxfordshire, in which he first appears as bellfounder, show that he was employed there in succession to "White of Redyng," and apparently two generations of namesakes appear in the exceptionally interesting and complete churchwardens' accounts of S. Lawrence, Reading, who may so well have been his near relations.

In the accounts of that parish for the year beginning at the feast of S. Michael the Archangel, MDXVI., in the "viiijth yere of the regne of Kyng Henry the viij vnto the same fest then next followyng A^o ix^o" appears :—

It of John appowell for a stable in the gutt^p lane } vij^s
for a yere endyd at the same fest ... }

This is repeated each year, until in the account for the year 1539-40, he is styled "Tayller," as follows; the "xxxijth yere of the regne of Kyng Henry the viijth" :—

Rec of John Appowell Tayller for the yeres rent of } iiij^s vj^d
a stable in guttr lane endyd then ... }

In the next account (namely, for 1540-41), the "xxxijth yere of the reigne of Kyng Henry the viijth," the rent of John Appowell "tayller," was back at its former amount of 7s., and there follow, in the same year :—

The grete Bell.	Rec for the knyll of John Appowell	...	...	...	xij ^d
Graves.	Rec for the grave of John Appowell & Coÿyng thereof			vij ^s	iiij ^d
	paid the moyte of a payre Indentures for John Appowell tayller				viiij ^d

It seems clear that one John Appowell died in that year, and was succeeded by a namesake (without much doubt a son), who was a tailor; and he seems to have been excused half the rent in his first year.

In the Register of Marriages at S. Mary's, Reading, is the following :—

1542.
October John White to Agnes Powell ijth

John White was almost certainly son of the bellfounder of the same name.

The following are later notices of persons who may have belonged to this family in Reading: William Powell, D.D., Vicar of S. Mary's, Reading, c. 1579-1613. He married Mary, daughter of Edward Butler. There was a "fair grey marble tomb" formerly in the chancel of S. Lawrence, Reading,

to her parents, who died 1584 and 1583. On it were the Powell arms—per pale, three lions rampant counter changed.

Mrs. Mary Powell was buried at S. Lawrence's, 1590-1.

Mr. Samuel Powell, grandson of the above William and Mary, was living 1614-18.*

In the Register of S. Lawrence, is:—

Aprill 1609 Joan Powell sepult fuit ... 9°

Baptisms: March 30 Thomas sonn of — }
 1627 (=8) Thomas Poell }

A Jeremy Appowell was one of the churchwardens of Thame in 1656, but the election of another churchwarden is recorded, in place of him "who is gone out of the p'rish."

The Rev. F. G. Lee, D.D., F.S.A., kindly sent me the following from the MS books of the Hon. F. L. Bertie, Lord of the Manor of Thame:—

"In 1656, John Appowell, of Priestend in Thame, was obliged to leave the Parish, having been 'undone and ruined by the Parliamentary Rebels.' He had been churchwarden of Thame in that year."

Probably John was the correct name, not Jeremy, because he is again so named in the following, from the *Court Rolls* of the same:—

"John Powell, of Priestend—*ante* 1658—held under the lord a tenement, barne, backside, 3 yards of meadow-land, & various other closes, lands, meads & leys, with 2 picks in Gorings & two half yards in Great Moor furlongs, &c., &c., at the yearly rent of £15."

And again (*ante* 1658):—

"John ap Powell holds for his life and the lives of Eliza his wife and John their son one messuage & half a yard land at Priestend with 14 acres of arable land & ley-ground & 3 yards & a half of meadow in Priestend Meade at the yearly rent of £15."

The Buckingham Registers begin in 1558, and contain plenty of entries of this family, from a John Apowell baptised in 1562, to an Eliza Powell, "widdow," buried in 1627; and one subsequent entry, which perhaps refers to this family, of an Alice, daughter of Humphrey Howell (?), baptised in 1644. We may, doubtless, safely say that the founder was the individual who served the office of Bailiff of Buckingham in 1559 and 1569,

* Kerry, *History of S. Lawrence's*, p. 141.

Churchwarden in 1572, Bailiff again in 1576, and whose burial is thus recorded in the register:—

1577. Johes Appowel grof^o; et Ballivus Buckinḡ sepult; 6̄ good friday bonus dies veneris.

The following is a copy of his will, preserved at Somerset House:—

P.C. "Daughtrey" 15 T^m Johis Appowell

In the name of god Amen the first daye of Aprill in the yeare of o^r Lorde god 1577 A^o xix^o Regniæ (*sic*) Elizabethi nūc Reginæ I John Appowell of the towne and boroughe of Buckingham within the diocese of Lincoln gent being of whole mynde and perfecte remembrance thanks be gyven therfore to almightie god doo ordeine and make this my p̄nte Testamente conteyninge therein my laſt will in manner and forme followinge ffirſt I bequeath my foule to almightie god my maker Savior and redemo^r in whom and by the merite of whose bleſſid paſſion and bloudshedinge ys all my truſte of free remiſſion and cleare fforgyvenes of all my ſynnes as he hath promiſed me and all penitent ſynners And my bodie to be buried in the Church of S^t Peter and Paule in Buckingham aforeſaide nere vnto Jane Appowell ſomtime my wieff when it ſhall pleaſe god that I ſhall depart this tranſitorye wordle (*sic*) Item I gyve vnto the Mother Church of lincoln ffowre pence Item I gyve vnto the Reparacions of the Church of S^t Peter and Paull in Buckingham aforeſaid tenne Shillinges Item I gyve and bequeathe vnto the poore people of the pariſhe of Buckingham ffortie Shillinges to be gyven and devided amōgeft them at the diſcretion of my ovſeers Item I doo gyve and bequeathe vnto Marye Appowell my wieff All that Meſſuage or Tenemente wth thappteinçe wherein I nowe dwell in Buckingham aforeſaide together wth all howſes and edifices barnes Stables orchards gardens Landes Teſtē Cloaſes paſtures & hereditamēte what ſo ever I latelie purchaſed of George more* gent wth all and ſingular their appurteinçe for and during her widdowes eſtate And after her ſaide widdowed I will the ſaide meſſuage or Tenemente and all and ſingular other the p̄miſſes wth their Apprteinçes ſhall whollie remayne to George Appowell my ſeconde ſonne and to his heires for ever Item I Will that my ſonne George Appowell ſhall haue free ingreſſe egreſſe and regreſſe vnto my Bell howſe and the ov^r yearde and ſhall haue all my Mowldes tacles Mettall Weightes and Implemēte belonginge to my ſcience wthout any diminishing Item I gyve and bequeathe vnto the aforeſaide George Appowell my ſonne my barne in the eaſte ende of Buck whiche I boughte of M^r Brokaſſe† Item I gyve and bequeath vnto William Appowell my ſonne my howſe in the Caſtle ſtreate and my Cloaſe called the Ponte cloaſe vnder the Caſtell Hill

* George more gent. A Thomas Moore was Bailiff of Buckingham in 1 and 6 Edward VI. = 1546 and 1551, also in 8 Elizabeth = 1565. A Ralph Moore in 24 Elizabeth = 1581; a Raphael Moor in 31 Elizabeth = 1588, and 13 James I. = 1614; and a Thomas Moore in 5 and 16 Charles I. = 1629 and 1640, dying during the latter year.

† Mr. Brokasse. Bernard Brocas, Esq., was one of the Burgesses in Parliament for Buckingham, in 1557; he sold a good deal of property about this time. There is a Brocas End in the town.

nowe in the tenure and occupiynge of John Willyatt to hym and his heires and Assignes for ever Item I gyve & bequeath vnto John Appowell my sonne All thofe twooe Messuages or Tenemēte lyinge together in Buck aforfaid nowe in the tenure and occupiynge of Henrie Robins* and William ffrancklin wth a Cloafe at Gibstyle now in tenure of John White to hym and to his heires for ever wth their Appurteñces Item I gyve vnto Thom^s Appowell my Howfe or Messuage wth the Appurteñce that Mr Porter† dwelleth in and my howfe that George Brickett dwelleth in wth the asmuche as the saide George Brickett doth occupye at this p^{nt}e tyme to hym and his heires for ev^r Item I gyve and bequeath vnto Richarde Appowell my sonne my Howfe or messuage with thappurteñce that Robert Stranke dwelleth in to hym and his heires for ever Item I gyve and bequeath vnto my Daughter Jane Appowell Thirtie poundes of good and lafull engliffhe moneye to be paide the thage (*sic*) of one and twentie yeares or ells at the daye of her Mariage whether fo (*sic*) of them both shall first happen Item I gyve and bequeath vnto my daughter Johan Appowell Thirtie poundes of good and lawfull Engliffhe moneye to be paide vnto her at thage of one and twētye yeares or ells at the daye of her mariage whether fo ev^r of them bothe doth first happen Item I gyve and bequeath vnto my daughter katherine Thirtie poundes to be paide vnto her as before is w^{ri}tten & exp^{re}ssed Item I gyve and bequeathe vnto the Childe that my wief^f goeth wthall yf it be a man Childe ffortie poundes And yf it be A wooman Childe Thirtie poundes of good and lafull Engliffhe money to be paide as is aboue specified Prouided alwaies that if it fortune that any of my saide daught^r's doo deceasse before thage of one and twentie yeares or before the daye of their mariage That then the longer lyver of them shall enjoye the saide legacies of thothers And also yf all my saide daughters do channce to dye before thage of one and twentye yeares or daye of their mariage that then the Legacies shall be equallie. devided betweene my sonnes Item I doo gyve & bequeth vnto marie my wief^f my gilte boule of Eightene ownces weighte one gilt Jugg pott of ffyvetene ownce one Silver salte to be taken at her choise Sixe siluer Spooones of nyne ownce or thereaboute Also I gyve vnto her the Bedde and Bedstede with all things thervnto Belonginge as it standeth in Gamelcans‡ chamber Item I will that my man Ranf Houghton|| shall have the howfe that he dwelleth in now rente free for the space of Sixe yeares nexte ensuyng after the daye of my deceaff The Residue of all my gooddes Cattells and debtes being paide and Legacies in this p^{nt}e testamēte perfo^rmed and fulfilled I doo wholie gyve them vnto Marye my wief^f and to George my sonne equallie to be Parted and devided betweene them whiche saide Marye and George I doo make my full executoures of this my last will and Testamēte and that the saide Mary and George shall bringe vp my Children vⁱ John Thomas Jane Johan and Katherine Appowell and thother when it shall please god to fende it wth meate Drinck and Raymēte necessarⁱe for them vntill s^uche tyme they shall com to thage of one and twentye yeares as afore

* Henrie Robins. A Paul Robins died as bailiff in 2 Charles I. = 1635. A John Robbyns was bailiff, 17 Charles I. = 1641, and a George Robins was bailiff in 15 Charles II. = 1663. The last named issued a token. The name (Robbins) still occurs in the town.

† Mr Porter. A William Porter was bailiff in 41 Elizabeth = 1598. The family came from Barton Hartshorn (see p. 17).

‡ This word is not in *Halliwell*, but probably means *grandfather*, or grandmother—akin to the Norwegian, *gammel*, old. *Gamling*=old man, is used as a term of endearment.

|| Ranf Houghton was probably a servant or an assistant in the Bellfoundry.

And I doo ordeine and make Edward Stevenfon* my ffather in lawe and Williā Illinge† overfeers of this my laft will and Testament And I doo gyve vnto evrie one of them thirtene Shillinges fowre pence A peece for their paynes Item I gyve vnto everie one of my Godchildren twelue pence A peece Theis (*sic*) beinge witneffes Edward Stevenfon Williā Illinge William davy Clerk and John Cates‡ the daye and yeare above written.

Proved 4 May 1577 by George Appowell,
Mary Relict and Eḡtrix being absent.

George Appowell's will, likewise at Somerset House, is as follows :—

P.C. "Langley," 43. T. Georgii Apowell.

In the name of god Amen I George Apowell of Buck in the Countie of Buck belfounder the third day of October A thoufand five hundreth feauenty Eight being fick in body but of pfecte remembraunce lawde and praife be to allmightie god doe make and ordeine this my testament concerning my laft will and testament in mannᵛ and forme following, that is to faie, ffirft I bequeath my foule to allmightie god my maker and redemcr And my body to be buried in the piſhe church of S^t Peter and Paule in Buck aforefaid Item I giue will and bequeath to John Lamberd|| of Buck butcher and to Robert Tayler§ of Buck aforefaid pchment maker all my landes tenements and hereditaments whatfoeuᵛ wth thapp^tennces ſcituatē and being wthin the towne and piſhe of Buck aforefaid, to haue and to hold vnto the ſaid John Lambert and Robert Tayler their heires and affignes for ever to hold of the chefe Lord of the fee thereof by the feruices therefore due and accustomed ſo that the fame Lands be ſold by the ſaid John and Robert for the payment of my debts. Item I giue and bequeath to the child wherewth my

* Edward Stevenson was the father of John Appowell's second wife, Mary.

† Williā Illinge, bailiff in 4, 6, 14, 21, and 28 Elizabeth = 1561, 1563, 1571, 1578, and 1585. A Walter Illing was bailiff 2 James I. = 1603.

‡ John Cates, or Gates, bailiff 6 Mary, and 1 Elizabeth = 1558, and 15 Elizabeth = 1572. He appears in the Court Rolls, 30th August, 4 and 5 Philip and Mary = 1557, as Attorney to Thomas Kyng in an action brought against the latter by John Appowell.

|| John Lamberd, butcher. Bailiff 4 Edward VI. = 1549; and 7 Edward VI. and 1 Mary = 1553; also 25 Elizabeth = 1582. A Simon Lambert was bailiff about 38 Elizabeth = 1595, and twice during James I.'s reign.

§ Robert Tayler, parchment maker, probably brother-in-law to George Appowell. In the second volume of the Buckingham Court Rolls, under apparently the date 2 and 3 Philip and Mary = 1555, John Tayler was made a Warden "of Shomakers and glou^r and white tanars." (It is interesting to note that there were (1) "wardens of t^hiooccupa^ons of wollen dra^ps lynnen dra^ps haberdaffhers and grocers." (2, as above.) (3) "Wardens of the occupa^ons of ffullers weavers Tailoe diers Smythes and fletchers." (4) "Wardens of bakers brue^rs fiſhers and Chaundlers.") In the same year "Tho^ms Tailor" glover is mentioned, and on July 27th in the same year, he is spoken of as a "Talor" (by trade as well as name): and later in the same year "John Tailor pchment maker" appears. Also in October, November, and December, 4 and 5 Philip and Mary = 1557, and the following January; and again in March and April 1 Elizabeth = 1559.

wief now goeth thirtie pounds to be paid when the fame child shall accomplishe the full age of xxj^y yeares The residue of all my goodes and Chattells vnbequethed my debts being paid I giue and bequeath to Emerye my wief whome I ordeine and make my sole executrix by these þnts that this my þnte testament may be faithfully executed by the ou^p fight of William Illing and Thomas Boughton* my Overfeers of this my testament and I will and bequeath to ether of them for their paines in this behalf ten shillings. **George Apowell.** Item to his sisters Joane and Jane five poundes a yere Item to Thomas Apowell his brother five poundes. Item to Katheryn Apowell his sifter five poundes. Iþm to Richard Apowell wief x^s. Item to Ranff Halton† [and]‡ his man xx^s. Thefe being witnesfes John Hockley|| Thomas Audley§ Henry Robins Ranff Halton and others.

Administration granted on 19 Nov. 1578 to Richard Apowell the brother, because Emera Apowell the widow had died in the interim.

The third volume of the Municipal Records of Buckingham, a folio, leather-bound volume, contains the following :—

xvij^o die Aprilis 1579 }
A^o xxj^o Reginæ Elizabꝯ }

Memorand that John Apowell late of Buckingham in the Cowntie of Buck belfownder, was Seised in ffee symple, of and in two burgages scituatc, & beinge in Buckingham aforesaid, wth one acre of Lande, and one halfe acre of meadowe to the same belonginge with thappurtyñnce now or late in the severall tenures or occupaçons of Henrici Robyns & Wittii francklyn. And by his last will & testamt, in writing, gave the same to John Apowell one of his yongre Sonnes, and to his heires for ever, which John thyongre dyed thereof Seised in ffee symple, without yffue of his Bodye and the same discended to Rycharde Apowell eldest brother & heire, to the said John the yongre, which Rycharde beinge seised thereof in ffee symple, solde y^e same to John Lambart of Buck aforesaid Butcher, as by severall conveyauñce to us shewed, & proved, it dothe fully appere, which said John Lambart beinge thereof seised in ffee symple, solde the premysses wth thappurtyñnces to Robert ffoster clerk, as by a deed thereof made, by the said John to y^e said Robert & his heires for ever to us also shewed, bearinge date the xxvth daye of Marche Anno regni dñæ n̄ræ Elizabeth Re^æ angliaꝯ nunc (?) vicesimo primo, more at large dothe, & maye appere, hys test

Wytt^{am} Ilyng Bayliff
(and four other signatures.)

Mr. Stahlschmidt¶ found in the books of the Founders' Company, a

* Thomas Boughton. A Hugh Boughton was bailiff in 3 Elizabeth = 1561.

† Ranff (= Ralph) Halton was probably identical with Ranf Houghton (above). Probably the existing name, Holton, is the same.

‡ Erased.

|| John Hockley. A John Ockley was bailiff in 11 Elizabeth, = 1568.

§ Thomas Audley. A Richard Audley was bailiff 9 Charles I. = 1633.

¶ *Bells of Surrey*, p. 71.

receipt of annual quarterage in 1529, from "Hewe Howyill, a Frenchman working in Billiter Lane" ("Frenchman" simply indicating that he was a non-Londoner). It is not impossible that this foundry was connected with that at Buckingham.

In the churchwardens' accounts of S. Mary's, Reading (transcribed by Messrs. Garry, and published just too late to refer to, in the account of the Reading Foundries in the present work), under the supposed date 1553-4, appears:—

Receyvid of John ffrencheman for the greate bell Clapper ... xjs.

Mr. Stahlschmidt informed me that a James Appowell was a member of the Founders' Company, 1557-8; and served as Underwarden (as James Powell), 1564-5; clearly from this last he must have been in business in London. He did not proceed higher, but his extreme dates cannot be ascertained, as the company's books of that period are very imperfect. He seems to be referred to in the inventory of S. Mary Axe (adjoining Billiter Lane, now Street), under date, apparently, of 1552:—

Sold to our neighbour Powell a peice of brass ... iiij^d*

The following are the notices of the Appowell family in the Buckingham Registers:—

Baptisms: 1562, Maius Johes Apowell Bapt (?) septimo die. 1563, December Anna Powell bapt decimo quarto die. 1564, December ^{Thomas Powell} _(with 2 others) baptizati sunt vicesimo die. 1566 ffebruarius Johaṅa filia Joḅis Powell bapt decimo octavo (?). 1567 Maius Johaṅa Apowell bapt decimo sexto die. 1574 Junius Edwarde Powell bapt vicesimo octavo die. 1575 September Katherina filia Joḅis Powell bapt nono die. (From May, 1589, to March, 1592, missing.) 1594 Septembr̄ Joaṅa Ap Powel, bapt tertio die. 1597 Junius (Mathew, *corrected to*) Martha Powell bapt decimo sexto die. 1600 Aprilis Thomas Powell bapt eodem die (*viz.*, as the preceding entry = vicesimo quinto die). 1604 H(e)nrie (?) poell the sonne of william poell was baptised the vth day of Auguft (1644 Alce filia Humphry Hawell baptized September—i.).† [*Searched to end of 1646.*]

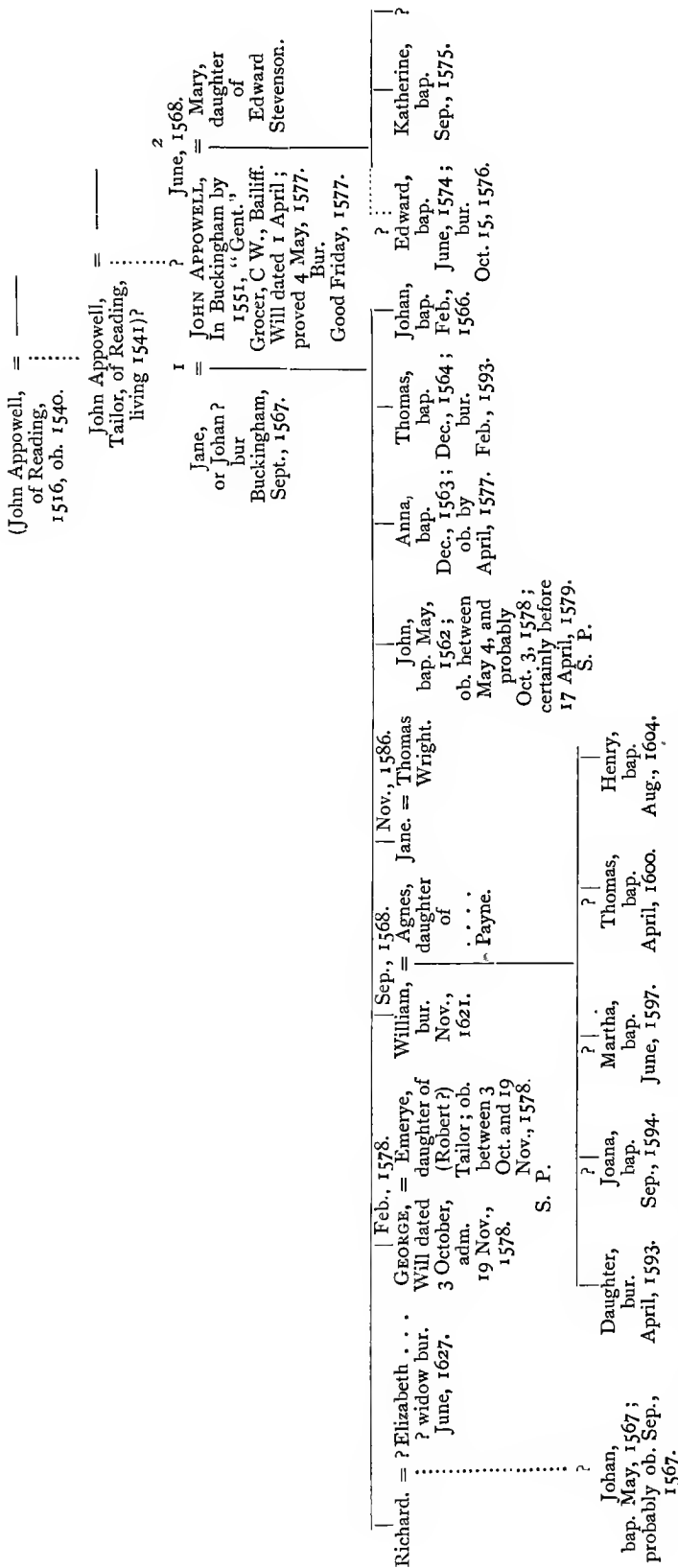
Marriages: 1568 Johes Appowell Maria Stephenson Junij tertio; Willms powell Agnes Payne—Septebriis quarto. 1575 Witmus Yeoman et Alicia Apowell eodem die (*viz.*, Januarij xxvj^o). 1578 Georgius Apowel—Emeria Tailor ffebr̄ q̄arto. 1586 Tho : Wright et Jana Apower—Novembris septimo. 1599 ffranciscus Asbie et Ellena Powele Octobris xxvij^o die. 1601 Joḅes Howell et Joḅa Gray sexto Julij. 1615 Thomas Edward & Elizabeth Powell were maried the xxjth day of June.

[*Searched to July, 1653.*]

* *Ex inform.* A. D. Tyssen, Esq.

† It is doubtful whether this entry refers to the Appowell family.

APPOWELL, OF BUCKINGHAM.



Agnes, buried 1566-7, and Elizabeth, buried 1570-1, were very likely daughters of John, the founder; and so possibly was Alice, who married in 1575. Ellen, who married in 1599; John "Howell," who married in 1601; and Elizabeth, who married in 1615, evidently belonged to the next generation, *i.e.*, grandchildren of John, unless one of them was the posthumous child of John, whose expected arrival is mentioned in his will. Perhaps some of William's children were by a second wife?

Burials: 1565-66 Agnes Powell—Januarij vicesimo p̄mo. 1567 Johāna Apowell—Septembris vicesimo quinto. 1570 Elizabeth Powell—Januarij—decimo quinto. 1576 Edward Powel Octobris xxix. 1577 Johes Appowel grof^o 3* et Ballivus Buckinḡ sepult^o ō good friday bonus dies veneris. 1593 filia W^m Apowell Aprilis vicesimo sexto; Thomas Powell was buried y^e second daye of ffebruari. (None 1611-12.) 1621 William Apowell was buried the vjth daye of November. 1627 Elizabeth Powell widdow buried y^e 20 daye of June. [Searched to end of 1670.]

The next question is, are there any bells known by any of the Appowells? To this the answer must be, no; *but* there are some eight or nine bells which want a founder, cast probably during Mary's reign (1553-58), something more than twenty years before the death of John Appowell, the grocer and bailiff. Six of these are nearer Buckingham than any other town at which a foundry is known to have existed at that period; one is equi-distant between there and Reading; and another is a dozen miles on the *other* side (*i.e.*, to the S.W.) of Reading. This proves nothing, but is at least suggestive of Appowell's Reading origin.

The inscriptions form no words, but are either portions of the alphabet, or else what appear to be mere hap-hazard combinations of letters. At least two sets of lettering are used, but as they are mixed on some of the bells, we must treat them all as one group.

First shall be mentioned a bell at Croughton, Northampts (ten and a-half miles from Buckingham), having the initial cross shown on Plate XXVII., but all the rest of the inscription filed off. Possibly the inscription was of such a character as to give offence to some ultra-Protestant of a later age; if so, this bell would be older than the neutral-tinted productions of Appowell's time.

Next, the tenor at Twyford (Bucks, six miles from Buckingham):—



The same initial cross; and the plain set of reversed and crowned Roman capitals shown on Plate XXVII.

The treble at Ickford (Bucks, seventeen miles from Buckingham), has:—



The initial cross and lettering are shown on the lower half of Plate

* Grocerus = Member of the local Guild of Grocers. Ballivus = Bailiff.

XIV., except the crowned J, which belongs to the set just mentioned (Plate XXVII.), and connects this bell with the foregoing. The inscription seems to be merely a selection from the last part of the alphabet, with someone's initials interposed, thus: R [S] T U [V W] X (I J, somebody's initials?) Y [Z].

A very similarly inscribed bell is at Emmington (Oxon), near Thame, just equidistant from Buckingham and Reading:—

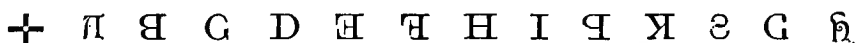


The R K of the initial cross are repeated in monogram form towards the end; and, together with the first crown, and the extraordinary crown (?), are shown at the bottom of Plate XXVII. The other letters are the same as the last.

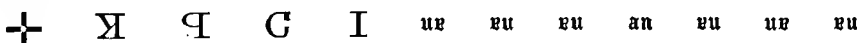
It evidently dawned upon the owner of the plain lettering in Plate XXVII., that they were all reversed, and so he (or possibly a successor to the founder of the above examples) cut off the crowns, and tried using the stamps the other way up, with the following result on the second at Hulcot (fifteen miles from Buckingham):—



At Bloxham (Oxon, seventeen miles from Buckingham), the third bell has:—

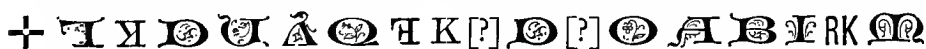


At Little Brickhill (fourteen miles from Buckingham) two stamps of black-letter "smalls" were introduced with an equally topsy-turvy result:—



or, reduced to Roman type—K P G I an na na an na an na.

The tenor at Tadley (Hants, twelve and a half miles south-west of Reading), which I have not seen, has somewhat as follows:—



showing a "judicious mixture" of the two sets of lettering, and the monogrammatic R K again.

Judging from Plate X. of Mr. Lukis's *Church Bells*, the second bell at Potterne, Wilts, may be another example of the former of these two sets of lettering. This place is, however, about forty-five miles from Reading, and considerably more from Buckingham.

While *suggesting* that these bells seem to fit in as the work of John Appowell of Buckingham (who perhaps came from Reading), it must not be forgotten that Vincent Goroway (or Galaway, p. 75) was a founder in Reading during some portion of the sixteenth century, and that no bell has yet been identified as his work. It will be noticed, however, that the geographical situation of the majority of these bells renders the former assignment the more probable.*

The reversed crowned Roman capitals (Plate XXVII.) are of the date of Mary's reign, and are no doubt original; but the initial cross used with them, appears on a bell at Compton Paunceford, Somersetshire,† apparently of the fourteenth century, inscribed:—

✠ SCA ○ MARIA ○ MAGDALENE ○

The lettering is unfortunately not figured by Mr. Ellacombe. The circular stop (about $1\frac{1}{8}$ in. diameter) is not known elsewhere.

As already said, the bell at Croughton (Northampts) may likewise be much older than Mary's reign.

The other capitals—Lombardics of comparatively late character—and the initial cross bearing the initials R K, used with them, are no doubt

* There are several sixteenth century bells in neighbouring counties wanting founders, *e.g.*, the treble at Finmere, Oxon (four miles from Buckingham), with a blundered inscription in pretty little Lombardics, about half an inch high:—

O I A C O B E C A P E T I U E N I A D B E N A D I C C I O D E I

The treble at Midgham, Berks (eleven miles south-west of Reading), has the alphabet as far as P, in the same lettering.

The saunce at Sreatley, Berks (ten miles from Reading), is inscribed in black-letter very closely resembling, but not identical with, John Saunders' small set:—

✠ hac † in † conclaue † gabriel † nunc † pange † cuaue

The cross has three balls at the end of each limb, which are all of equal length, differing from the somewhat similar crosses figured in *Bells of Norfolk* and *Northampts*. For a rubbing of this bell, I am indebted to the Rev. J. R. Izat, vicar.

The second at Aston Tirrold, and the third at Padworth, both in Berks, in crowned Lombardics, may also be mentioned.

† Ellacombe's *Bells of Somerset*.

much older than this mid-sixteenth century founder (whoever he was), and the initials would be those of the original owner. This unknown individual apparently cast the treble at Stoneleigh, Warwickshire,* which seems to date from the latter part of the fourteenth century. It has an unusual inscription; the Royal Heads (figs. 2 and 3); and a crowned shield, bearing on a saltire a cross *patée*; and on either side (not *on* the shield) the initials R K. Mr. Ellacombe calls them the arms and initials of Richard Kydermynster, Abbot of Winchcombe, Gloucestershire, 1488 to 1531, but there is not much doubt that that is an error; probably also an anachronism.

From the word WYNCKELCUMBAM occurring in the inscription, Mr. Ellacombe was probably right in his surmise that this was one of the ring of (eight) bells cast for the Abbey of Winchcombe (fourteen miles from Gloucester); which were sold in 1557-8 to Lord "Shadowes" (Chandos).†

A stamp distinct from the Stoneleigh shield, but with the same charge (used without the crown or initials), occurs on two bells in the north of Leicestershire (Muston and Thurcaston). Mr. North, unluckily, has not described the lettering used on them, but they seem to be probably by one of the Oldfields, of Nottingham. The Oldfields were great collectors and users of old stamps, and the Thurcaston bell has, in addition, the Royal Heads, which are known to have passed into their hands; and also the lower cross on Plate IV. (used in the fourteenth century on the tenor at Hardmead).

There is no great likelihood that any bell in Bucks was cast by any of the Nottingham founders,‡ but as there is some sort of connection shown by stamps, I give here a brief sketch of what little is known of this somewhat important foundry.

* Ellacombe's *Bells of Gloucester*, p. 11.

† Mr. Ellacombe (*ibid.* p. 12) quotes an entry from the Records of Church Goods, 57 Henry VIII., referring to this sale. There is also among the Land Revenue Records (Church Goods, etc.), in the Record Office, a Letter from Lord Chandos "To the Comyffioners for the goodē of the Late monastaryes" touching Lead and Bells from the late Monastery of Wynchcombe, which were given to him by the Queen. He says, "And I had belle their wch I toke to be my owne for that the quens highnes had frelye gyven me all thinge their (as I toke yt) wch belle I folde for xlii of monye wch I have Rec for them accordynge as before I wrote vnto you" . . . "By yor Affured frend,

I. CHANDOS."

It is dated the "xixth of Januarye," but no year is mentioned.

‡ It must be remembered that good roads are quite a modern institution, and that the carriage of heavy weights like bells, was formerly a consideration, of an importance difficult now-a-days to appreciate; and that Nottingham is at least seventy miles from Buckingham.

THE NOTTINGHAM FOUNDRY.

The history of the Nottingham Foundry has not yet been worked out, but the following items are chiefly from Mr. North's *Bells of Leicestershire*, p. 88, *et. seq.*

L'Estrange (*Bells of Norfolk*, p. 25) mentions that "William Brasiere de Notyngnam," was admitted to the freedom of the city of Norwich in 1376 (*Free Book*, Norwich), and surmises that he may have been identical with William de Norwyco, who was the earliest known Norwich bellfounder.

He further mentions a bell at Beckingham, Notts, (**JOHN, OF COLSALE.**) inscribed: † JOHANNES DE COLSALE ME FECIT ANNO DOMINI MCCCIX, etc. This place may be either Coltishall — formerly spelt Colsale — in Norfolk, or Cossale, in Notts, spelt in Domesday, Cotteshale. The former seems the more likely, but I mention him as a possible early manager of this foundry.

(**RICHARD MELLOUR.**) Richard Mellour "de Notyngnam Belyetter" was party to a Deed dated 1488.* Mr. North thought he may have been one of the same family as William Millers, bellfounder, of Norwich, who died in December, 1506.

(**GEORGE OLDFIELD I.**) George Oldfield was founding in Nottingham from 1537 to 1558. It is more probable that another founder, whose name we do not know, intervened between Mellour and him, than that the foundry was closed for some years, or that Mellour continued in possession until 1537.

(**THOMAS OLDFIELD.**) The name, "Thomas Owefeld," appears in the churchwardens' accounts of Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, as "castyng of the sants bell" there in April, 1553-4. This bell was unfortunately recast in the next century, for if it had continued to the present time, it might have afforded us some information.

(**HENRY OLDFIELD.**) Henry Oldfield's stamp appears on bells from 1589 to 1620 inclusive; but it is probable that he died in 1615, and that his successor continued the use of his stamp for several years.

(**GEORGE OLDFIELD II.**) This successor was George Oldfield the second, whose mark appears on bells from 1620 to 1673 inclusive.†

* *Reliquary*, vol. xiii., p. 81.

† Robert Oldfield, of S. Andrew's Parish, Hertford, who may have been a relation, has been already mentioned, p. 163.

(WILLIAM NOONE.)

William Noone's name appears in 1700.

**(THOMAS HEDDERLEY,
SEN. AND JUN.)**

Thomas Hedderley, 1741, to his death in about 1778. He was succeeded by his son of the same name, who continued bellfounding until his death in 1785.

(GEORGE HEDDERLEY.)

The younger Thomas Hedderley was succeeded by his brother George (already mentioned, p. 77), who emigrated to America shortly after 1791.

BUCKINGHAM FOUNDRY (*continued*).

Another bell wanting a founder, but of a different make to those already described, shall be mentioned here, although there is nothing to connect it specially with this foundry. It is the single one at Horsenden, and the inscription consists of four illegible letters, spaced out about equidistantly, shown as fig. 65, followed by the date 1582, in extremely distinct evenly-formed figures. This is the oldest dated bell in the county.



Fig. 65.

George Appowell, as we know, only survived his father a short time; and a few years later, Buckingham was the *habitat* of bellfounders who learnt their work at the celebrated Leicester establishment; but whether another Appowell intervened, or whether the foundry was closed for a while, I have been unable to discover. The Leicester men do not seem to have taken up the business until at least five years, and probably more, after George Appowell's death.

Thomas Newcombe II. (see p. 145), of the Leicester Foundry, was buried at All Saints' Church, in that town, on February 7th, 1580,* leaving three

* *Bells of Leicester*, p. 52.

BARTHOLOMEW ATTON. sons and a daughter; also an apprentice, named Bartholomew Atton, "Tann⁹ and Bellfounder" (like his master), who was admitted to the Merchants' Guild of Leicester (or made free of the town) in 1582-83.

ROBERT NEWCOMBE III. Robert Newcombe (the eldest of Thomas Newcombe's children) and Bartholomew Atton, evidently entered into partnership, and removed from Leicester, where other members of the Newcombe family had all the trade, and settled in Buckingham. We find documentary evidence that the foundry was being worked in 1585, though the founder's name does not appear.

In the churchwardens' accounts of Wing, for 1586, the following entries must, from the context, refer to the interval between June and November, 1585 :—

pd for the fans belle castyng & the wafe	...	...	ix ^s	vj ^d
pd to ternere for goyng to buckam for the belle	...	...	x ^d	
pd to capone for the carryge & the brëggyng of the fans belle				xvij ^d

There are two extant bells, the one dated this year, the other, *possibly* two years earlier, both inscribed in the large florid letters (Plates XXVIII. and XXIX.), associated during the next few years with the Buckingham Foundry exclusively. The fourth at Passenham, in Northampts, but only six and a half miles from Buckingham, has :—

+ R + RYCE + RICHMOND + YE +
RICHMOND + TO + RYMOND + 1585 + +++++

The other example is in Bucks—the treble at Hoggeston (about nine miles from Buckingham); being smaller, the inscription is curtailed, and ends thus :—

+ RICHMOND + 1585 + +++++5

The last figure on this bell, as already implied, *may* be a 3, and not a 5. The auxiliary verb is this time spelt with an I. The cross is shown on Plate XXVIII.; the date and pattern (combined) are on Plate XXIX.

An undated bell is mentioned by Mr. North,* as at (RICHARD BENTLEY.) Seaton, Rutland, inscribed in the same lettering, but all set *backwards* :—

* *Bells of Rutland and Bells of Northampts.*

+ RICHARD BENTLEY
BELLFOWNDER

As this is in the neighbourhood of Leicester, whence the subsequent owners of the lettering came (and as the name does not appear in the Buckingham Registers, but does appear at Leicester), Richard Bentley, unless merely an assistant, was probably the original owner of the stamps. This bell helps to show that Newcombe and Atton brought the set of letters with them from Leicester, and that it had not formed part of the Appowells' stock in trade.

The following entries in the Registers of All Saints', Leicester, refer, without much doubt, to the individual in question, and his family, although the mere coincidence of the name and date prove nothing:—

Christeninge (begin 1575).

1577, 20 Septemb^r George Bently son of Richard Bentley baptized. 1578, 15 decemb^r Mary Bentley daughter of Richard Bently baptized. 1579, 27 decemb^r John Bently the fonn of Richard bently baptized. 1585, 12 Aprill Elifabeth Bentley filia Richard Bentley baptized.

Weddinges (begin 1571).

1571, 2 decemb^r Richard Bentley & Jone Browne were married. 1587 (=8), 19 februarj John Smythe and Jone Bentley were married. 1595 (=6), 20 february william Hitchcocke and Margaret Bentley were married.

Burialls (begin 1571).

1571 (=2), 12 March Lawrence Bentley was buried.

Jone and Margaret may have been daughters of Richard, born previous to the commencement of the baptismal register in 1575.

If these entries refer to the founder, the baptism of a child as late as April, 1585, shows the possibility, though not probability, that Bentley, and not Newcombe and Atton, was the founder of the Hoggston and Passenham bells.

There is no tradition in Buckingham of a bellfoundry having ever existed there, and it therefore "goes without saying," that the site was quite lost sight of (no pun intended). In the course of enquiry I was referred to Mr. Henry Smith, of Maid's Moreton, one of the Buckingham ringers, and very enthusiastic in all matters campanological, who informed me that his father, in one of the early years of this century (Mr. H. Smith is himself upwards of sixty years of age) had been given by "Joiner" Tailor,

part of the canon of a bell, which had been found in a yard situated on the south side of West Street, otherwise Brackley Road. This tenement, comprising dwelling and outhouses, stable, yard, and paddock, is now in the occupation of Mr. Tibbitts, builder and contractor, and forms a portion of the Stowe Estate. It is clearly shown in the small plan of the town engraved in the corner of the map of the county by Spede, dated 1610. Mr. Tibbitts tells me that nothing has been found, during his occupancy, to indicate the former existence of the foundry there, though he has excavated in various parts of the yard, putting up sheds and workshops.

The portion of a bell's canon was preserved in Mr. Smith's cottage until recently, but is now mislaid.





This is the only scrap of evidence I could obtain,* so that the site of the foundry must remain uncertain, for as "one swallow does not make a spring," so "one canon does not prove a bellfoundry."

In the Wing churchwardens' account for the year ended 14th June, 1590, we first meet with Bartholomew Atton's name. As some of the entries referring to the transaction come before the charge for ringing on S. Hugh's Day, it follows that whether or no Atton was working in Buckingham by 1583 or 1585, he was certainly there before November, 1589. The items are given in full under Wing, so it will suffice here to quote :—

pd for fettyng & caryng of gabelst to let down the bell	...		x^d		
pd vnto Bartholomewe Atton of Buckyngam for the caflyng	}	ii	d		
of the second bell & puttyng in \uparrow C weyght of new mettell				x	xij
more then the old bell weyghed				...	...

From the year 1590, the history of the foundry is more evident.

At Hardwick, the tenor is inscribed in the above lettering :—

	R O B A R T		M A G I S T R O S
	M A G I S T R O S		M A G I S T R O S

The ornamented cross is figured on Plate XXIX., and the shield is

* I have to thank Mr. Henry Hearn, of Buckingham, for introducing me to Mr. W. Williams, of Lincoln's Inn, solicitor to the Stowe Estate, and the latter gentleman, for allowing me to look through old documents in his charge, on the chance of finding anything which would throw light on this point.

† A large, thick rope, or *cabie*.

fig. 66. It will be noticed that these stamps are not (respectively) identical with the Brasyer cross on Plate XXIII., and the original diapered shield (fig. 54), but are slightly modified copies, now first used. In the same way Robert Mot, of the Whitechapel Foundry, used a copy of the diapered shield from 1588* (if not earlier), and Joseph Carter of Reading (his successor at Whitechapel), from 1601 used a copy of the ermine edition (fig. 55), with his initials added on the field.

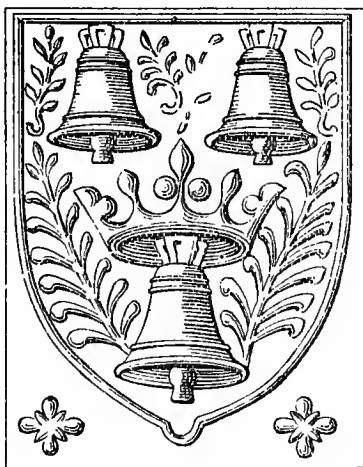


Fig. 66.

The second at Pitchcot, likewise dated 1590, was perhaps the work of both partners, as it bears no name :—

✠ S E W T ✠ L Y K E ✠ A P O S T E L ✠

The S is now turned the right way about. It has the same ornate cross ; the small cross *patée* is shown on Plate XXX.

At Loughton, the tenor, dated the same year, has the other partner's name :—

BAR TH O L O M E W E †† A T T O N ††

with the shield ; underneath are the ornamental cross, the cross *patée*, and the date. The treble at Stoke Hamond, also in this year, has his name

* At Fetcham, Surrey.

(without the final E), the ornamental cross, and the shield ; and impressions of four sixpences on the sound-bow.

In 1591 there are two bells ; the second at Tingewick, bearing his name as before, and in addition, BELFOVI, and the treble at Drayton Parslow, with only his Christian name. Both bear the shield (fig. 66) and ornate cross (Plate XXIX.) as before.

Robert Newcombe died some time towards the end of January of the following year (or *that* year, as it was then reckoned); his burial being entered in the Buckingham Register :—

1591 Robertus Newcom ffebr secundo.

The Registers contain two other entries of the name, which may refer to daughters, or possibly to a daughter and his widow :—

1585 Raphaell ffox et mageria Newcū—Octobris—decimo.

1606 Johen borrose and Alce newcome was married
the xxiiijth daye of november —

In 1592, the third at Steeple Claydon, with Atton's name (as before at Stoke Hamond, without the final E), and, besides the shield and ornate cross as before, are coins on the sound-bow. A similar bell at Edgcott, Northampts, without the coins. The tenor at Soulbury, has :—

The stamps are : the ornate cross and the shield, as before ; Nos. 1, 2, 3, on Plate XXX. ; and the A belongs to the smallest set of, lettering, examples of which are drawn on that Plate.

In 1593, the third at Shenley, inscribed :—

The stamps are : initial cross, Plate XXVIII. ; the ornate cross on XXX. ; and Nos. 1, 3, 4, on XXX. In the second line come the initials T B, and fig. 66, with No. 4 on Plate XXX. on either side ; equi-distant, round the sound-bow, are four coins. Sad to say, this bell is cracked.

In 1594, the tenor at Radclive bears his name, and is ornamented with the shield and ornate cross as before, and Nos. 1, 4, 5, on Plate XXX., with coins on sound-bow. The former second at Twyford had the same inscription, but the stamps are not recorded; and the treble at Water Stratford, is inscribed :—

✠ ☚ ✠ MARYE ☚ ☩ ☚ ☚ CORNWALL

with the same stamps as the Radclive bell; also ten coins on sound-bow.

In the second volume of the Court Rolls preserved in the Corporation Chest at Buckingham, to which allusion has already been made, “barthme Atton” appears second of fifteen burgesses, on the 4th April, 40th Elizth. = 1598, and (twice) as “Cuft Burgi”; and again (twice) on the 22nd September in the same year. His name also appears on the 8th January, 41st Elizth. = 1599; in April (again twice); and high up in a long list at Michaelmas, in which his son William (mentioned further on), appears some way down.

In this year (1599) Bartholomew cast a bell for Wappenham (Northampts, nine and a-half miles from Buckingham), inscribed in the same lettering :—

P R A I S E T H E L O R D

In 1600 = 42 Elizth, his name appears again twice in the Court Rolls, early in the year, and in October, respectively. His next known bell is at King's Sutton, Northampts, inscribed (presumably in the same lettering), BARTHOLOMEW ATTON MADE ME, with the shield, and dated 1602.

In 1604, the tenor at Dorton :—

G O D S A V E K I N G J A M E S

with the date, but no cross or other device; the K is a plain letter, (see Plate XXVIII.) not belonging to the usual set, but possibly scratched by hand on the cope; and the third at Simpson :—

G O D ☚ S A V E ☚ K I N G ☚ I A M E S ☚ A M E N

and the date. The original set of lettering is combined, as here shown, with the small set on Plate XXX.; and No. 5 on the same Plate is used as a stop after each of the first three words.

In 1605 Bartholomew Atton served the office of Bailiff of Buckingham. Browne Willis MSS., xxii., 173b, says that "Bartholomew Attun [the famous Bellfounder, as I judge]" was Bailiff in the third year "Jacobi primi." This would be from May 1st, 1605, to April 30th, 1606. 1605 is the year stated by the Rev. H. Roundell, late vicar of Buckingham, in *Some Account of the Town of Buckingham*, a lecture delivered in January, 1857; but Browne Willis, in *Hist. Hund. Bucks.*, p. 108, and Lipscomb (evidently copying him) give the date as 1604.

The third at Great Horwood, dated 1605, has, in the **ROBERT ATTON.** smallest set of letters, merely the initials, **B A R A** with the ornament No. 5, on Plate XXX.

A Robert Atton was "Chamberlayn" of the Borough of Leicester in 1592-3,* but whether Robert of Leicester was identical with the Robert who thus appears as a bellfounder at Buckingham a dozen years later, is not known. Judging by such slight circumstantial evidence, however, as the various ascertained dates afford, the most likely guess seems to be, that Robert the Chamberlain was father to Bartholomew, who, in his turn, was father to Robert the bellfounder; and that Bartholomew did not take up his abode regularly in Buckingham until 1589, or shortly before; and that his marriage, with the births of his elder children, took place in Leicester. The Buckingham Register of Baptisms is missing from May, 1589, to March, 1592-3, during which period two or three children were probably born.

This theory smooths away all difficulties, except the apparently Buckingham-cast bells at Hoggeston and Passenham, in (? 1583 and) 1585. It is possible, however, to suppose that the partners had acquired the Buckingham business by then, but did not seriously continue it, by residence, until about 1589.

The next Buckingham bell that I know of, is the tenor at Mixbury, Oxon, inscribed:—

GOD : * * * * * SAVE
 KING * * * * * JAMES * * * * *
 / * 1609 / * *

with Nos. 2 and 5, on Plate XXX., and a figure of a bell (No. 6 on the same Plate), which does not occur in Bucks; and the reversed S again.

In *Northamptonshire Notes and Queries* (Vol. I., Northampton, 1886), is

* *Bells of Northampts*, p. 114.

a transcript of two leaves (dated 1609-10, and 1641-42), from the churchwardens' accounts of Woodford Halse, Northampts, which were found loose in an old printed book bought at a sale at Byfield: coming subsequently into the possession of Sir H. Dryden, they were presented by him in 1882, to Woodford parish chest. The earlier of the two pages contains the following references to the Buckingham Foundry:—

Imprimis payed for the carring of the Bell unto Buckingham	ix ^s
It. payed for alle when the Bell ware a melting ...	viiij ^d
It. payed for alle when the Belle ware a running ...	vj ^d
It. payed for the Berriying of the Bellfounder ...	xj ^s
It. payed for ale when the Bell ware a taking up out of the mold	vj ^d
It. payed Bell money unto the Bellfounders men ...	iiij ^s iiiij ^d
It. payed for a Band making that wee did take of the Bellfounder	vj ^d
It. payed for the casting of the Bell	liij ^s iiiij ^d
It. payed for mettill for the Bell	xlviij ^s iij ^d
It. payed for our charis in our diat in ling Bockingame	xiiij ^s

Presuming that the "burying of the bellfounder" is correctly copied from the original, it probably does not refer in earnest to the demise of either founder, just while the Woodford men were in Buckingham. Halliwell gives "burying-a-wife," as a feast given by an apprentice at the expiration of his articles; so it seems possible that "burying a bellfounder" may signify a "bever"* given on the successful "running" of a bell. No burial of an Atton is chronicled in the Registers at that time; still, as will be noticed by any one reading the following inscriptions carefully, there are changes in the lettering, etc., from this date; and the fact that Bartholomew's name appears on a few bells subsequently, may merely be an early instance of the common modern trade practice, of retaining a man's name in the title of the firm, for years after his death.†

We must hope that some churchwardens' accounts may yet be produced, which will enlighten us on this point.

* A drink: evidently a Norman-French word. Used throughout north and mid Bucks (and adjoining counties) in the sense of "lunch," or what is variously known in the south of the county as "eleven o'clock," "four o'clock," etc., according to the particular occasion.

† This was almost certainly done in the case of Robert, a few years later, as shown further on.

“A Band” is, of course, a Bond, and in the last item I suppose that “charis” = shares, or possibly, charges; while “ling” no doubt wants a mark of abbreviation over it, and = leaving.

1610: The fourth at Shenley Mansel, inscribed in a different set of letters (Plate XXXI.), modified from the original set, and with new devices:—

🔔🔔 BARTHOLOMEW 🌸 ☐🌿🌀 AT-
TVN 🌸🌸 MADE 🌿🌀 ME 🔔🔔

The date is also made up of new figures, larger, and more roughly formed; the ornaments are shown in Plate XXX., Nos. 7, 8, 9, 11, and an arabesque, fig. 67. A bell at Wappenham, Northampts, is inscribed: GOD SAVE KING JAMES R. A. 1610. The lettering is not mentioned.*

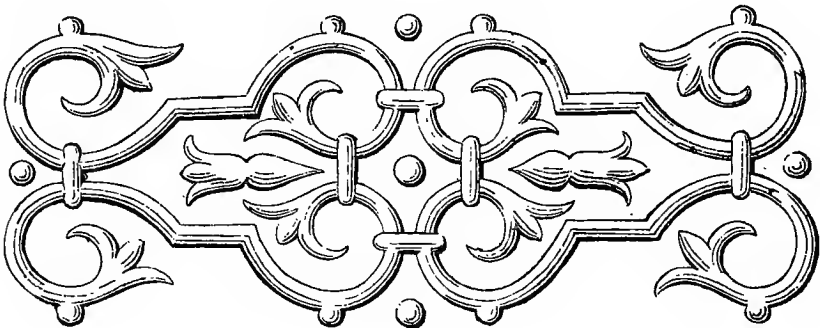


Fig. 67.

In 1611 was cast the sanctus at Winslow, inscribed in the smallest set of lettering (Plate XXX.):—

ROBERT ATTON MADE ME 🌸

followed by the names of five

BEHEFACTYRS FOR CHASTING THIS BEL

with No. 5, on Plate XXX.; and coins on sound-bow.

Also a bell at Chellington, Beds (about twenty-three miles distant), inscribed in the same lettering, with the same stop between each word:—

ROBERT 🌸 ATTON 🌸 MADE 🌸 MEE 🌸 1611 🌸 W ATTON 🌸

* *Bells of Northampts.*

The bell is completely split, which is specially unfortunate, as it is the only known example bearing William Atton's name. His baptism is thus recorded in the Buckingham Register :—

1596 September W^m filius Bartholomei Atton decimo die.

A bell at Paulerspury, Northampts, said by Mr. North to be dated 1613, and inscribed: BARTHOLOMEW ATTVN MADE ME, probably marks the termination of his bellfounding career. This bell was recast at the Buckingham Foundry, from one of five ancient bells traditionally said to have been brought from Luffield Abbey (near Lillingstone Dayrell), in Bucks, on the dissolution of that House.*

There was formerly a bell at Lichborough, Northampts, inscribed: BARTHOLOMEW ATTON MADE ME. No date is recorded, but most likely it was overlooked; if the surname was spelt with an O, it is probable that the initials, R. A., were there in addition, and that it was cast later than this year.

1614: Two bells, formerly at Upton, Northampts, were simply inscribed: R. A. 1614. A bell at Dodford, Northampts, inscribed: + EX DONO JOHANNIS WYRLEY ARMIGERI (with coins on sound-bow), is identified by Mr. North (who does not describe the lettering) as by Atton, by the initial cross *Moline* (just under 1½ inches square), which he records twice later as on bells by Robert Atton in Northampts. Oddly enough, the cross does not occur in Atton's own county; nor does it exist in the only reported instance that I have verified (see the year 1633; foot-note, p. 209).

1616: A bell at Kilsby, Northampts, with Robert's name in full, and (?) the initial cross *Moline*.

1617: Two at Aynhoe, in the same county, inscribed as the last, except that the initial cross is omitted. (The date of one, is, according to Mr. North, illegible.) The second at Fringford, Oxon, has merely R A and the date, in the *modified* set of large lettering (Plate XXXI.).

1618: A bell at Wappenham, Northampts, is said to have Robert's initials, and the date, preceded by the cross *Moline* again. One of the former ring at Harpole, in the same county, had merely Robert's initials and the date. At Kingsthorpe, in the same county, are two bells, respectively inscribed :—

ROBERT ATTON MADE ME THE {TREBLE
THIRD} BEL FOR TO BE 1618

* *Bells of Northampts*, p. 362.

The former tenor at Farthingstone (same county), which was melted in 1822, bore the first four words and the same date.

1621: The treble at Grendon Underwood, is inscribed in a mixture of the very small and medium-sized sets of letters:—

R O B E R T A T T O N

The small A is shown on Plate XXX., but the O is even smaller than the example there drawn: two letters of the medium-sized set (the T being one) are drawn at the bottom of Plate XXXI. The small cross *patée* (No. 1) and No. 5, on Plate XXX., are repeated several times. The date is in the small figures. The second at Kidlington, Oxon, dated this year, has, *vide* Mr. A. D. Tyssen, who is very unlikely to have made any omission: BARTHOLOMEW ATTON MADE ME THE TREBELL TO BE. We can only suppose (if Robert's initials are not there) that Bartholomew was living in retirement, from which he occasionally emerged and moulded a bell.

1622: The saunce bells at Tingewick and Nether Winchendon, have Robert's initials and the date in the medium-sized set, and, in addition, a rose several times repeated (No. 10 on Plate XXX.).

1623: The fourth at Tingewick, and the fifth at Great Horwood, have, in the medium-sized letters:—

P R A Y S E Y E T H E L O R D E A L W A Y S E

with the same rose between each word; the latter bell having in addition, three pairs of initials; neither of them are the rector's, as one would have expected, so it is just possible they may be those of assistants; they are: I. B., G. V., R. B.

The third at Granborough has the same inscription, less the last word, with the rose again, and the date is made up from the small set of figures. A bell each at Edgcott and Paulerspury (both in Northampts), have the same inscription as the Tingewick and Horwood bells, but the lettering and devices are not mentioned by Mr. North.

1624: The third at Passenham, Northampts, has, in the modified lettering:—

BARTHOLOMEW  ATTON 
MADE  ME  R  A 1624 

with Nos. 7 and 11, on Plate XXX. Two bells at Blisworth, in the same county, have the same inscription, but Mr. North does not record lettering or ornaments; and three bells at Syresham, in that county, have: ROBERT ATTON MADE ME.

1625: The tenor (of two) at Turweston has, in the small lettering, R A 1625, and the treble (which is cracked), is similarly inscribed the following year. Four bells at Stoke Goldington, and two at Hanslope (one of these dated the following year) are inscribed in the "modified" set of large letters:—

G O D S A V E K Y N G C H A R L S

the four former have No. 11; and the two outside of these, and the later one at Hanslope, have also No. 7, on Plate XXX. A bell at Maidford, Northampts, has merely R A and the date.

1626: Besides the Hanslope and Turweston bells, dated this year, just mentioned, there are the tenor at Addington, and the second at Dorton, with merely R A and the date in the smallest set; and the former treble at Blisworth, Northampts, had: BARTHOLOMEW ATTON MADE ME 1626 R A.

1627: The treble at Tingewick has: ROBERT ATTON MADE ME, in the medium set, with the date in the small figures, the rose, the arabesque scroll, fig. 68, and the pair of small devices, which (with samples of the lettering) are drawn at the bottom of Plate XXXI.



Fig. 68.

The second at Mixbury, Oxon, has, in the small lettering (Plate XXX.):—

🔔🔔 🌹 G O D 🌹 S A V E 🌹 K I N G 🌹 C H A R L S 🌹 🌹 1627

The date is in the large "modified" set. The devices are Nos. 11, 10, and 5, on Plate XXX.

In 1628 the Buckingham Register records :—

Robart Atton was buried vj of may

Robert had a son, who was a namesake, but the subsequent history of the foundry seems to point to this entry referring to the senior of the name.

Bartholomew had, as I believe, virtually retired in 1613 (even if he was not really buried in 1609), for each bell after that date, that bears his name (except the Kidlington bell, in 1621 ?), has also Robert's initials on it; and in the same way, the fourth at Granborough, dated 1628, and cast, we may suppose, just after the latter's death, has (in the medium-sized lettering), his name, together with that of his assistant, who was no doubt the actual founder :—

ROBERT ATTON NATHANIEL BOLTER

It has the rose, and the three bells (Nos. 10 and 11, on Plate XXX.), the arabesque, fig. 68, and the running pattern, fig. 69.

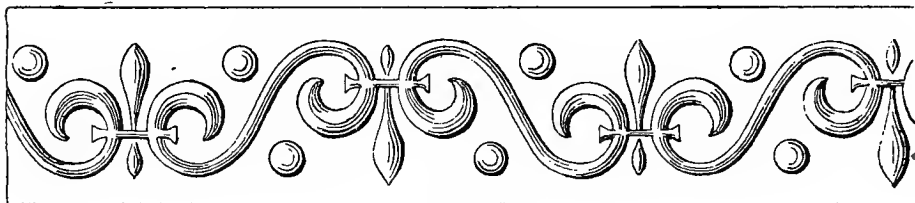


Fig. 69.

A similarly inscribed and dated bell was formerly at Harpole, in Northampts, but the devices are not recorded.

Nothing is known about Bolter's history. He was evidently not a native of Buckingham; it is not unlikely that he was brought up to the bellfounding in Newcombe's works, and followed the Attons to Buckingham. I found in the Registers of All Saints', Leicester, a single entry which may refer to a relation of his :—

Burialls 1594.

4 februarj William Bolther was buried

There was a Nathaniel Bolter at the Salisbury Bellfoundry between 1654 and 1664, who may well have been Atton's former assistant, or

perhaps a son and namesake ; and a Jonathan Bolter in 1656. (One cannot help wondering whether I B on the Great Horwood bell of 1623 can stand for him.) The initials, N. B., appear on four bells at S. Edmund's, Salisbury,* in conjunction with W. P. (William Purdue II., of Salisbury), in 1656, and on two bells at Great Durnford, Wilts, dated the next year.*

There seems to be no bell from this foundry during the two next years ; and in 1630, the Buckingham Register records :—

Bartholomewe Atton was buried the xxix of may.

Probably this was the founder, who thus died after seventeen years (or longer) of more or less complete retirement.

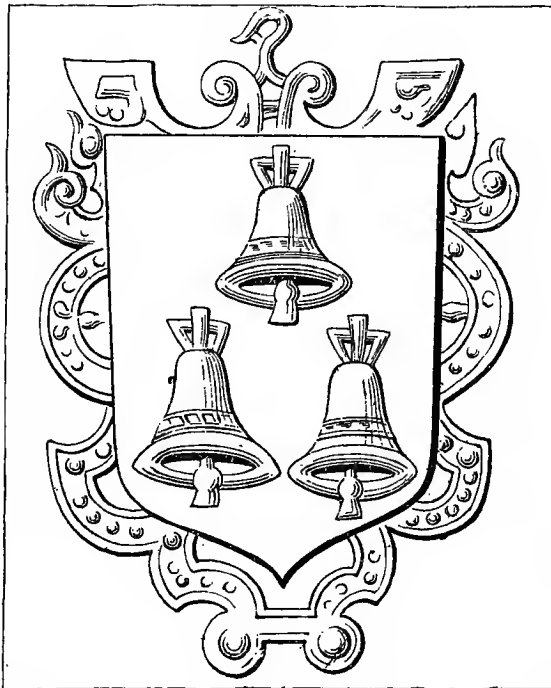


Fig. 70.

In 1631, Robert's name reappears on the treble at Loughton, in the medium-sized letters, with the rose (Plate XXX.) ; and the fourth at Olney, in the same lettering, for the first (and only) time gives his address :—

ROBERT ATTON OF BVCKINGHAM MADE ME

* Lukis, *Church Bells*.

and is ornamented with the rose, the pair of small devices on Plate XXXI., and fig. 70.

In 1633, the tenor at Beachampton is inscribed like the Loughton bell just mentioned; and the treble at Ashendon (in the same lettering) has merely R A and the date.

The large shield (fig. 70) reappears* at Drayton Bassett, in Staffordshire, on a bell dated 1663; with the letters, I M, added on the field, on either side of the upper bell. Simon Luckas and Robert Elton, whose names are inscribed on this bell, were probably churchwardens, and not founders.

The other Atton stamp of three bells (No. 11, on Plate XXX.) also reappears in Staffordshire, on the treble at Edingdale, in the possession of a founder whose initials were S I, and dated 1686. Both of these bells also bear the running pattern, fig. 69, which was in the meanwhile in the hands of the Bagleys; it occurs finally in 1742, in the possession of Thomas Hedderley, of Nottingham.

This year, 1633, seems to have seen the closing of the Buckingham Foundry, as no later bells from it are known. One, indeed, is recorded by Mr. North in *Bells of Beds*, as cast twenty-one years later; but this is simply the result of the lively imagination of Mr. North, or rather, as he did not visit the towers personally, of the friend who did it for him.

Under Chellington (Beds) Mr. North records the treble as inscribed: W. ATTON & SON MADE \diamond ME \diamond 1654. As no bells bearing W. Atton's name are known, except the third in this tower already mentioned, and the present instance, it seemed a little suspicious, not only from its date, but from the apparent anachronism of "Atton & Son." On paying the tower a visit, this bell turned out to be inscribed:—

†† ♦ JOHN ♦ HODSON ♦ MADE ♦ ME ♦ 1654 ♦ W ♦ H

It is easy to see how the mistake arose, but it was certainly a very bad shot.† The initial ornament is a very widely extended *fleur-de-lis*.


* Lynam, *Bells of Staffordshire*.

† As I took rubbings of all the bells at Chellington, it may be as well to give here a corrected version of the inscriptions recorded by Mr. North, as his correspondent has "come a mucker" over all of them.

On the second (already mentioned, p. 164) the cross, of which I have a cast, is No. 4, not No. 1, on Plate XXVI. (or *Beds*, fig. 32, *not* 56). There is no space and full stop between the Y and E, but the word is PRAYE (though very probably *intended*, as there suggested, for PRAYSE). The lettering used is a heavy set, of which the figures probably, and the initial cross certainly, were owned by James Keene; most likely this bell was cast at Bedford.

There seems every likelihood that Henry Bagley I., of Chacombe, in Northampts (only about sixteen miles distant from Buckingham), learnt his business with Robert Atton. The Chacombe Foundry opened in the year before that at Buckingham finally closed; and Bagley used (*e.g.*, at Bow Brickhill, 1649; Ashendon, 1658; Sherington, 1672, etc.) the running pattern (fig. 69) first used by Nathaniel Bolter, at Granborough, in 1628.* It is very possible also (though I am not prepared to say for certain), that Bagley's first set of figures are identical with the small set used by the Attons.

William Atton, whose name appears on the third bell at Chellington, Beds (but *not* on the treble as well), was a son of Bartholomew, and was born (as already mentioned, p. 203) in 1596, being therefore a boy of fifteen when this bell was cast in 1611. He did not, however, continue in the foundry business, but became most probably, a draper. He served the office of Bailiff in 1624, 1630, 1642, and 1649, and died in 1655.

His eldest son, likewise William, born 1627, was certainly a draper in Buckingham; he was Bailiff in 1657, and issued a token, inscribed: WM ATTON DRAP. IN BVCKINGHAM 1663, and on the reverse, .

The second son, Bartholomew, born March, 1630-31, seems to have

The third has also been already referred to, pp. 202-203. Mr. North puts the cart before the horse, and also, for the acorn device (No. 5, Plate XXX.) used as stop between each word, figures a cross *Moline*, which does not occur here, or on any bell that I have seen.

Tenor:—

I † D Sancta Katerina Ora Pro Nobis

A very handsome bell by John Danyell (see p. 33), who, to prevent any mistake, placed his initials in the plainest possible manner, on either side of the initial cross. The D, which was read by one of Mr. North's correspondents as O (*Beds*, p. 56), is so unusually perfect an impression, that the letter in Plate XII. is chiefly drawn from this very example, being the most distinct I have met with. The black-letter is the set he used at Little Missenden and Weston Turville. The cross is fig. 17. The diameters also of the three lower bells, as measured by Mr. North's correspondent and myself, do not agree, but this is unimportant. Mr. North records (*ibid.* p. 141), "These bells are difficult and dangerous of access; the floor of the bell-chamber is all gone." And (at p. 56), "Owing to the difficulty of access, complete rubbings have not been taken." I can safely say that there are at least fifty towers in Bucks (I was nearly writing a much higher figure) not less "difficult and dangerous of access" than Chellington, many being far more so.

* Mr. Ellacombe says there are twenty-seven bells in Gloucestershire on which Bagley placed this pattern (*Bells of Gloucestershire*, p. 10).

likewise followed the business of a draper, in the neighbouring town of Brackley,* in Northampts, whence he issued a token.

In 1675 (15 Car. II.), as I find by the folio volume of the Municipal Records of Buckingham, William Atton was the senior warden of the local Company of Mercers, and Bartholomew signs lower down among the rank and file of the same company.

Among the following extracts from the Buckingham Registers, will be found several variations of the name, and it is probable that they do not all belong to this family; but if they do, it was in the town at least a quarter of a century before Bartholomew came (or returned) from Leicester: and a will quoted by Browne Willis (see under Buckingham, in Part III.) shows, if we accept the variety *Aston*, that the family was here previous to 1505.

BAPTISMS

(Begin 1562, but from May, 1589, to March, 1592, are missing).

- 1592 Martius Alicia Atton bapt quinto die Martii
 1594 Junius ffrancisca Atton bapt nono die
 1596 September W^m filius Bartholomei Atton decimo die
 1599 September Anna Atton bapt vicesimo tertio
 1616 Richard Astonn y^e sonn of William Astonn was baptised the xviiijth day of Januari
 1618 Anne Atton the Daughter of Robart Atton was Baptised the xxijth Day of ffebruary
 1618 Sufan Affon the Daughter of William Affon was Baptised the xxixth of March 1618
 1620 Joane Atton the Daughter of Robert Atton was Baptised the xijth day of March
 1620 John Affon y^e fonne of William Affon baptised y^e ixth of Aprill
 (Sept., 1620, to Aug., 1621, missing).
 1622 John Atton the Sonne of Robart Atton was Baptised the vjth Day of ffebruary
 1622 Alce Affon the Daughter of William Affon was Baptised the viijth day of november
 1623 Susanna Atton daughter of William Atton was bapt. The xxth day of Aprill
 1625 An Atton the Dafter of William Atton was Baptised the xvijth Day of Aprill
 1625 Robart Atton the Sonne of Robart Atton baptiz 23 Aperill
 1626 Joane filia William Affon bapte y^e xxjth day of July
 1627 William Atton the sonne of William Attom (*sic*) was Baptised the xth day of June
 1630 Bartholomew Atton filius William Atton baptized xiiijth march
 1632 nathanniell Atton filius William Atton baptized the xjth of March
 1634 frances filius m^r William Atton baptized march 2 [Searched to March, 1645.

MARRIAGES.

(Begin 1559.)

- 1573 Willm³ Æton et marieria Jorden Julij decimo

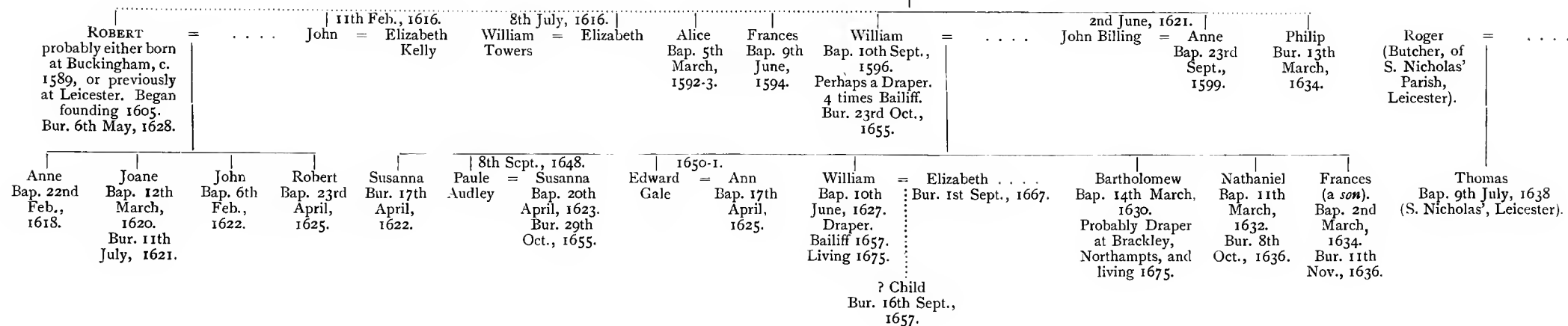
* Seven miles from Buckingham. In the second edition of *Boyne's Tokens*, II., 886, Mr. Williamson has misunderstood a note I sent him, and states that this token is by the bellfounder, instead of his grandson. His allotted space being more than filled, he was finally unable to add the Appendix to Bucks. there promised.

ATTEMPTED ATTON PEDIGREE.

Robert Atton
Chamberlain
of the Borough
of Leicester,
1592-3. *Bells of
Northampts*, p. 114.

(? c. 1584.)
BARTHOLOMEW ATTON
(or Attun).
Apprenticed to Thomas
Newcombe II., of Leicester.
Free of the town, 1582-3.
At Buckingham by 1589.
Bailliff 1605-6.
Probably bur. 29th May, 1630.

Anne
(Probably of
Leicester).
Probably bur. 21st
Nov., 1629.



- 1575 Johes Hancoke et Anna Æton—Januarij tricesimo
 1575 Wiłmus Ætton et Phillippa Newmā—Aprilis vicesimo octavo
 1593 Johes Hatton et Johaņa Hull Octobris eodē die (=vicesimo secūdo)
 1609 Robart North & Hattonn (*sic*) was maried ye xxiiijth day of Aprill
 1616 John Atton and Elizabeth Kelly, were maryed the xjth day of ffebruari
 1616 William Towers & Elizabeth Atton were maryed the viijth day of July
 1618 Richard Hatton & Alce Smith were maried ye viijth of June
 1621 John Billing and Ann Atton weare maried ye second day of June
 1648 Paule Audly & Susan Atton maried september—8
 1650 Edward Gale & Ann Atton maried June—14
 1651 Edward Gale and Ann Atton maried Janu—14
 (I can only suggest that the former of these two entries gives the date of the civil, and the latter of the religious, ceremony.) [Searched to July, 1653.]

BURIALS.

(Begin 1558.)

- 1559 Wiłm₅ Afton Septembris vndecimo
 1621 Joane Atton the Daughter of Robart Atton was Buried the xjth day of July
 1622 Susanna Atton the Daughter of William Atton was buried the xvijth day of Aprell
 1628 Robart Atton was buryed vj of may
 1629 Anne Atton the wiffe of Bartholomew Atton buryed xxj november
 1630 Bartholomewe Atton was buryed the xxix of may
 1634 Philip Atton was buryed in March—13
 1636 Nathaniell filius William Atton was buried in October—8
 1636 frances filius m^r wiliam Attonn was buried in nouem 11
 1655 M^r. William Atton Burgeffe, and 4 times Bayleife was buryed. Oct. 23, 1655.
 1655 Susan the daughter of William Atton was buryed, Oct. 29. 1655.
 1657 M^r Attons child buryed Sept 16.
 1663 Thoma filius Thomæ Hatton—Sepultus est Julij 11^{mo}
 1667 Elizaberth wife of M^r William Atton Bur^d Septe the 1th [Searched to end of 1670.]

Two entries of very similar names occur in the Registers of All Saints', Leicester, but (as at Buckingham), I do not think they refer to this family:—

- 1574 5 decemb^r Richard Affon was buried
 1602 8 March Raphe Afton and Anne Scott were Maryed [Searched to end of 1606.]

In the Registers of the adjoining parish of S. Nicholas (Leicester), which begin, for baptisms and weddings, 1560, and burials, 1567, I found no entries of the name, down to—baptisms, January, 1610; weddings, end of 1610; and burials, to November, 1608. I did not search systematically further than these dates, but found, incidentally:—

- 1638 Thomas the Sonne of Roger Atton Bucher was Baptified the 9 of July 1638

At Somerset House I only found one will of an Atton—that of William, a blacksmith of Maxey, Northamptonshire, about twenty-three or twenty-four miles distant from Leicester. His wife's name was Beatrice; sons, Edward and William, the latter was executor, and probably the elder; daughters, Alice, Elizabeth, Joane, Dorothy, Rebecca, and Margaret. Probably, however, William was no relation to the founders.

THE BAGLEYS OF CHACOMBE (NORTHAMPTS), ETC.

Chacombe, or Chalcomb, in Northampts, is distant only sixteen miles from Buckingham; the foundry at the former place was opened in, or about, the year previous to the final closing of the latter, and the first bellfounder at Chacombe used a pattern (fig. 69) that previously appeared on bells cast at Buckingham, and the original figures used by him, very closely resembled, if they were not actually identical with, the smallest set used at Buckingham; so there seems considerable probability that the Bagleys owed their knowledge of bellfounding to the Attons of Buckingham. They were not, however, a Buckingham family, but lived at Chacombe for at least two generations before the opening of the foundry.*

The Henrys of this family are a puzzle. Mr. North failed to sort them when working Northampts; the future chronicler of Oxfordshire will have the next best opportunity of unravelling the tangle.

Several entries from the Registers of Chacombe, concerning this family, are given in *Bells of Northampts* (p. 41), and also a few from those of Ecton, likewise in Northampts, in which village one member of the family had a furnace for some years.

From the above account by Mr. North, and some further details given by Mr. Stahlschmidt in *Bells of Kent* (p. 100), I have compiled the doubtful pedigree given on p. 219, and during the making of it, the following queries suggested themselves. Did Henry (first founder) move to Northampton, and was Henry (his son) born there? Perhaps the latter generally lived in Northampton?† William may have been *his* son (grandson to Henry—

* A good many entries of the name appear in the Registers of S. Mary's (from 1612) and S. Lawrence's (from 1605) parishes at Reading. In all probability, however, there was no connection between these and the Chacombe family.

† He cast two bells for S. Sepulchre's there in 1681; and in 1714, on two bells at Thornby, in the same county, he described himself as "of Northampton." He does not appear in the Chacombe Register.

first founder), and perhaps joined the Chacombe business soon after 1681? Henry, Matthew's partner, would then be his brother, and not the son of Henry the first founder. Was Henry, of Ecton, instead of being son to John, identical with Henry, son of Henry (first founder)?

It should be noted that as early as March 18th, 1674, the Vestry of S. Michael's, Coventry, "agreed with Henry Bagley, Sen., and H. Bagley, Jun., of Chacomb, co. Northampton, that they shall have 55*l.* for casting the six bells into eight tuneable ones, of às deep tone and sound as they now are."* (In 1774 these bells gave place to the well-known ring of ten by Pack and Chapman, of Whitechapel, of which most are still existing, though they have all, for some time past, been lying unhung on the ground.)

Without going all over again over the ground covered by Mr. North in Northamptonshire, where by far the greatest number of bells by the Bagleys occur (to ascertain the letterings and stamps used), it is impossible to discriminate between the different Henrys; and I must content myself with giving the following vague summary of the productions of this family.†

The earliest bells known by the Bagleys are two at Evenley, in Northampts, about half-way between Chacombe and Buckingham, dated 1632, with mis-spelt Latin inscriptions, the name, HENRY BAGLE, and small figures of bells. His bells continue down to 1640; from which year, until after the termination of the civil war, the business seems to have been at a standstill.

1649 to 1678, Henry.

1679 to 1687, Henry and Matthew apparently partners. In 1681, William, "of Northampton," appears on one bell in that county.

In 1687, Matthew probably moved to London (but no bell is known by him until 1708), and Henry to Ecton (Northamptonshire); possibly the four bells he is known to have cast in 1688 (all in that county) were cast there. The Ecton Register records the baptism of a daughter there in 1690. No bells by Henry are known from 1688 until 1695, from which year the

* Ellacombe, *Bells of Gloucestershire*, p. 140, where the inscriptions are given.

† The following are the numbers of bells by the Bagleys, so far as my information goes. As my sole source of information for some of the counties is a List published by H. Bagley, at Oxford, in 1732 (and preserved among Browne Willis' MSS., xliiii., 26), there must be a good many more, as examples by some of the family are known, down to forty-seven years later. The numbers, however, with such additions as I have been able to make, are: Northampts, 202; Oxon, 100; Warwick, 86; Worcester, 52; Bucks, 47; Gloucester, 41; York, 13; Stafford, 13; Kent, 9; Berks, 8; Wilts, 8; Surrey, 1; Essex, 1; Middlesex (London), 1.

name begins again regularly in Northampts; but the only example known out of that county, is the third at Olney, dated 1699. On some bells in Northampts, cast in 1700, Henry describes himself as "of Ecton." His last are dated 1702, and the Ecton Register records his burial there in April, 1703. His widow was buried there in March, 1720, and a son in 1705.

Meanwhile, in 1693, William reappears*—perhaps at Chacombe—and cast one bell for Northampts, and a ring of five for Gloucestershire. The following year he cast four for Chacombe, and one other in the same county. Then no more (known) until 1702. The next year he describes himself as "of Chalcombe."

In 1707 a Henry goes into partnership with William at Chacombe: whether his brother or his son is uncertain. William does not appear after 1712.

Matthew (who removed from Chacombe in, or shortly after, 1687) appears on bells in Kent, from 1708 to 1711. In 1710, James, "of London," cast a bell for Rochester Cathedral, and in 1717, a bell in Surrey.

From 1713 Henry was by himself. The following year he described himself as "of Northampton."

Business with the Bagleys was apparently very slack about this time, though no doubt several bells by them have been since melted, without any record of them being preserved. After 1717, when Henry cast five for Maid's Moreton, no more bells by him are known until 1721: but between then and 1723, fifteen or sixteen bells of his are known.

In 1719 the name of Julia—the widow of Matthew who was killed (with others) in 1716, when casting a canon at the Royal Foundry, near Upper Moorfields†—appears on a bell at Audley End, Essex, being the only known instance, in modern times, of a *bellfoundress*, and second only to Johanna Hille and Sturdy, of the fifteenth century (pp. 26, 27).

The churchwardens' accounts of Beaconsfield show that in 1722 Henry was working at Reading, and the same must be understood by those of Taplow, of the same date. In 1723 he described himself on a bell at Tilehurst, Berks, as "of Reading."

Matthew (son of William) contributed a single bell to Northampts in 1726; and there are two by Henry dated the next year.

* There is a bell at Aston Somerville, Gloucestershire, by "W. B.," in 1690—which is probably by him—but Mr. Ellacombe does not describe the lettering, or give any clue to identity.

† *Kent*, p. 101.

In 1732, H. Bagley published "A Catalogue of peals of Bells, and of Bells in and for peals, cast by Henry Bagley of Chacombe, in the county of Northampton, Bell-Founder (who now lives at Witney in Oxfordshire), who had not published the following account of those he can remember, had he not been requested thereto by several persons of judgment in Bells and Ringing."*

In 1744 he was once more "of Chacombe."†

One bell by Henry in each of the following years: 1732, 1733, 1734, 1737, 1739, 1742, 1744, 1745, and two in 1746, complete the list of his known productions.

1747: A bell in Oxon by Matthew and James—the latter perhaps Henry's successor in the partnership at Chacombe.

1748: A bell by Matthew, in Staffordshire, whereon he describes himself as "of Wolverhampton." Two by him in 1753, one the next year, and one more in 1757; then no more until 1769, from which year, until 1773, he cast a dozen. In 1779 he cast a bell for Banbury (Oxon), which is the last known production by any of this family. He was buried at Chacombe, February 27th, 1785, the bells being rung muffled on one side, on the occasion.

The bells by the Bagleys in Bucks are as follows; but I will not attempt, in all cases, to apportion individual bells among the various Henrys:—

1649: Bow Brickhill; Latin inscription, the Buckingham running pattern (fig. 69), and a small stamp of a bell. No doubt by Henry I.



Fig. 71.

1658: Three at Ashendon by him; English inscriptions, with the running patterns, figs. 69 and 71, the latter an almost exact copy of James Keene's, fig. 61, reduced to the size of fig. 60; it does not, of course, indicate any connection between the foundries. Also Nos. 2 and 4, on Plate XXXII.

* Browne Willis' MSS. vol. xliii., fo. 26.

† Bell at Wombourn, Staffordshire.

1672: Sherington, by ditto; churchwardens' names and fig. 69, a fragment of the running pattern, No. 2, on Plate XXXII, with the rose from No. 3 on that Plate; also Nos. 4 and 5, and a coin.

1680, Whitchurch, by ditto; Latin inscription; with the large rose, small flower, and *fleur-de-lis* from No. 3; and also No. 4 on the same Plate, and fig. 72, the latter going all round the bell, above and below the inscription.

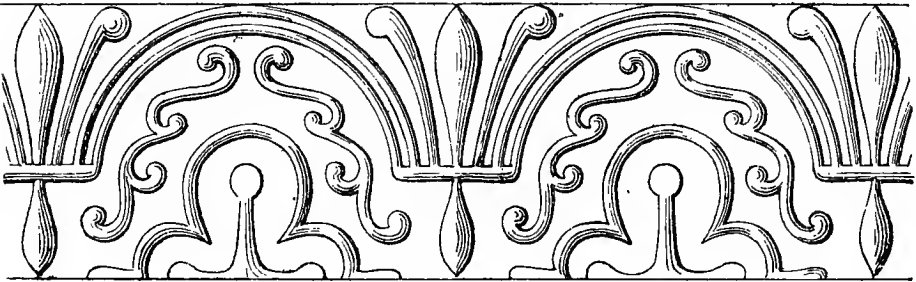


Fig. 72.

1681: Four at Hillesden; one of them is by Henry and another by Matthew, and probably the other two are by the same two partners, severally. The upper three are ornamented with fig. 72, and coins; the fourth has fig. 72, and the curious ornament, fig. 73, made up from two fragments of the former; also portions of the running pattern, No. 1, on Plate XXXII. The treble has, in addition, the coat of arms of the donor.

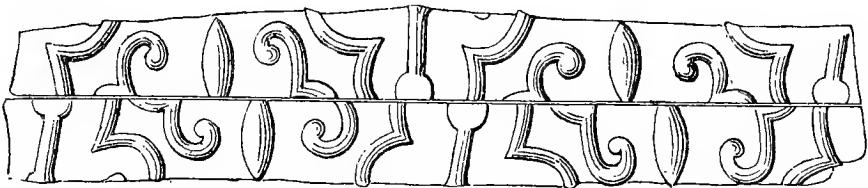


Fig. 73.

1682: Two at Olney; the treble has an English inscription, and H. Bagley's name, in the same lettering, and with various sections of the last-named running pattern, also coins; while the tenor, with fig. 72, has a larger set of letters, $1\frac{3}{16}$ inch high, no founder's name, and the coat of arms of the donor.

1687: Five at Weston Underwood, all in the same small lettering as

before. The treble has IESVS SPEED MEE; the second has the name of a churchwarden; the third has Henry Bagley's name. These three are all profusely ornamented with the running pattern, fig. 72. The fourth has: ИОМЕИ ДОМИИ ВЕИЕДИСТУМ; the fifth, COM COM AND PRAY; and both have Matthew Bagley's name. The fifth has the same pattern as the upper three; the fourth has the pattern shown as fig. 74.

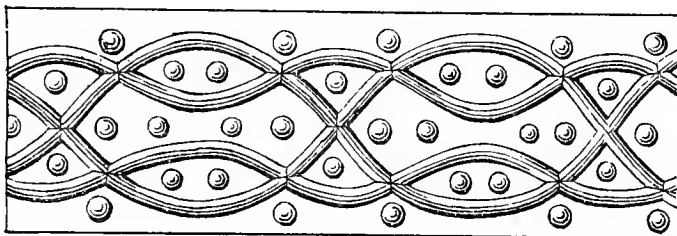


Fig. 74.

1699: The third at Olney, with the names of churchwardens and Henry Bagley, in the same lettering, interspersed with small fragments of the pattern, fig 72.

1711: Two at Westbury, by Henry, in a perfectly plain, heavy set of Roman capitals. The treble (which is broken in half) has a Latin inscription. No ornament whatever beyond a stop ❖

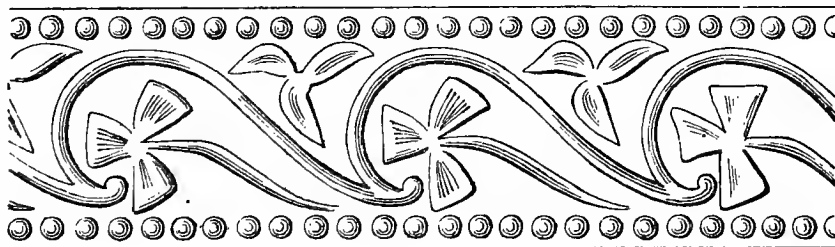


Fig. 75.

1717: Four at Maid's Moreton. The outside two (in the plain, heavy letters) bear the name of Henry Bagley; the inside two, only those of the churchwardens. The patterns on them are figs. 74 and 75, and No. 3 on Plate XXXII., with the large *fleur-de-lis* and rose also used separately; also on the treble a large shield of the arms of the patron of the living, and on the tenor a large H for Bagley's initial.

1721: The former tenor at Hillesden (now replaced), by Henry, in the

same plain heavy lettering, with a large H for his initial. It was ornamented with the running pattern, fig. 72, in *negative*, (*i.e.*, the ground of the stamp in relief, instead of the pattern—apparently the matrix from which the stamp was cast or otherwise made, was used)—the plant, fig. 76, also

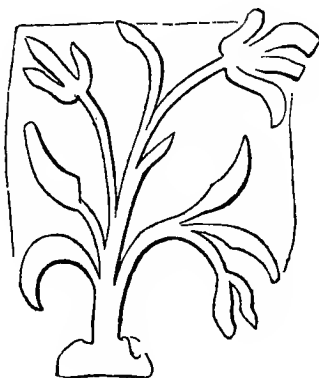


Fig. 76.

coins, and a large stamp of the Royal Arms *reversed*, the impression being made from a raised, instead of a sunk mould. In the same year, the tenor at Tingewick, by HENERY, in the same heavy lettering (without the large H), and with the following inscription:—

WHEN I RINGE OR TOLE MY VOICE IS SPENT
MEN MAY COM AND HEAR GODS WORD AND
SO REPENT

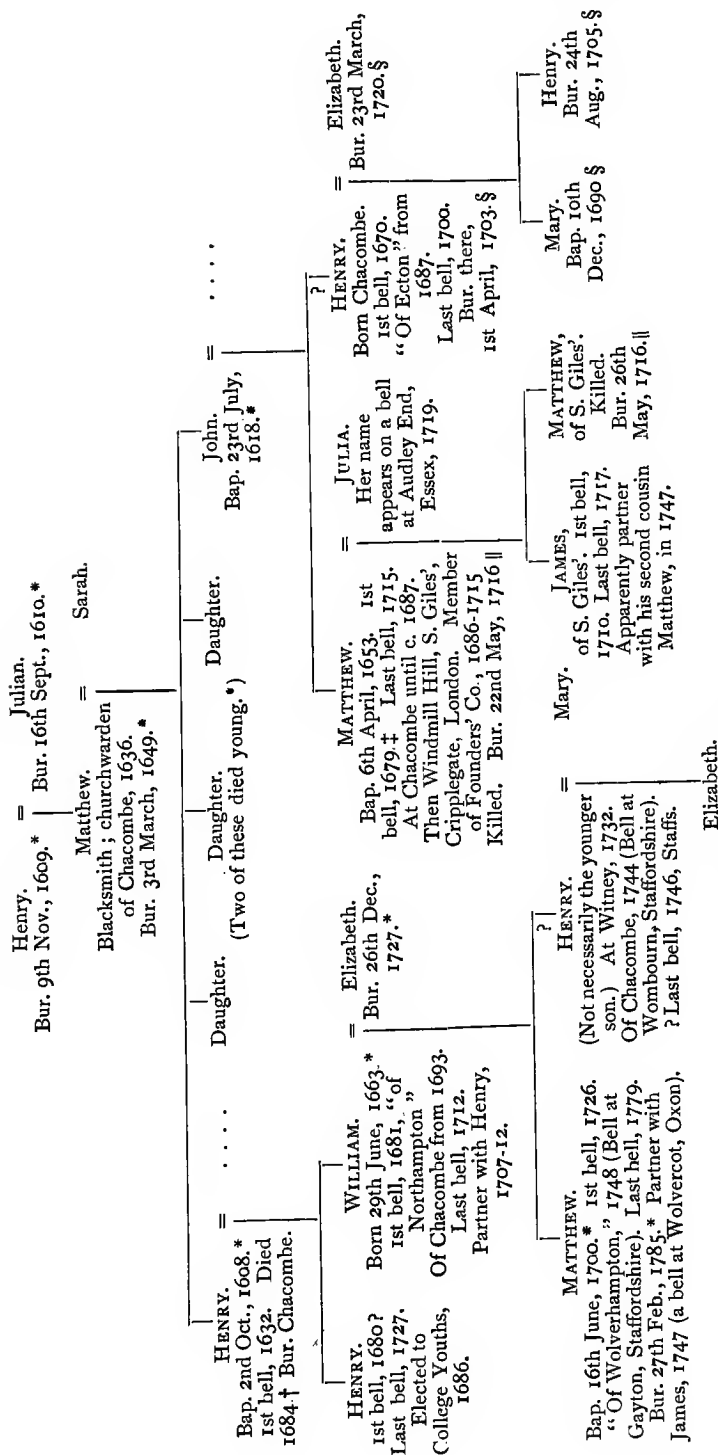
(followed by churchwardens' names), and profusely ornamented with figs. 72 (in *positive* again, not as on the Hillesden tenor), 75, and 76.

1722: Four by Henry at Beaconsfield, now melted.

The Bagleys were extremely lavish in the use of ornament on their bells, a peculiarity being the use of small fragments of the running patterns.

Their business seems to have died a natural death, and no one appears to have taken to their "good-will."

ATTEMPTED BAGLEY PEDIGREE.
(The Names of Founders are distinguished by Capitals.)



Henry, probably the brother, or possibly the son, of William, was "of Reading" in 1723. The parish registers of that town show the existence there of many of this surname from at least the beginning of the seventeenth century, but there is nothing to indicate connection with the Chacombe family.
* Chacombe Register. † *Fide* Beesley's *History of Banbury*, p. 538, who states that the tombstone was cleaned and recut by John Briant.
‡ None between 1687 (Bucks) and 1708 (Kent). § Ecton Register.

THE DRAYTON PARSLOW FOUNDRY.

Drayton Parslow (originally Drayton Passelew), the birthplace of many excellent bells during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, is twelve miles from Buckingham, and about six from Leighton Buzzard, in Bedfordshire. It is a small agricultural village, with a population (for the whole parish) considerably short of five hundred; and at the beginning of the present century, it had only three hundred. It consists of little more than two streets, built on the slope of a hill, running down from the church and rectory, which stand on the edge of the higher ground at the south-western extremity. About the middle of the village is a small smithy, having for its next neighbour the "Three Horse Shoes," a hostelry of the humblest description, built soon after 1850. At the back of these tenements is a bit of garden ground, and a paddock, the surface much broken by old foundations, which mark the site of the former foundry, worked, together with the smithy, by several generations of the Chandler family.

The first of the Drayton Parslow founders was **RICHARD CHANDLER I.** Richard Chandler, the eldest and only surviving son of Anthony Chandler, blacksmith, of that village. Richard was baptized in 1601-2, and married in 1622. We have nothing to show us where he learnt the art; but as the Buckingham Foundry, only a dozen miles away, came to an end less than three years before he is known to have been founding, that seems an extremely likely locality.

He was founding at Drayton by 1636, and perhaps by the year previous (or even earlier). The second bell at Thornton, which has nothing but the date 1635, may very possibly be by him; the figures correspond with each other in size, but the three last are not identical with any other examples that I have met with, although the 6 is so like subsequent figures from this foundry, that it may well have been a stamp belonging here; while the identity or otherwise of a 1, would hardly be a safe point to hang a man on, but so far as it goes, the figure appears to be identical with one subsequently used here. The only other candidate for the assignment of this bell is James Keene (see p. 165), and as the 1 is not his (though all four figures are more or less similar to his), the balance is in favour of Drayton Parslow.

The next year we are on certain ground:—

RICHARD CHANDLER 1636

appears on four bells, three of which are, or were, until recently, in Bucks, for one of them, the second at Granborough—is now melted. The others are the second at Nettleden, and the treble at Stewkley. They all three have the little stops, figs. 77, 78, 79.

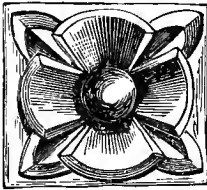


Fig. 77.

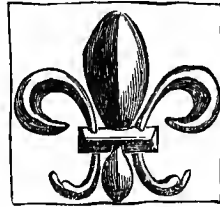


Fig. 78.

Nettleden, in addition, has the later lion's head stamp (fig. 33), which belonged to the Reading founders, and was last used by them early in the sixteenth century (p. 62), and once at some later period by an unknown founder on a bell at Harpsden, Oxon (mentioned in a foot-note, p. 93). It was probably picked up accidentally by Richard Chandler, and its occurrence can not be supposed to show any connection between him and its previous owner. The lettering on these bells is about $\frac{1}{16}$ inch larger than the smaller set on Plate XXXIII. The fourth example, which is at Milton Bryant, in Bedfordshire, seems to be similarly inscribed, except that the stamps are said* to be figs. 80 and 78.

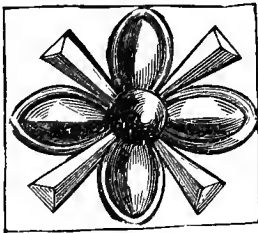


Fig. 79.

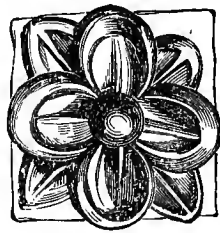


Fig. 80.

Richard's only other known bell is the tenor at Cheddington, dated 1638. This has the same inscription, used twice; the stops are figs. 77 and 80.

He died in June of that year. The following copy of his will was given me by Mr. Stahlschmidt:—

* *Bells of Beds*, p. 71.

Archdeaconry of Bucks.

In the Name of God. Amen. I Richard Chandler of Draughton Parslowe in the Countie of Bucks Bell founder doe constitute ordaine and make this my last Will and Testament in manner and forme followinge First I bequeath my Soule into the hands of Allmightie God my only Savio^r and Redeemer And my bodie to be buried in the Church yarde of Draughton pslowe And for my worldly (*sic*) to be bestowed in manner and forme (vidzt) as followeth Item my true intent and meaninge is that my father and mother is to have halfe the howsinge and halfe the said messuage and halfe the proffitts belonginge unto it duringe the longest liver of them and by contract of p^rmise my father and my mother shall not entertaine nor take in noe Inmate in to any p^te or p^ccell of the said messuage duringe their life time and by contract of promise and bargaine there is five pounds to be paid and rated and levyed out of the said messuage one yeare after the decease of the longest liver of them my fath^r or my moth^r where my fath^r will dispose of it Item I give and bequeath unto Bridgett my wife the whole messuage wth the appurtenañes belonginge to it after the decease of my father and my mother soe longe as she kepe her selfe widowe Item I give unto my sonne Anthonie my house wherein his grandfather dwells the barne stable and cove house and half the orchard and all the close after his mothers widowes estate Item I give unto my sonne Richard my house wherein I dwell and my barne and cove house ioyneing to it and halfe the orchard next to the lane to be devided by indifferent men. Item I give unto my daughter Anne five poundes to be paid her by my sonne Anthony wthin one yeare after that he shall enter upon his meanes Item I give unto my daughter Elizabeth five poundes to be paid her by my son Anthony wthin two yeares after that he shall enter upon his meanes Item I give unto my daughter Joane five poundes to bee paid her by my son Richard two yeares after that he shall enter upon his meanes Item my will is that (*sic*) either of my two sonnes shall happen to dye before that they be lawfully marryed then his parte of the said messuage shall returne unto my other sonne And my will is yf both my sonnes shall happen to dye before they be lawfully marryed then the whole messuage shall bee equally devided to my three daughters And my will is yf my daughter Anne shall happen to dye before the time is that her stocke is due then it shall remaine to my other two daughters equally devided amongst them And my will is yf my daughter Elisabeth shall happen to dye before the time that her stocke is due then it shall remaine to my daughter Joane Item I give unto Bridgett my wife all the rest of my goods unbequeathed cattells chattells and ymplements of household stuffe my debts being paid and my funerall discharged whome I make my whole and full Executor of all my goodes unbequeathed whatsoever—whereunto I put my hand and seale—Marke of Richard Chandler—Sealed in the p^rnce of—The m^rke of Thomas Hawkins—John Bayley—Anthonie Chandler.

Proved 22^d Novr 1638—by Bridgett—widow & executrix &c.

ANTHONY CHANDLER. Richard's eldest son, Anthony (or Anthonie), who was baptized in August, 1622, was therefore probably not sixteen at the time of his father's death, and although the smithy may have been kept going, the bellfounding appears to have been dropped until the year 1650, when he would be in his

twenty-eighth year. He then cast the treble at Simpson, which is one of the most oddly-shaped bells to be seen in any church tower. It is very little larger round at the lip than at the shoulder, and much narrower in the waist than at the shoulder; its minimum girth would be about half-way between crown and lip. I can give no opinion as to the tone, though I have yet to learn that any bell from this foundry is otherwise than good.

It is inscribed in the smaller set of lettering on Plate XXXIII., which is almost exactly similar to that used by Richard, but about $\frac{1}{16}$ of an inch smaller:—

CHANDLER MVDE ME 1620

followed by the pattern, fig. 81., and the *fleur-de-lis*, fig. 78.

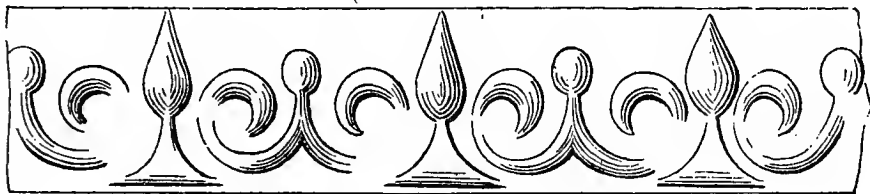


Fig. 81.

Two bells in Gloucestershire, mentioned by Mr. Ellacombe, should be noted here; for though they are not likely to have been cast in Bucks, they may perhaps have been the work of a member of this family, settled elsewhere. The treble at Sevenhampton, in that county, has the inscription:—

BE . YEE . FOLLOWARES . OF . GOD . AS . DEARE . CHILDREN . W . CHANLER

⊕ 1650 ⊕

The non-occurrence of their founder's name in the Drayton Parslow Register, does not prove that he did not belong to the family.

The name is occasionally spelt CHANLER in the Drayton Register at about this period. The coin on either side of the date are impressions of a spurious Jewish shekel.

There is another bell with this inscription, at Hasfield, in the same county, but without a name; dated, ANNO 1649. The lettering on neither is described.

In 1651 Anthony cast what was probably at the time the entire ring—four bells—at Northchurch (Berkhampstead), Herts. In addition to his imprint as before (the name on the two inner bells spelt Chandler, and on the outer two, Chandelers), comes on each: LORD HAVE MERCI OF MAN.

In 1652, one similarly inscribed (CHAUDLER MADE ME) at Great Horwood, with the pattern, fig. 81, and a *fleur-de-lis* rather less wide than the example on Plate XXXIII. At North Crawley and Pitstone, one each similar, with figs. 77, 78, and 81. Three at Aston Abbots, left out of original four, or possibly five, with the same inscription, with figs. 77, 78, 79; and one in Beds.

1653: One at Woughton, melted 1887. It is now made to say, "Richard Chandler made me 1653" (which is, no doubt, untrue), "Gillett recast me, etc."

Messrs. Gillett had just recast another bell from this tower that was by the third Richard Chandler sixty-four years later, when the unfortunate accident befell this bell that terminated its existence; obviously it was inscribed, like all its cotemporaries, with Chandler's surname, without Christian name or initial, and Messrs. Gillett made, what might have been a confusing mistake, by prefixing "Richard."

Anthony's later bells, from this date, are without any stops or ornaments, except where specified.

1654: Two remaining at Swanbourne—the name spelt CHAUNDELER—out of probable original ring of five; and one in Beds. Also one, formerly at Apsley Guise, Beds, but now melted, with the inscription,* "Who made thee. Chandler made me 1654"

1655: Broughton treble; one each in Beds and Herts.

1656: Addington second; one in Herts.

1657: The saunce at East Claydon, with no inscription beyond the date, is, with hardly a doubt, by Anthony Chandler; but it is very difficult to be positive with only seventeenth century figures, which vary in nearly every example.

During the next three years—which saw the Commonwealth out—there are no bells known from this foundry, but with the restoration of the monarchy began better times for bellfounders, and in 1661 was cast the third at Stewkley; and in 1662, the ring of three at Little Wolston, and four bells in Herts.

There were certainly two other Richard Chandlers connected with the foundry, besides the first of that name; while the number of Mrs. Richard Chandlers alluded to in the Registers imply the existence of at least one other Richard at this period, not counting one who died, apparently unmarried, in 1687 (and whose father, described

RICHARD CHANDLER II.

* *Bells of Beds.*

as Richard, "senior," I take to have been No. II.). Anyone who will go carefully through the extracts from the Registers (given further on) will, I think find, as I have done—that these ladies are too many for him! However, I have (rashly) found a tentative place in the pedigree of the family for all the Mrs. Richard Chandlers, except Judith, whom, with her puzzling daughters, Rebekah and Rebecca, and perhaps her husband, I have perforce omitted.

It would appear that the second Richard (Anthony's younger brother) was never promoted to the dignity of putting his name on a bell; all later bells bearing the name Richard Chandler, which begin in 1675, no doubt refer to his nephew (Anthony's eldest son), and it is extremely doubtful whether there are any bells which can be referred to No. II.

By carefully analysing the different sets of letters used by the Chandlers, I hoped to be able to pick out the works of Richard II. As a result (omitting differences between individual stamps), ten distinct sets appear, but unless it can be shown that Richard III. took a back seat during his uncle's lifetime, although his younger brother George came well to the front during part of that time, I think the inevitable conclusion is, that Richard No. II. took rather a back seat (and *not* his nephew, No. III.).

On a few bells from this foundry—and certainly only a few—the inscription is placed lower down than the ordinary position; generally on a line with, and taking the place of portions of, the "rims"; it then reads as follows:—

===== CHAUDLER ===== MADE ===== ME =====

As the dates of these few bells coincide very fairly with the known date of Richard II., one cannot help surmising that they may mark his mouldings.

The fact that the latest bell so inscribed (in Bucks, at any rate), is dated 1705, while the Register states that Richard was buried on the 1st January, 1704, is no great difficulty. As the new year, up to and until the year 1752, began on March 25th, instead of 1st January, Richard died near the end of December, 1704, and he may well have had the bell in hand at that time, with the new year's date already stamped on the cope.

On the other hand, a bell at Passenham, Northampts, and one at Bicester, Oxon, respectively dated 1711 and 1715, with the inscriptions *on the waist*, may be taken as upsetting this theory. The peculiarity is not noticed in the Histories of *The Bells of Beds, Herts, or Northampts* (in which counties bells from this foundry occur), and without a complete

knowledge of the state of the case in those counties, one cannot do more than just suggest the theory.

It is possible that a few bells cast during the early years of Anthony's time, on which the name is spelt CHANDELER, may also be by Richard II. These are two out of the four from this foundry, dated 1651, at Northchurch (Berkhampstead), Herts; and the two remaining at Swanbourne, dated 1654. Others are reported later on, under the year 1684.

The second at Little Wolston (1662) is the earliest bell with the inscription down among the rims; the others will be pointed out as they occur.

1663: One bell in Herts.

1664: The second at Middle Claydon, with inscription among the rims; one (ordinary) at Grendon Underwood; five in Herts.

1665: Four in Herts.

1666: One in Beds.

1667: The treble at Haversham; the single "big bell" at Cublington.

1668: The four upper bells at Mentmore; the frame was made in that year by someone whose initials were I C, and who was, very likely, a member of the Chandler family. The fifth (tenor) is dated the following year, as are also the tenors at Hoggeston and Little Brickhill.

1670: The second at Bow Brickhill.

1671: The saunce at Newport Pagnell, inscribed A C, and probably the whole ring of six at Whaddon, of which four now remain. The fifth and tenor are inscribed as usual. The treble has the large arabesque, on Plate XXXIII.—which occurs nowhere else that I know of; certainly nowhere else in Bucks—and the usual inscription underneath. The fourth, in addition to the usual inscription, has the name of the donor, or patron of the living, and the churchwardens' initials, which are not usually met with on bells from this foundry. The head of the fifth is a defective casting; one side of the crown is higher than the other, and the canons are imperfect, having been evidently cast so, and not broken off since.

1672: The whole ring no doubt, of five, at Little Horwood, of which the fourth has been recast. They all have their inscriptions down among the rims. On the treble, third, and tenor, this is the ordinary one; on the second it consists of the initials A C, and those of the churchwardens. The tenor is broken, and has so hung for more than thirty years, a warning against the common practice of making the stay too strong. One bell in Beds, with the full name—Anthony Chandler.

1673: Eight in Herts; one in Beds. These all have either his Christian name and surname in full, or his initials.

Lipscomb (III., 502) mentions a brass plate in Whaddon Church, recording the gift of a clock to the church in 1613; the inscription ending, *Anthony Chandler made me*, 1673. "That is," Lipscomb says, "the clock." It will be noticed that there is an interval of sixty years between the gift of the clock and the date Chandler is said to have made it. There is no other evidence that Chandler combined these two trades (though many bellfounders have begun as clockmakers), and it seems much more likely that "made it" means simply the brass plate, commemorative of the earlier gift. The full inscription is given under Whaddon, in Part III.

**RICHARD
CHANDLER III.**

1674: The treble at Middle Claydon, and the tenor at Akeley, have a different set of letters, evidently made to match the old set as nearly as possible. Among several lesser differences, just enough to show that the inscriptions are from distinct sets of letters, the N is here the right way about, instead of \mathcal{N} . This change probably marks the first appearance of Richard Chandler III., the eldest son of Anthony, who was baptized 15th December, 1650. We may with tolerable safety infer that he became partner with his father on completing his twenty-first year, from which time Anthony put his Christian name on his bells.

1675: The seconds at Hardwick and Milton Keynes—both with the full Christian name Anthony; and a ring of three at Over Winchendon by Richard III., the earliest appearance of his name. The lettering on the Winchendon bells is one inch in height, but closely resembling in character the previous sets. The N is of the correct form.

1676: The single bell at Grove, with Anthony's name on it, and the second (=tenor) at Adstock, by Richard III., in their respective letterings; and the second (=tenor) at Hawridge, with merely the date in Richard's figures.

1677: The second at Grendon Underwood, by Richard III.; one in Beds by Anthony.

1678: The single bell at Gayhurst, and the sanctus at Wingrave, by Anthony; the second, third, and fourth at Marsh Gibbon, the sanctus at Bierton, and one in Beds, by Richard; the figure 8 is peculiar on Richard's bells, the lower loop being triangular (8).

1679: The two last of Anthony's bells; the treble at Walton, and the tenor at Marsworth—the latter, alas, since I saw it in July, 1886, has been melted. The inscription on both was:—

ANTHONY CHANDLER PRA†BE THE LORD †679

The two last words on the two bells were formed from different stamps, though belonging, doubtless, to the same set.

In addition to Anthony's uncles (who died as children) and his grandfather, the deaths of four of this name are recorded in the Drayton Registers. The earliest of these was buried on the 1st September, 1679. No description of either of the four is given, so it is *most likely* that they died in order of seniority; that is, that each at the time of his decease, was the principal Anthony of the period, and, taken in conjunction with the date of his will, we may safely suppose this entry to refer to Anthony the bellfounder.

His will, as follows, is at Somerset House :—

Archdeaconry of Buckingham.

In the name of God Amen The Twenty eight day of August in the yeare of our Lord God 1679 and in the yeare of the raigne of our soueraigne Lord Charles the second of England Scotland ffrance Ireland King defendour of the faith &c the One & thirtieth I Anthony Chandler of Draiton psloe in the County of Bucks Bellfounder being sicke & weake in body but of good & perfect memory (praised be God) doe make & ordaine this my last will & testament in Manner & forme followinge And first & principally I commend & committ my Soule vnto allmighty God my Creator hoping & stedfastly beleivinge throught the only merritts death and pafsion of my Lord & Sauieur Christ Jefus to be made ptaker of euerlasting liffe & blefsednefs in the kingdome of heauen And as for my body I yealde that to the earth to bee buried in decent manner in the pifh Church yard of Draiton ploe þe at the defcretion of my executors here after named And touching my Temporall estate wherewth Allmighty God hath blefsed mee in this life I dispose thereof as ffolloweth Imprimus: I giue & bequeath unto Elizabeth my dearly beloved wife three pounds ffive shillings a yeare dureing her naturall life to be paid by my executor hereafter named And dureing her widdow hood estate to haue the parlour in my now dwelling houfe wth the roome ouer it for an habitation for her And the bedd and bedding therevnto belonging wth the Curtaines and valence wherein shee doth now lye dureing her widdow hood estate alfoe, & noe longer : wth one thoufand a turfe ready cutt & dryed yearly dureing her naturall life to be laid in for her for fireinge in case shee doth still inhabite in draiton psloe aforesaid And my will and meaninge is that if shee bee at any time minded to dwell wth any of her other Children in any place elce then shee is to receive only the three pounds ffive shillings a yeare: w^{ch} said three pounds ffive shillings a yeare dureing her naturall life shall be paid quarterly in every yeare on the ffoure most usuall quarter dayes that is to fay at the feast day of St Michaell tharchangell & the feast day of the birth of our Lord God & the ffeast day of the Anunciation of the blefsed virgin & the feast day of St John baptist the first payment to begin on that ffeast day of these four w^{ch} shall first happen next after my deceafe And alfoe my will & meaninge is & I doe giue and bequeath vnto my Dearly beloved wife alfoe that milch cow w^{ch} I now haue: to bee at her disposall: Item I doe giue & bequeath vnto George my second sonne the sume of Tenn poundes to be paid vnto him at the end of twoo yeares next ffollowing my deceafe, by my executor hereafter named: Item I doe giue & bequeath vnto Thomas my third & youngest sonne the sume of eight poundes to be paid vnto him

at the end of ffour yeares next following my deceafe by my executor hereafter named And my will & meaneinge is that my sonne George shall work together wth Richard my eldest sonne in my shopp in Draiton aforesaid, for the space of Two yeares next after my deceafe : he demeaning himselfe loveingly & orderly as he* ought one towards another & alsoe my will & meaneinge is That Thomas my youngest sonne shall worke together wth Richard my eldest sonne in my shopp at Draiton aforesaid for the space of ffoure yeares next after my deceafe he demeaning himselfe Loveingly & orderly as he ought to doe. Item I giue and bequeath alsoe vnto George my second sonne aforesaid my best paire of Double bellowes & all the tooles in the shopp w^{ch} he himself hath made ; Item I giue & bequeath vnto Thom (*sic*) Thomas my youngest sonne one of those two vizes in my lesfer shopp : wth a paire of Double bellowes : in my other shopp : Item I giue vnto George my second sonne alsoe my best sute of wearing Apparell : And I giue vnto [Thomas my youngest my best hatt]† Richard my eldest sonne my best hatt : And then all the rest of my wearinge Apparell I giue & bequeath vnto Thomas my youngest sonne : Item I giue vnto Ann : Typaings my eldest daughter the sume of ffive pounds to be paid vnto her at the end of sixe yeares next After my deceafe by my executor hereafter named Item I giue Elizabeth Clayfon my second daughter the sume of ffive pounds to be paid vnto her at the end of eight yeares next after my deceafe by my executor hereafter named Item I giue & bequeath vnto Bridgett my third daughter the sume of ffive pounds to be paid vnto her at the end of Tenn yeares next after my deceafe by my executor hereafter named Item I doe giue & bequeath vnto Dinah my ffourth daughter the sume of ffive pounds to be paid by my executor hereafter named at the end of Twelue yeares next After my deceafe Item I doe giue & bequeath vnto Leah my ffifth daughter the sume of ffive pounds to be paid by my executor hereafter named at the end of ffourteene yeares next after my deceafe Item I doe giue & bequeath vnto Richard my eldest sonne & to his heires for ever All my lands Tenem^{ts} & Hereditaments whatsoever as well ffreehold as lease hold hold (*sic*) scituate & beinge in Draiton psloe aforesaid in the County of Bucks & in the parish of Stutely in the County of Bucks And all the rest of my goods and Chattells vnbequeathed my debts paid & legacies discharged I giue & bequeath vnto Richard alsoe my eldest sonne whome I doe make & ordaine my sole executor of this my last will & Testament In wittnefs whereof to this my last will and Testament I haue sett to my hand & seale the day & yeare above written

Sealed signed & published

in the prefence of :

Willm Bailey

the m^rk of

Rich + Chandler sen

the marke of

Anthony + Chandler

the m^rk

Anthony *o*

of

Chandler

Proved 21 April, 1680, before John Hillersden, S.T.B.‡

1680: One bell by Richard in Herts.

* Corrected from *they*.

† Erased.

‡ Archdeacon of Sutton-cum-Buckingham (Lipscomb, II., 572).

GEORGE CHANDLER. 1681: First appearance of George, the brother of Richard III., and second son of Anthony (the founder) and Elizabeth. He was baptized on the 3rd March, 1654. There are still remaining at Slapton the second and third bells by him in this year, out of a probable three, and possible five; they are inscribed with George's name, in the lettering formerly used by his father, with a widely-extended *fleur-de-lis*, about $\frac{7}{8}$ inch high by $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch wide (Plate XXXIII.). The sanctus at Great Brickhill has simply his initials and the date, in the same lettering. The lower five bells (one now recast) at Aspenden, in Herts—probably at that date the entire ring. There are three bells by Richard in that county and one in Beds, dated this year.

1682: The fourth at Dinton, two in Beds, and one in Herts, by Richard. The fourth at Marsworth and the saunce at Whaddon, both with the extended *fleur-de-lis*, and two in Herts, by George.

1683: A ring of three at Willen, by Richard, and one bell in Herts; the latter has, in addition, two impressions of a coin. One in Herts, by George, is the last bearing his name, until the year 1702, when it recommences. Lipscomb (III. 527), whose information on the subject of bells is, however, extremely untrustworthy and inaccurate, says that George cast the tenor at Wing, in 1687. Unfortunately the bell is no longer in existence to prove or refute this statement, having been exchanged in 1863. The present bell is $55\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter, and the sexton declares that the old bell was bigger, and remarks that he had every opportunity of knowing, as the present bell was brought before the old one was removed from the floor of the church. The Rev. T. A. Turner (*Records of Bucks*, IV., 126) says that Messrs. Taylor, when at Wing in 1842, about the recasting of the fifth bell, estimated the tenor at about twenty-six hundredweight. This would be less than the present bell by Warner, which, according to the scale of weights for their bells, would weigh about twenty-nine and a quarter hundredweight. Browne Willis, in his MS., estimated the then existing tenor at thirty-three hundredweight. Lipscomb more cautiously says, "said to weigh from 31 to 33 cwt." Anyway, if this bell was by George Chandler, it was probably his largest work, the present bell being the largest in the county.

Beginning this year (three examples in Herts) bells were frequently inscribed as in Anthony's time, with the surname only, without Christian name or initial before it, and this practice was continued after the reappearance of George's name. Richard's name still, however, appears nearly every year. Mr. Stahlschmidt (*Bells of Herts*, p. 49) considered these initialless bells as the production of "the firm," which seems a reasonable suggestion.

It is more difficult to account for George disappearing for about nineteen years. Perhaps the most likely explanation is that the business could hardly bear three partners, and that George, as the junior, hoped to better himself, either by devoting himself exclusively to the forge, or possibly by finding something to do, away from his native village. The foundry continued apparently to be worked by the two Richards—uncle and nephew—until 1702, when the uncle would be over seventy, probably something like seventy-seven, years old; when we may well suppose that it was time to take fresh assistance into the business, and that George was therefore invited once more to take part in the concern. It is within the bounds of possibility—though I do not in the least suggest that it was so—that Richard III.'s brother George had died at the time his name disappears, and that the George of the eighteenth century was another individual; but the former seems by far the most likely theory.

With regard to "the firm" theory, I would point out that, with the exception of one bell cast in 1694 (by "the firm"), and one in 1708 (by Richard*), each of which has a set of lettering to itself, all the bells cast by the Chandlers subsequently to 1683, are inscribed in letters from one or other of five sets. Two of these sets were used by Richard, or "the firm"; two by George, or "the firm"; the fifth by "the firm" only; and neither of these partners ever inscribed his name in letters belonging to the other. At least this is the state of the case in Bucks. In the Histories of the *Bells of Beds* and *Herts*, in which counties a good many of the Chandlers' bells are found, the lettering used on each is not particularized, so I do not know whether any exceptions to the above rule occur.

1684: Three bells existing out of a probably complete ring of five, in a fresh county—Northamptonshire (at Stoke Bruerne), are said by Mr. North, in his History of the Bells of that county, to be inscribed: CHANDELER MADE ME 1684. If this is correct, it must be a late use of Anthony's lettering, by Richard II.?

1685: One in Beds and two in Herts, by Richard.

1686: The treble at Pitchcot, by "the firm," in heavier lettering, 1.2 inch high (the larger plain lettering on Plate XXXIII.), which belonged to Richard; and the sanctus at Stewkley, with no inscription beyond the date in the figures belonging to Richard's earliest set of letters, one inch high. Two bells in Beds and one in Northampts, by "the firm."

* Hall, successor to the Chandlers, used this set once in 1737, and two years later acquired a new, very similar set.

1687: A ring of five at Flitton, Beds, by Richard; and two by him at Guilden Morden, Cambridgeshire—a new county for this foundry.

1688: Two by “the firm” in Herts, and one by Richard in Cambridgeshire. This bell—the tenor at Melbourne—is thus alluded to in Dr. Raven’s *Bells of Cambs*, p. 95: “Mr. Sperling describes it as one of the grandest sounding bells for its weight [eighteen hundredweight], that he ever heard, . . . to which, no doubt, every Melbourne man will readily assent.” And again, in detailing the inscriptions at p. 159, “Mr. Sperling greatly praises the Tenor.” Its diameter is forty-seven inches. Note F.

1690: The saunce at Little Horwood, in Richard’s second set of lettering, 1.2 inch high. There is no initial, and the inscription being down among the rims, I suppose the bell to be the work of Richard II.

1691: The single bell at Hartwell, by Richard III., in his first lettering, one inch high.

1693: The second at Buckland, by “the firm,” in Richard’s 1.2 inch lettering; one by Richard in Beds.

1694: The second at Simpson, by Richard, in the 1.2 inch lettering; and the second at Marsworth, inscribed in lettering which seems not to occur elsewhere—it certainly does not in Bucks (see Plate XXXIII.):—

GRANDIOR MAIOR MC 1694

The last figure differs from the ornamented remainder, in being perfectly plain; it probably belongs to George Chandler’s largest plain set (see 1704).

1695: The saunce at Beachampton, with merely the date in the figures belonging to Richard’s 1.2 inch set of lettering, and the pattern, fig. 82, which only occurs to my knowledge, once again (see 1715). The tenor at Tring, in Herts, by “the firm,” is one of the larger productions of this foundry, being fifty-one inches in diameter; there is a note in the ringing-chamber that, “the big bell was cast at Drayton Paslow, 1695.”*

1696: The saunce at Great Horwood, with merely the date, in the figures belonging to Richard’s one-inch letters. One by Richard in Beds.

1697: The second at Soulbury, by “the firm,” in the 1.2 inch type; and one by them in Beds and one in Herts.

1699: The fourth at North Marston, bears Richard’s name, in the 1.2 inch lettering, but down among the rims, and I therefore doubtfully attribute it

* *Bells of Herts*, p. 234.

to Richard II. The saunce at Stone, in the same lettering is (presumably) by Richard III. One by him at Gamlingay, in Cambridgeshire.

1700: The treble at Weston Turville, by "the firm," the lettering used being very similar to the last mentioned, but smaller, $\frac{1}{4}\frac{5}{8}$ of an inch high. One bell in Beds, inscribed simply: R. C 1700.

1701: The third at Woughton, by "the firm," in the same lettering as the Weston bell. One by Richard at Bedford.

1702: The single bell at S. Leonard's, by "the firm," in the same lettering as the Weston and Woughton bells. These are the only three bells in the county on which this set of letters is used; but the figures reappear in 1708. The fourth bell at Tetsworth, Oxon, has simply 1702, in figures which are extremely similar, but whether identical I cannot be certain. If so, it is the most southerly bell from this foundry. George's name reappears this year, on the third at Marsworth, in large letters, $1\frac{3}{8}$ inch high. Two by Richard at Fringford, Oxon, in the 1.2 inch lettering. The former saunce at Swanbourne had merely Richard's initials.



Fig. 82.

1703: The tenor at Slapton, by George, in the $1\frac{3}{8}$ inch lettering. One by him in Herts. One by Richard in Beds.

The only gravestone to a member of this family that I could find in Drayton Parslow churchyard, is inscribed, under the spread wings of a cherub (the conventional ornament of gravestones about that time):—

IN MEMORY OF
 SUSSANA YE DAUGHTER
 TO RICHARD CHANDLER
 AND TO SUSANNA
 HIS WIFE SHE
 DEPARTED THIS
 LIFE FE(illegible)RY 24
 IN Y 18 YEAR OF
 HER AGE ANN DOM
 1704

(On the reverse of the stone:)

AS I AM ~
 So muft you bee
 Therefore Prepare
 to follow mee

The Register tells us that "Susan y^e daughter of Rich^d Chaundler belfounder was buried feb. 28. 1703"; that is, towards the close of the year, which at that time ended on March 24th, while the tombstone would not be engraved until after an interval of at least several weeks from the death, when the mason seems to have inadvertently carved the new year's date.

1704: The third at Milton Keynes, bearing Richard's name, in the 1.2 inch type, down among the rims, and therefore, as I suppose, by Richard II. The tenor at Drayton Beauchamp, by "the firm," is a long-shaped bell, inscribed in the largest of all the Drayton sets of plain lettering, 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ inch high, which belonged (as appears later) to George. Two by Richard in Beds.

1705: The second at Chesham Bois, by "the firm," with George's large 1 $\frac{3}{8}$ inch letters; and the third at Wavendon, by "the firm," in Richard's heavy 1.2 inch letters; while the tenor at the latter place, bearing Richard's name in the same lettering, below the usual position, is, I conceive, the last production of the nearly octogenarian founder, Richard II. One by George in Beds.

1707: A bell at Cosgrove, Northampts, by Richard.

1708: The tenor at Tyingham, by Richard, in a set of letters 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch high, not found elsewhere, except on a bell cast by Hall, at this foundry, in 1737. The saunce at Whitchurch has nothing on it except the date, but as the figures belong to the set $\frac{1}{18}$ ⁵ inch high, used by "the firm" in 1700, 1701, and 1702, this bell may safely be assigned to this foundry. The tenor at Buckland, by George, in his largest letters, 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ inch high.

1709: The tenor at Walton, by "the firm," in the same big letters. One by Richard in Beds.

1711: One by "the firm" (at Passenham) in Northampts, in the 1.2 inch lettering, the inscription being *below* the rims. The date is stamped in two groups, thus—17 11, so as to render it slightly doubtful whether that is the year intended; and one by Richard in Beds.

1713: The second at Whaddon, by Richard, in his 1.2 inch letters.

1714: The treble at Nettleden, with George's initials in his large type, 1 $\frac{3}{8}$ inch high. The saunce at Soulbury, with Richard's initials in his 1.2 inch type. One in Herts, by "the firm."

1715: The fourth at Slapton, with George's initials, in his largest, 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ inch letters. The seventh at Bicester, Oxon, by Richard, in his 1.2 inch letters, low down, with fig. 82 all round above: both lines *below* the rims.

1716: The second at Ickford, by "the firm," in George's 1 $\frac{3}{8}$ inch letters.

1717: The tenor at Pitchcot, with George's initials in the last-mentioned lettering. The second at Woughton, by Richard, was recast 1887. The

ring of five at Kensworth, in Herts, has George's name on the tenor, the surname only on the first four.

1719: The saunce at Long Crendon, with George's initials, in his large type, $1\frac{3}{8}$ inch. One by "the firm" in Herts.

1720: The treble at Dunton and the second at Tyringham, by Richard, in his 1.2 inch lettering.

1722: The second at Wendover, by "the firm," in George's last-mentioned lettering. One by Richard in Beds.

1723: One by Richard at Hulcote, in Beds, is the latest appearance of his name. The tenor at Great Gaddesden, in Herts, by "the firm." The saunce at Emmington, in the south-east corner of Oxfordshire, inscribed: T C 1723, in George's $1\frac{3}{8}$ inch lettering, must be referred to Thomas Chandler, younger brother of Richard III. and of George, and proves that he also was in "the firm," though he only thus came to the front on his eldest brother (Richard)'s retirement.

1725: One by George in Beds—the latest appearance of his name.

1726: The third at Stone by "the firm," in George's $1\frac{3}{8}$ inch letters, is the latest known bell bearing the name of Chandler. Richard was buried on the 27th April, in this year, having perhaps been incapacitated from work for the last three years. Neither of the brothers George or Thomas continued the business, and nothing is known as to George's later history, but as his burial is not recorded in the Drayton Parslow Register, it would seem not unlikely that he gave up the founding business on his brother's death, and left the village. I hunted unsuccessfully for his death in the registers of the neighbouring village of Stewkley, where several Chandlers occur. Thomas was buried at Drayton Parslow, in 1732.

Three Chandler bells are recorded by Mr. North, in Beds, without dates: two of these (at Toddington and Wilden respectively) are inscribed: CHANDLER MADE ME. The N being quoted as the right way about, they probably date after 1673, but without knowing what letters are used, nothing more definite can be said about them. The other bell (at Clophill) has only R C R C. The repetition is suggestive of the first Richard, but here also it is impossible to form an opinion without knowing the lettering.

The Drayton Parslow Foundry was continued by **EDWARD HALL.** Edward Hall, who, we may suppose, had been previously working in the business. Nothing is known as to his origin, but it seems not unlikely that he may have been a son of Henry Hall, of the neighbouring parish of Stewkley.

Two bells by him in his first year as master founder, remain ; the treble at Akeley, and the second at Lillingstone Dayrell, both inscribed in Richard Chandler III.'s 1.2 inch letters :—

EDWARD HALL MADE ME 1726

followed on the Akeley bell by the initials I N ; on the other bell, by D N. His next known bells are dated 1730—the treble at Winslow and third at Stoke Mandeville—both have the same inscription, with the addition of churchwardens' names on the latter bell. On these, and all subsequent bells by him (in Bucks), with a few exceptions to be noted as they occur, Richard Chandler III.'s 1.2 inch letters are used. Also a bell in Herts.

1731: The treble at Lathbury. The inscription is below the usual place, but I have no hidden meaning to suggest, as with the Chandlers.

1732: One in Herts.

No bells during the next two years ; but meanwhile Hall lost his (first) wife, Elizabeth, who was buried on Christmas Day, $\frac{1733}{1734}$, or, according to the entry in an another register, 1734/35.

1735: The fourth at Stewkley ; the inscription below usual place.

1736: The second of the ill-fated ring at Thornborough, which was sold in 1861.

1737: The treble at Steeple Claydon ; the Christian name is shortened into ED, and the churchwardens' names appended. Also the fourth at Great Horwood, with the regular inscription, but in the lettering $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch high, used on one bell by Richard Chandler in 1708, the figures reversed.

1739: The third at Aston Abbots, and—

1740: The tenor (= fifth) at the same place, both inscribed in lettering which does not appear elsewhere—very similar to the last, but lighter—the letters average about $1\frac{3}{8}$ inch high ; in the latter bell the inscription is down among the rims. Three bells in Beds. No bells during the next two years ; but on 30th April, 1741, Hall married, for his second wife, “p. b.” (= after publication of the banns), as the register adds—Mary, widow of Daniel Stimpson or Timpson, daughter of Richard Chandler III.

1743: One in Beds.

1744: One in Northampts (at Sulgrave).

1746: The single bell at Fleet Marston, with only his initials, and the name of the churchwarden, in the 1.2 inch lettering again.

During the next five years no bell from this foundry is known.

In 1752 the second at Hanslope is inscribed: HALL MADE ME, in the

usual lettering, with no Christian name. The fourth at Steeple Claydon, dated 1754, is similarly inscribed. Next comes the entry in the register, in the handwriting of Dr. John Lord, the rector :—

(Buried) Edward Hall poor old Bellfounder Feb. 9. 1755.

**WILLIAM
HALL.**

In the following year we get the very last bell from this foundry—the business being, as Mr. Stahlschmidt suggests,* “doubtless killed by the competition of the great London foundries”—namely, the fifth at Hillesden, inscribed :—

W H A L L M A D E M E 1756

We may assume that he was Edward Hall's son, although he is not mentioned in the registers. He was probably the founder of the two previous bells, on which no initial is placed. I am sorry to say that this, the latest specimen of bellfounding in Bucks, has been recently broken and replaced.

The Rev. T. A. Turner, in a paper published in the *Records of Bucks*, 1872, p. 125, “Bellfoundries in the county of Buckingham,” says :—

“One, John Baldwin, a bedridden village worthy, tells me that he in early life succeeded one William Hall, probably a grandson of Edward Hall above, in the village smithy business, which at that time was, and still is, carried on on the site of the old bell-foundry. Baldwin bears testimony, moreover, to having found, whilst digging clay, etc., in the paddock and garden, sundry bits of bell-metal (not preserved); also to having taken over with the business sundry metal castings, also small metal and other moulds (not preserved), and a quantity of sand, all which William Hall said his grandfather used in the bell-foundry business.”

The will of John Chandler, yeoman, of Drayton Parslow, dated 18th September, 1728, 2nd of George II., was—

proved the 11th day of Aug^r 1748 before John Stevens Co surrogate by the Oath of Tho^s Pool sole Exe^r.

In it he bequeaths to his brother Henry Chandler, living in Drayton Parslow,—

All that part of my Mefsuage Cottage or Tenem^t now In his pofefsion wherein he now does dwell & Inhabit with the App^ts situate in Drayton P^rslow afs^d To Hold to my ^{sd} brother Henry Chandler & to his heirs & afs^s for ever. Item I give will & devise unto

* *Bells of Herts*, p. 49.

my sister Mary the now wife of Daniel Stimpson aſs Simpson All that my Mefſe Cottage or Tenem^t wherein I now dwell & Inhabit ſituate in Drayton Pſlow afs^d etc.

It was ſigned—

In the preſence of us Edward Hall Will: Graie The mark of John Chandler Sen^r.

On the—

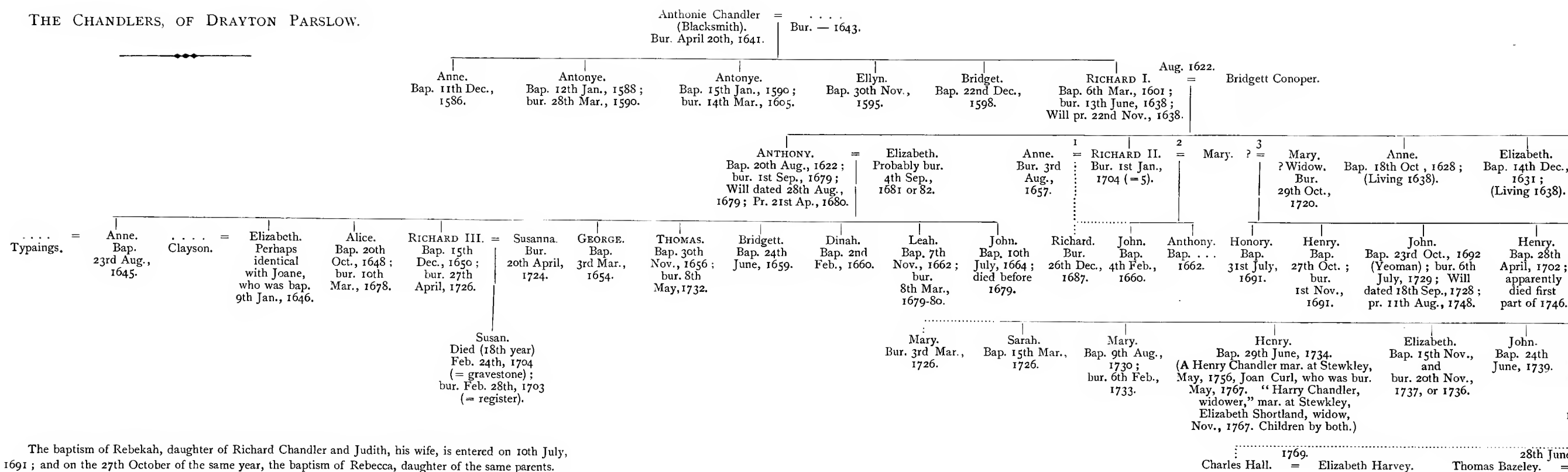
26th March 1748 Ad^{co}n of the goods pr^d of John Chandler late of Drayton Parslow in the Archdeaconry of Buck^s de^{ce}d was according to his Laſt will & Teſtam^t granted to Edward Hall Husband of Mary Stimpſon late wife of Daniel Stimpſon ſole Exe^c (ſhe dying before ſhe had taken upon her the Execu^{co}n of the ſ^d Will).

Extracts from the Pariſh Registers of Drayton Parslow, concerning the Chandler and Hall families :—

Chriſteninge. 1586, Añe, 2 Dec. 1588, Antonye, 12 Jan. 1590, Antonye, 15 Jan. 1595, Ellyn, 30 Nov. 1598, Bridget d. of Anthony, 22 Dec. 1601, Richard, 6 March. 1622, Anthony, s. of Richard and Bridgett, 20 Aug. 1628, Anne, d. of Do., 18 Oct. 1631, Elizabeth, d. of Do., 14 Dec. 1635, Jone, d. of Do., 1 June. “Bridgetta Chanler et Maria Chanler Femellæ filiæ poſthumæ Richardi et Bridgettæ uxoris ſuæ Bapt: fuerut decimo ſecundo die Auguſti 1638.” 1645, Anne, d. of Anthony and Elizabeth, 23 Aug. 1646, Joane, d. of Do., 9 Jan. 1648, Alice, d. of Do., 20 Oct. 1650, Richard, s. of Do., 15 Dec. 1652, Mary, d. of Thomas and Anne, 9 Feb. 1654, Elizabeth, d. of Do., 1 Oct.; George, s. of Anthony & Elizabeth, 3 March. 1656, George, s. of Thomas & Anne, 26 Apl. Thomas, s. of Anthony & Elizabeth, 30 Nov. 1657, Anne, d. of Thomas & Anne, 25 Nov. 1659, Bridgett, d. of Anthony & Elizabeth, 24 June. 1660, Dina, d. of Do., 2 Feb.; John, s. of Richard & Mary, 4 Feb. 1662, Leah, d. of Anthony & Elizabeth, 7 Nov.; Anthony, s. of Richard & Mary [*date not filled in*]. 1664, John, s. of Anthony & Elizabeth, 10 July. 1691, Honory, d. of Richard & Mary, 31 July. Henery, s. of Do., 27 Oct. Rebekah, d. of Richard and Judith, 10 July. Rebecca, d. of Do., 27 Oct. 1692, John, s. of Richard and [*not filled in*], 23 Oct. 1702, Henry, s. of Richard “Chaundler Bellfounder,” & Mary, 28 Apl. 1726, Sarah, d. of Henry & Elizabeth, 15 March. 1727, Anne, d. of Edward & Elizabeth Hall, 9 July. 1730, Mary, d. of Henry & Elizabeth Chandler, 9 Aug. 1734, Henry, s. of Do., 29 June. 1737, Elizabeth, d. of Do., 15 Nov. 1739, John, s. of Do., 24 June. 1746, Charles, s. of Elizabeth Chandler widow, 10 Aug.

“Richard; Chandler et Bridgetta Conoper matrymonio Juncti v^{to} Auguſti 1622.” “Married—Edward Hall & Mary Timpſon p. b. Apl. 30, 1741.” “The Banns of Charles Hall and Elizabeth Harvey were published on Feb. 5, 12, 19, 1769.” “The Banns of Thomas Bazeley and Elizabeth Hall (both of this pariſh) pub^d on June 5, 12, 19, and married June 28; 1774.” “The Banns of John Gillbird and Mary Hall (both of this pariſh) pub^d on June 21, 28, July 5, and married on July 5, 1778.” “William Hall and Ann Williſon (both of this pariſh) married by licence 1^{ſt} day of November, 1781.” “1786, Thomas Chandler and Elizabeth Kirk, married by licence, 5th January; John Chandler, wiſneſs.” “The Banns of John Hall of this pariſh Blackſmith and Rebecca Bull of

THE CHANDLERS, OF DRAYTON PARSLOW.



The baptism of Rebekah, daughter of Richard Chandler and Judith, his wife, is entered on 10th July, 1691; and on the 27th October of the same year, the baptism of Rebecca, daughter of the same parents.

Thomas Chandler and Anne, his wife, had children baptized: Mary, 9th February, 1652; Elizabeth, 1st October, 1654; George, 26th April, 1656; and Anne, 25th November, 1657.

Henry Hall, of Stewkley, had children baptized there: Henry, 26th December, 1709; Elizabeth, 2nd September, 1711. Edward Hall may perhaps have been an elder son.

Anthonic Chandler =
(Blacksmith). Bur. — 1643.
bur. April 20th, 1641.

Antonye. Bap. 15th Jan., 1590; bur. 14th Mar., 1605.
Ellyn. Bap. 30th Nov., 1595.
Bridget. Bap. 22nd Dec., 1598.
RICHARD I. Bap. 6th Mar., 1601; bur. 13th June, 1638; Will pr. 22nd Nov., 1638.
Aug. 1622. Bridgett Conoper.

ANTHONY. Bap. 20th Aug., 1622; bur. 1st Sep., 1679; Will dated 28th Aug., 1679; Pr. 21st Ap., 1680.
Elizabeth. Probably bur. 4th Sep., 1681 or 82.
Anne. Bur. 3rd Aug., 1657.
RICHARD II. Bur. 1st Jan., 1704 (= 5).
Mary. ?
Mary. ? Widow. Bur. 29th Oct., 1720.
Anne. Bap. 18th Oct., 1628; (Living 1638).
Elizabeth. Bap. 14th Dec., 1631; (Living 1638).
Jone (or Joane). Bap. 1st June, 1635; (Living 1638).
Bridgett and Mary. ("Filiae posthumæ") Bap. 22nd Aug., 1638; Mary perhaps bur. 5th Aug., 1698.

THOMAS. Bap. 30th Nov., 1656; bur. 8th May, 1732.
Bridgett. Bap. 24th June, 1659.
Dinah. Bap. 2nd Feb., 1660.
Leah. Bap. 7th Nov., 1662; bur. 8th Mar., 1679-80.
John. Bap. 10th July, 1664; died before 1679.
Richard. Bur. 26th Dec., 1687.
John. Bap. 4th Feb., 1660.
Anthony. Bap. . . . 1662.
Honory. Bap. 31st July, 1691.
Henry. Bap. 27th Oct.; bur. 1st Nov., 1691.
John. Bap. 23rd Oct., 1692 (Yeoman); bur. 6th July, 1729; Will dated 18th Sep., 1728; pr. 11th Aug., 1748.
Henry. Bap. 28th April, 1702; apparently died first part of 1746.
Elizabeth.
Daniel Stimpson (or Simpson, or Timpson). Died before 1741.
Mary. Dead by 1748.
2 x 2, 30th Ap., 1741.
EDWARD HALL. Bur. 9th Feb., 1755.
Elizabeth. Bur. 25th Dec., 1733, or 1734.

Mary. Bur. 3rd Mar., 1726.
Sarah. Bap. 15th Mar., 1726.
Mary. Bap. 9th Aug., 1730; bur. 6th Feb., 1733.
Henry. Bap. 29th June, 1734. (A Henry Chandler mar. at Stewkley, May, 1756, Joan Curl, who was bur. May, 1767. "Harry Chandler, widower," mar. at Stewkley, Elizabeth Shortland, widow, Nov., 1767. Children by both.)
Elizabeth. Bap. 15th Nov., and bur. 20th Nov., 1737, or 1736.
John. Bap. 24th June, 1739.
Charles. "Son of Elizabeth Chandler, widow," bap. 10th Aug., 1746.
Susan Stimpson. Bur. 26th June, 1727.
Mary Stimpson. Bur. 21st July, 1728.
William Hall. (Living 1756).
Anne Hall. Bap. 9th July, 1727; bur. 17th Nov., 1730.

1769. Charles Hall. = Elizabeth Harvey.
28th June, 1774. Thomas Bazeley. = Elizabeth Hall.
5th July, 1778. John Gillbird. = Mary Hall.
1st Nov., 1781. William Hall. = Ann Willison.
1807. John Hall (Blacksmith). = Rebecca Bull (of Stewkley).
21st June, 1809. James Squires. = Hester Hall.

(Two sons living 1889, one of them [David] in Drayton Parslow).

Stewkley, pub^d on March 8, 15, 22, 1807." "The Banns of James Squires and Hester Hall both of this parish, pub^d 4, 11, 18 June, and married 21 June, 1809." (Two of their sons are—or were quite lately—still living; one, David, is in this parish.)

Buryalle. 1590, Antonye, 28 March. 1605, Anthony, s. of Anthony, 14 March. "Richard Chanler was Buryed June the thirteenth: 1638." "Anthonie Chanler Blacksmith was buried Aprill the twentieth day: 1641." "[*Blank*] Chandler the wife of Anthony Chandler was buried [*blank*] 1643." 1657, Anne, w. of Richard, 3 Aug. 1678, Alice, 10 March. 1679, Leah, d. of Anthony and Elizabeth, 8 March [in two registers]. "Anthony Chandler was buried September the first, 1679" [in two registers]. "Anthony Chaundler was buried Jan: 23^d, 1680." 1681, Elizabeth, 4 Sept. [in other register, 1682]. "Anthony Chaundler was buryed Jañ: y 10th, 1684." 1687, Richard, s. of "Rich^d: Chaundler sen^r" 26 Dec. 1691, Henery, 1 Nov. 1698, Mary, 5 Aug. "Susan ye daughter of Rich^d Chaundler belfounder was buryed feb. 28, 1703." 1704, "Richard Chaundler Bellfounder," 1 Jan. 1720, Mary, widow, 29 Oct. 1724, Susanna, w. of Richard, 20 Apl. 1726, Richard, 7 Apl.; Mary [w. ?] of Henry, 3 March. "1727, fusan of Daniel Timfon buried June 26." 1728, "Wid: Chandler (paup)," 15 May. "Mary of Daniel & Mary Timfon buried July 21st: 1728." 1728, Anthony, 9 Sept. 1729, John, 6 July. "Anne of Edward Hall buried November 17th, 1730." 1732, Thomas, 8 May. 1733, "Marry Chandler Infant of Henry," 6 Feb. [in two registers]. "Elizabeth Hall wife of Edward Hall bur. ye 25 of December 1733" [in another register, 1734/5]. 1736, Elizabeth, child of Henry and Elizabeth, 20 Nov., "Aff^d ye 20th June, 1737." 1737, Elizabeth, d. of Do., 20 Nov., "This child was bapt^d Nov. 15th 1737." "Edward Hall poor old Bellfounder Feb. 9, 1755."

The Registers of the neighbouring parish of Stewkley contain plenty of entries of the name Chandler during the second half of the eighteenth century, who may well have been descendants of the bellfounders, but I could find none early enough to be of interest here. The following earlier entries of Hall may be worth a place:—

Henry, s. of Henry, Bapt. 26 Dec. 1709. Elizabeth, d. of Do., Bapt. 2 Sept. 1711. Elinor, w. of Henry buried 15 Aug. 1746.

THE CLARKES, GREENES, AND J. DIER.

There are a few founders in a small way—probably chiefly itinerant—who appear to be connected with each other, and who fit on to one another so as to form a tolerably unbroken line, covering seventy years or more.

Among the Land Revenue Papers preserved at the Record Office,* is a certificate dated 1557, of the weight of some bells from the Priory

* Quoted in *Bells of Herts*, p. 32.

(**IOHN CLARKE.**) of Wymondley. Their weights are given “by estimation of a bell funder woos name is Clarke dwellyng at Thesthewurth in the Count of Hertf.” Mr. Stahlschmidt says Thesthewurth is readily identifiable with Datchworth, near Welwyn, formerly spelled, and still locally pronounced, Thatchworth.

At Braughing, in the same county, is a bell dated 1562, with a much mis-spelt Latin inscription in black-letter without capitals, and the initials *t. r.* These initials Mr. Stahlschmidt supposed to have belonged to a Hertfordshire man, and probably the above-mentioned Clarke.

A conjectured successor is only heard of through one (**GEORGE CLARKE.**) bell, now at S. John's Church, Duxford, Cambridgeshire, inscribed :—

*Jubilemus Deo salutari nostro
Georgius Clarke me et meos sodales fecit
An^o. 1564.*

It was originally the tenor of five at S. Peter's Church, Duxford, and its “sodales” have long since disappeared.

At Harpenden, in Herts, are two bells evidently by one (**IOHN GRENE.**) founder, dated 1571 and 1574. The earlier one has a pre-reformation inscription, somewhat incorrectly rendered, and the later bell (the treble) is inscribed :—

Johanes grene me fecit anno dñi 1574

Mr. Stahlschmidt says of him,* “John Grene, also without doubt a local founder, but one as yet unidentified as to his place of abode.”

Next in order comes John Dier, by whom Bucks (**IOHN DIER.**) possesses one bell, the second at Cheddington, undated, and inscribed in very rude letters :—

Johannes aarp hanc campanam fecit

By him there are eleven bells in Herts, ten in Beds, one in Cambs, and two in Essex. Most of his bells are dated, the dates running thus in the various counties: 1580, Beds, Herts, Essex; 1583, Cambs, Herts; 1587, Herts, Beds; 1589, Herts; 1591, Beds (2); 1593, Beds (2); 1595, Herts (5);

* *Bells of Herts*, p. 33.

1597, Herts. One of his undated bells in Herts, with an attempt at a pre-reformation inscription, may perhaps be older than any of his dated examples. This bell is at Hemel Hempstead:—

lawd ate : do mini (= Laudate Dominum.)

The Cheddington bell, judging by the details of the inscription, compared with other bells by him, was *probably* cast about 1593. A very similar bell, the name spelt **Dier** (?), was formerly at Old Linslade. On one of the 1591 Beds bells the name is spelt DVEY, and on three of the Herts 1595 bells, **Dper**.

Dier was, in all probability, like the others, an itinerant founder, and though his place of abode has not been ascertained, it is conjectured that he belonged to Hertfordshire.

His supposed successor was another John
JOHN CLARKE. Clarke, by whom there is one example in Bucks—
 the treble at Cold Brafield, inscribed:—

★ JOHN ► CLARKE ► MADE ► ME 1607

Only twelve bells, including this one, are known by him, *viz.*, Wimbis, Essex, 1599; Eastwick, Herts, 1601; Wrentham, Suffolk, 1606; Flitwick, Beds, 1608; Eastry, Kent, 1609; Welney, Cambs, 1613; Little Burstled, Essex, treble, 1620; the second has, "1633 I C"; Downham, Essex, 1621. Wormington, Gloucestershire, and Rumboldswyke, Sussex, undated; the latter has the same lettering as the Wrentham bell.

Mr. Stahlschmidt has thoroughly examined the Registers of Datchworth, where the first John Clarke lived. They commence in 1570, and show a John Clarke living in the parish between 1572 and 1585, seven children of his being baptized during that period, and two buried—the eldest son, John, being baptized May 8th, 1575: his wife was buried in 1584, and one of the daughters married in 1585. He concluded that soon after this latter year the family migrated. The dates would suit the supposition that the elder John, mentioned in the register, was the first founder of that name, and that the son baptized in 1575, was the founder of the Cold Brafield and the other eleven bells. But he adds, "the name is so common a one that it is extremely hazardous to found any theory without further confirmatory evidence, which at present is not forthcoming."

A glimpse of a possible successor is afforded by the churchwardens'

(JOHN GREENE.) accounts of Stratford-on-Avon (quoted *Bells of Herts*, p. 33), where it is recorded, under date 26th July, 1627, that John Greene, bellfounder, was presented by the minister and churchwardens, "for working on Sabbath-day, July 13, in y^e time of 'divine service.'"

THE ELDRIDGES, OF WOKINGHAM, CHERTSEY, ETC.

THOMAS ELDRIDGE. About seventy years after the ancient founding business at Wokingham had been removed thence to Reading, a bellfoundry was once more established at the former place, by Thomas Eldridge, who sent bells thence, in 1565, to Bray and Winkfield, both in Berks, within nine and seven miles' distance respectively.

The business was, in all probability, an off-shoot from one of the Reading foundries, of which there were no less than three in the early part of Elizabeth's reign (see p. 74). The name occurs in the Registers of S. Mary's, Reading :—

Richard Eldridge, buried 1551; Elinor Ederidge (no doubt meant for the same name), married 1572; Cathere Eldridge, a servant, buried 1655; Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas and Judeth, baptized 1656, buried 1661. Judeth died in 1664, and Thomas, son of the same couple, later in the same year.



Fig. 83.

The Bray and Winkfield bells, by Thomas Eldridge, have been long since recast, and no specimen of his handiwork has been hitherto known, but the saunce at Quanton probably furnishes an example. Its inscription is of the briefest—merely his initials in small black-letter, preceded by an extremely indistinct stamp, reproduced here in fig. 83, as well as the state of the original impression will allow.

The first extract from the Great Marlow churchwardens' accounts given in Part III., shows that he, in all probability, supplied a bell to that town

RICHARD ELDRIDGE. in 1592.* As, however, there are bells dating from that year by Richard Eldridge, presumably his son and successor, the former bell at Marlow may have been by the latter, and not by Thomas.

Richard was also of Wokingham, and by him there are four, and probably five, bells remaining in Bucks.

The fourth and fifth at Fulmer, in large-sized black-letter, with peculiar capitals for the initial of the first word, are respectively inscribed:—

Lord ♡ plead ♡ my ♡ cause ♡

and,

Dur ♡ hope ♡ is ♡ in ♡ the ♡ lord ♡

followed in each case by the initials R ♡ E (which on these, and later bells by him, are in large-sized Roman capitals, $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch high), with the date 1617; and between each word is a large heart in outline.

The bell recently returned from Slough to Upton, has exactly the same inscription† as the latter of the above two, but dated 1619.

The second at Steeple Claydon, merely recording the donor's name, and dated 1620, is most likely by Richard Eldridge. The letters are rather clumsy Roman capitals, about $1\frac{5}{16}$ of an inch high, perfectly plain, except for a slight central bulge in the I. They very closely resemble, though some at any rate are not identical with, the letters used on the treble at Hedgerley by his successor, twenty years later.

The second at Burnham has only his initials, and those of (presumably) the churchwardens, and the date 1624, without any stop or other ornament, in the large Roman capitals.

From 1610 at least, until 1622, Richard Eldridge had a branch establishment at Horsham, in Sussex, the rent of which was only ten shillings a year, so it must have been a very small concern. As records are extant of the casting of bells at Horsham in 1593 and 1594, it is probable that he succeeded someone else in that business, and did not originate it. The Burnham bell is the latest known example by him, and he probably died in that year.

* The account is for a year and a half, ended at Michaelmas, 1593, but the item is quite at the beginning of the account, and it appears that the bell must have been in place, ready to be rung, at least by S. Hughes' Day (November 17th), 1592.

† This is by far his commonest motto on bells in Surrey churches.

BRYAN Richard was succeeded by Bryan Eldridge (the
ELDRIDGE I. first), who was doubtless his son. Another son, John,
 was a weaver at Wokingham.

Bells by Bryan are known from 1618. From then to his father's death (or retirement) he used Richard's black-letter type, with English inscriptions, and his full name; from then to 1629 he used a heavy set of Roman capitals, and Latin inscriptions, still with his full name; and from 1630 to the end of his life, all his bells have the same Latin inscription, "Gloria Deo in excelsis," in heavy Roman capitals, and either his initials or his full name.

The single example of his work in Bucks—the treble at Hedgerley, dated 1640—belongs to the third category. For a stop he used a very solid description of *fleur-de-lis*, pierced with a small lozenge-shaped hole at the point where the three feathers ought to meet in the middle.

Mr. Stahlschmidt supposed that Bryan's first bell (1618) was cast at Horsham, and that he set up at Chertsey, in Surrey, in the following year. He died about the end of August, 1640; his will is printed in *Bells of Surrey*. He left two sons, Bryan and William, and his wife Katherine was appointed sole executrix. Bryan, his elder son, succeeded to the business; by him Bucks has two examples, the fifth and sixth at Wraysbury (a third example was melted in 1871), inscribed:—

BRYANVS ELDRIDGE ME FECIT 1657

His bells, until 1648, are all inscribed in English, and from that time invariably in Latin. He died in November, 1661; his will is also given in *Bells of Surrey*.

The churchwardens' accounts of Harmondsworth (Middlesex), for the five years 1658–62, give us a glimpse of him:—

Disbursments.

Imprimis. paid to Roger Greatrake for	}	...	li	s	d		
making the Bell fframe and ...							
hanginge the Bells ...							
Item more paid to him for worke done about the Church Porch and church Rayles ...		...	00	.	12	.	6
Item more paid for Eleven Loads and 14 foots of Timber ...		...	22	11	8		
Itn paid for the carriage of the Timber		...	04	09	00		

Item paid to Bryan Eldridge the			
Belfounder for casting the Belles			
Brasses and for overplus of Bell metle	...	47	10 00
Item paid for a dinner for those which			
Carried the Bells to Chartsey and for			
Horse meate	... ..	01	02 00
Item. paid in expenses when the Bells were cast		02	19 06
Item Expenses when the Bells were fetched home		00	19 00
Item Spent at the Raisinge of the Bell fframe	...	00	05 00
Item paid to William Thorny for carriage of ye			
Bells & Timber	... ..	01	10 00

WILLIAM ELDRIDGE I. Bryan's younger brother William succeeded to the business, having previously been associated with its management, as there are bells in Sussex bearing the names of both the brothers conjoined, in 1660 and 1661; and on one bell in that county, dated 1660, appears William's name only.

There are two bells by him in Bucks; the seventh at Wraysbury, dated 1664, with:—

WILLIAM ELDRIDGE MADE MEE

and the treble at Dorney with the same inscription, but dated 1698, and with lozenge-shaped stops on each side of it. He died at the end of 1716;

his will is also printed in *Bells of Surrey*. With his death the foundry came to an end, although his eldest, and only surviving son, William, had for several years apparently been casting in his place, but from the identity of their names, it is impossible to distinguish their productions. Three bells in Surrey, dated 1697 and 1703, have the initials,

(WILLIAM ELDRIDGE II.) T. E., which are those of William's second son, Thomas, on them, besides William in full. Thomas died in 1708. It would seem probable, from these bells, that the elder son, William, must have commenced casting not later than the earlier date (1697). The latest Eldridge bell in Surrey is dated 1714, and Mr. Stahlschmidt thought it likely that the foundry may have been given up at that date—killed by the great London foundries of Phelps and Samuel Knight.

The younger William subsequently moved to West Drayton, in Middlesex, and though apparently not in business as a founder, he recast some of the bells there.

THE STAMFORD (LINCOLNSHIRE) FOUNDRY.

From the Stamford Foundry, Bucks has a few bells, but none by the more famous family with whom it originated.

(TOBIAS NORRIS.) Tobias (or Tobie) Norris, bellfounder, took up his freedom at Stamford on the 4th of June, 1607; but his earliest known bell (at Wadenhoe, Northampts) is dated 1603. He died on the 2nd November, 1626, and was succeeded by Thomas Norris, who had taken up his freedom as a bellfounder on 31st December, 1625. Mr. North, from whose account of this foundry, in *Bells of Northampts*, these particulars are extracted, has given several details of the life of this individual, but as there are no Bucks bells by him, they would be out of place if repeated here. His latest bell (at Fakenham, Norfolk) is dated 1678, in which year he quitted Stamford.

(TOBYAS NORRIS.) Tobyas Norris, probably a son of the former Tobias, took up his freedom in 1628, and he is mentioned as a bellfounder in a document of 1638. He, however, apparently occupied a subordinate position in the business.

(TOBIAS NORRIS III.) Thomas was succeeded by his son, another Tobias Norris, who was baptized in 1634. His earliest bell in Northampts is dated 1662, and he continued casting until his death in January, 1698-9.

ALEXANDER RIGBY. He was succeeded by Alexander Rigby, who appears to have been connected with the Stamford Foundry—perhaps as foreman—ever since Thomas Norris left it, for a bell by him at Swindon, Gloucestershire, is dated (*vide* Mr. Ellacombe) as early as 1679; and another at Great Billing, Northampts, is dated 1684. There are a dozen of his bells in Bucks, and of them nine are dated during the lifetime of Tobias Norris III., and the remaining three not long after his death. First comes the second at Cold Brafield (a better bell, in my judgment, than either of its companions in that tower), cast in 1688. He used a plain initial cross, originally in the possession of the first Tobias Norris. His name is spelt RIGBE, and a three-dot stop is inserted between each word.

The following year he cast, doubtless, a complete ring of five at Lavendon, of which the fourth has been recast. The same initial cross is used, while the scroll, fig. 84, takes the place of the three-dot stop between

each word, both being used on the tenor. The letters and other stamps on Rigby's bells are in very high relief—much more so than on any other bells.*

In 1693 he cast the ring of four at Lillingstone Lovell, using cross, stop, and scroll.

In the year of Norris's death, Rigby cast the pretty little resonant and maiden ring of three at Saunderton. These bells have the three-dot stop again, the scroll only appearing on either side of the initial cross on the treble. His name is here spelt RIGBY.

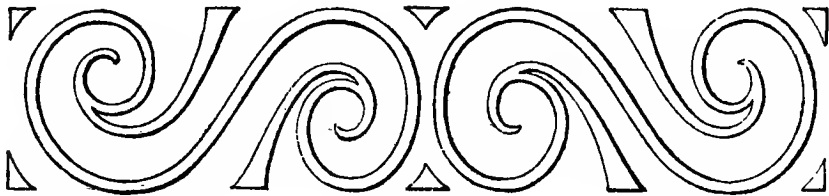


Fig. 84.

The following doggerel on the late treble (melted in 1869) at Badgworth, Gloucestershire, appears to show that Rigby's bells were not always so good as his Buckinghamshire examples:—

BADGWORTH . RINGERS . THEY . WERE . MAD . BECAUSE . RIGBE . MADE .
ME . BAD . BUT . ABEL . RUDHALL . YOU . MAY . SEE . HATH . MADE . ME .
BETTER . THAN . RIGBE . 1742

The foundry was closed on Rigby's death; his burial is thus recorded in the Register of S. Martin's Church, Stamford:—

1708 Alexander Rigby, bellfounder, bur. Oct^r 29.

HENRY PENN, OF PETERBOROUGH.

Henry Penn, of Peterborough, supplied one bell to Bucks, the treble at Stoke Goldington, dated 1707, inscribed in neat Roman capitals of two sizes. Where he learnt the business is not known, though Mr. North, in *Bells of Northampts*, seems to imply that this was an off-shoot from the Stamford Foundry.† His earliest known bell is at Holcott, in Northampts,

* With the single modern exception of the late Redenhall (Norfolk) Foundry, from which there is no example in Bucks.

† His lettering is extremely similar to Rigby's, but is not identical.

dated 1703. Several of his bells hang in that county ; six in Leicestershire ; nine in Cambridgeshire ; and at least eight in Huntingdonshire—the ring at S. Ives. These latter bells indirectly proved fatal to him, for the parishioners there, were dissatisfied with them (in Dr. Raven's opinion unreasonably so), and a law-suit was instituted between the churchwardens and Penn. The case was tried at the assizes held at S. Ives in 1729, and the verdict given in Penn's favour. After the trial, as he was mounting his horse in the inn-yard at S. Ives, to return home, he fell down dead from over-excitement.*

THE HODSONS', ETC., LONDON FOUNDRY.

About the second half of the seventeenth century, the Whitechapel Foundry was not the principal bellfounding business in London, but yielded in importance to that belonging to John Hodson and his son Christopher. The exact locality of their foundry is unknown, but the following entry among the baptisms in the Registers of All Hallows' Church, London Wall,† probably gives some idea of its whereabouts:—

1629 Christoffer the sonne of John & Isbell Hodshon the 15th of Aprill.

The churchwardens' accounts of Great Marlow furnish us incidentally with an allusion to a namesake of the younger of these founders, fully thirteen years earlier than the date of any known bell by either of them : among the payments in the account presented April, 1640, are various charges connected with the rehangng of the bells, and among them is:—

pd to Christopher Hodson for building y ^e frame for y ^e bells	}	13 : 00 : 00
& Casting y ^e brases 		

Though this may be nothing more than a mere coincidence of names, it is quite possible that this Christopher was the father or elder brother of John Hodson, and that this extract shows the small beginning of the afterwards famous bellfoundry.

* Nichols' *Leicestershire*, Framland Hundred, under Waltham. Quoted in *Bells of Cambs, Leicester, and Northampts.*

† *Ex inform.* A. D. Tyssen, Esq.

WILLIAM WHITMORE. Before, however, detailing bells by the Hodsons, it seems best to mention a founder named William Whitmore, who appears to have been associated with John Hodson. About his personal history nothing is known.*

At Langley Marish, the three inside bells of five (then, probably, as now) have the following peculiar inscriptions:—

2. **BENIAMIN ¶ STILE ¶ AGENT ¶ FOR THE WORK
OF THE BELLS ¶ 1649 ¶**
3. **W WHITMORE NOS FECIT MICHAEL TRENLEY
AGENT ¶ WW ¶ 1649**
4. **LET ARONS BELS BE RVNG ¶ WITH PRAISES
STIL AMONG W W 1649**

Several versions of this last couplet occur on other bells:—

The tenor at Middleton Cheney, in Northampts, by the first Henry Bagley, of Chacombe:—

LET AARONS BELLS BE CONTINVALI AMVNG VS RVNG
THE WORD STILL PREACHT AND AN HALLELV : JAH
SONG 1640

The fifth at Northleach, Gloucestershire, by William Cor, 1700 (with churchwardens' names):—

ON EARTH BELLS DO RING IN HEAVEN ANGELS SING HALELUJAH

The fourth at Wherwell, Hants, by William and Robert Cor, 1707, has the same, except for some pleasing variations in the spelling.

The former tenor at Thornby, Northamptonshire, was very similarly inscribed:—

* At Frocester, Gloucestershire (*fide* Ellacombe), the third is inscribed:—

T W † T W † I W † W WETTMOORE † NOS FECIT . ANNO DOMINI 1639

There are three other bells there by the same founder, of the same date, but as one of them has W.W. † C.W. it seems possible that the above inscription may be given in wrong order, and that either TW, or IW, was the founder. On the other hand, the four Ws (including the CW) may all refer to members of the founding family.

HENRY BAGLEY MADE ME JVLV 1714
 LET AARONS BELLS CONTINUALLY AMONGST US RUNG
 THE WORD STILL PREACHED AND HALLELUJAH SUNG.

The fourth at Wootton Underwood (Bucks), by Edward Hemins, of Bicester, Oxon, cast in 1728, has :—

LET AARONS BELLS BE EVER RANG TŒ WORD BE
 PREACŴ'D AND HALLALUŴAM'S SANG

There are two bells cast by W. Whitmore a year after those at Langley, in the Curfew Tower, Windsor Castle ; the second is inscribed :—

INCIPE DVLCE CEQVAR 1650 W WHITMORE
 MADE ME

the third has simply :—

1650 W W

IOHN Three years later we get the first Hodson bells. On
HODSON. the second at Newton Blossomville, is :—

I o H N ☼ H o D S o N ☼ o F ☼ L A N D o N ☼ M A D E ☼ M E E
 ☼ 1628 ☼

The date is, I think, undoubtedly 1653. Two bells, respectively at Sanden and Springfield, in Essex, are inscribed : JOHN HODSON MADE ME 1653 W.*

The next year a bell appears at Much Hadham, Herts, bearing, I H MADE ME, with the churchwardens' initials and the date. One dated the same year at Bovingdon, in the same county, has the churchwardens' names, the date, and the initials w. w. It has been supposed that Whitmore was foreman at this time to John Hodson, but without knowing whether the lettering used on these two last-mentioned bells is the same, or different, there is nothing in the previous examples to show any such connection, the lettering employed by Whitmore, in 1649 and 1650, being quite different from that on Hodson's 1653 bell. However, one of the next (and latest known) bells by Whitmore does show a connection of

* *Ex inform.* A. D. Tyssen, Esq

some kind with Hodson ; but, as it seems to me, is as likely to point to Whitmore being an itinerant, employed by Hodson to execute an order where it was inconvenient for him to proceed himself, as to show that he was regularly in his employ as foreman. These latest bells are at Hertingfordbury, Herts, the tenor (lettering not described) has:—

ICEPE DVLCE SEQVAR : ❖ ❖ W. WHITMORE FOR JOHN
HVDSON 1656

I think the fact of his repeating the motto used previously by him at Windsor, which was in no case (I believe) used by Hodson, is another argument in favour of his connection with the latter being only of the suggested temporary description ; besides which, from two years previously (namely, 1654 at Chellington, Beds, see p. 208, and 1655 at S. Mary Cray, Kent), we find the initials, W. H., of a man associated with John Hodson, who was undoubtedly his foreman for about sixteen years.

This man was William Hull. Mr. Stahlschmidt thought **WILLIAM HULL.** he must have been the son of one, John Hull, a member of the Founders' Company, and Master of that Guild in 1613 and 1627.* William Hull's initials (and occasionally his full name), associated with John Hodson's name, occur on a good many bells from the above year (1654), chiefly in Kent, also in Sussex, Surrey, and Herts ; and on a complete ring of five at Clifton Reynes, in Bucks, dated 1664—until 1669, when we find on a bell

CHRISTOPHER HODSON. (at West Wickham, Kent), in addition to John Hodson's name and Hull's initials, the further initials, C H, which are those of John's son, Christopher Hodson. From this time Hull's name disappears from bells by Hodson, Christopher's initials taking their place.

Hull next appears as foreman to "Michal Darbe," *alias* **(MICHAEL DARBIE.)** "Micheal Darbi," on two bells at Withyham, Sussex, in 1674.

There are no bells by Michael Darbie in Bucks (unless any of the uninscribed ones are his), so it is unnecessary to say much about him here. He is supposed to have come originally from Saxmundham, in Suffolk, and to have been largely itinerant. A full account of him, and of his "knavery" in connection with the bells of Merton College, Oxford, is given by Dr. Raven in his *Bells of Cambridgeshire*, p. 90. In the *Annals of*

* *Surrey Bells*, p. 98.

Windsor, by Messrs. Tighe and Davis (II., 373), is given, from the churchwardens' accounts of Windsor for 1673, an agreement with Mr. Darby, bellfounder, of Southwark, for fifty pounds, to recast the five bells into six, and do other work. The recasting was apparently done on the spot, for one of the items for 1674 is:—

P^d for beere & tobacco to y^e Bellfounders men att the time of the Runninge o 5 o

In 1675, in a complete ring of five at Halling, Kent, Christopher Hodson put his full name on the two lower bells, after his father's, instead of merely his initials as heretofore, showing that he was growing in importance; and in 1676, in a complete ring of five at Woodnesborough, Kent, his name—fully out—stands *before* that of his father.

In that year Hull set up in business, on his own account, at South Malling, Sussex, and Mr. Tyssen (*Bells of Sussex*, p. 28) records more than twenty of his bells in the neighbourhood of that place. His history may as well be finished here. In 1683, the initials W H are found on the clock-bell at Richmond, Surrey, which is by James Bartlett, of the Whitechapel Foundry; Mr. Stahlschmidt was inclined to think they stand for Hull, and that he was acting as foreman to Bartlett. On a bell in Sussex of the same date, bearing William Hull's name, appear the initials I H; they do not stand for his old master, but for John Hull, William's son. John's initials appear from that date on nearly all the bells bearing William's name, until his death. His burial is thus recorded in the South Malling Register:—

Buried William Hull, of this parysh ye 13th
day of August. 1687.

His will is given in *Bells of Sussex*. His wife, Mary, survived him, also his son John, and his daughter Susanna. The latter was baptized in April, 1685; but John's age is a little puzzling.

From certain provisions in his will, "provided any," or both "of the two children aforesaid dye under age," it seems clear that John was still an infant at the time of his father's decease, and although his name had appeared on bells for the last five years, it is probable that it was so placed when, or soon after, he began to learn the business as a boy, and not as one would have expected, when he had come of age, and took his place as a skilled founder, either as foreman to, or partner with, his father.

There is a bell at Kingston Bowsey, Sussex, dated 1687, which Mr. Tyssen supposes to have been cast by John Hull, after his father's death. It is inscribed in William's lettering, but without any founder's name or

initials; it may well have been an order not completed at the time of his father's decease. John did not continue as a bellfounder.

To return to the Hodsons. "John and Christopher" appear in 1677 (from some bells in Kent) to have been in regular partnership. After that, while John remained at his London foundry, Christopher started either a branch, or an independent business, at S. Mary Cray, Kent. As Christopher's name ceases first, I will finish what little there is to say about him, before taking the parent foundry. In 1680 he appears to have gone to Oxford, and there* recast "Tom," of Christ Church, and the entire ring (of eight) at Merton College. The next year he cast a bell at North Hinksey, in Berks, but close to the city of Oxford. Perhaps when the towers of those two counties are thoroughly searched, it may appear that Christopher cast other bells in that neighbourhood. In 1682 he cast the clock-bell over the Town Hall at Amersham. This town is on the road from Oxford to London—about midway between those two cities—as if Christopher cast it on his way homewards to S. Mary Cray. In 1683 he cast a bell at Addington, Surrey. All bells by him, subsequent to that date, are in Kent,

* See, however, under the Woodstock (Richard Keene's) Foundry, p. 171. Browne Willis (MSS. cix. 34) gives the following account of Tom:—

Demensions of Tom of Christchurch
 Diameter Seven feet one Inch
 From the crown to the Brim 5 feet nine Inches
 Thickness of the striking place 6 inches
 Weight of the whole Bell near 17000
 Weight of her clapper 342^{lb}
 She requires 16 men to ring her
 This Bell was cast 3 times twice
 by one Keen of Woodstock who miscarrying
 in it one Hodson of London
 undertook who made it as tis at present
 Round great Tom is this Inscription.
 Magnus Thomas clusius Oxoniensis renatus
 Aprill viii MDCLXXX Regnante Carolo Secundo
 Decano Johanne Oxon̄ Episcopo
 Subdecano Gulielmo Jane SS Th Pr
 Thesaurio Henrico Smith SS Th Pr
 Cura et arte Christopheri Hodson
 on the old Bell this Inscription as I have heard
 In Thome Laude resono Bim Bom Sine Fraude

(The inscription is not quite accurate.)

the latest being dated 1687, which we may presume marks approximately the date of his death.

Meanwhile John Hodson sent one bell to Kent in 1680, and five in 1683. In the two intervening years, the name of William Wightman appears on the scene, and Mr. Stahlschmidt* supposed him to have been a successor of the Hodsons, although the succession has not been quite made out. The tenor at Hedgerley, dated 1681, which bears the initials W W, may safely, I think, be assigned to him; and there are two bells at Thorley, in Herts, dated 1682, on one of which his name appears in full. There are eight bells in Kent, cast by John Hodson in 1685.

Therfield, in Herts, has a bell by "William and (PHILIP Philip Wightman," dated 1689. Next come two (WIGHTMAN.) more by John Hodson in Kent, dated 1692; and two more in Kent the next year, 1693, are the latest bells known by him. In the same year is one at Little Hadham, Herts, by Philip Wightman; and four bells in St. Alban's Abbey—originally six—cast by him in 1699, seem to be the last productions of this foundry.

THE WOOTTON FOUNDRY (BEDS).

From the foundry carried on during the greater part of the eighteenth century at Wootton, a village five miles south-west of Bedford, there are five bells in Bucks. Mr. North, in *Bells of Beds*, has given a full account of this foundry, to which I am indebted for most of the details concerning it.

The foundry was opened in 1715, by Thomas Russell, a clock and watch maker. His earliest bell in Bucks is the broken treble at Newton Blossomville, inscribed:—

THOMAS RUSSELL MADE 1719

The "ME" is omitted. Between each word is a stop somewhat resembling a small t sprouting into leaf; and at the end are ten impressions of the obverse of a coin—apparently a shilling of Queen Anne—with bust sinister.

On the fifth at Olney, dated 1733, he placed his name and direction, and the names of the churchwardens, in tiny letters, only $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch high. There are three stamps used as stops, namely, a six-dot colon; a coin—

* *Bells of Herts*, p. 46.

apparently a shilling of George I.,* one inch in diameter (the obverse, shewn eight times, has a bust dexter, "GEORGIVS D G M BR FR ET HIB REX FID," and the reverse, shown twice, has royal arms in cross); and a small scroll.

The fourth at Tyringham is inscribed (in the larger lettering):—

THOMAS + RVSSSELL * OF WOOTTON + BY BEDFORD
MADE ME *

followed by the name of the churchwarden, and dated 1735.

The cross after THOMAS and WOOTTON, is only $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch across; the five-point star used on this bell appears not unfrequently on bells from this foundry, it is the pentacle of freemasonry, which denotes the five points of fellowship, and that the man using it was a master mason.

Russell was twice married, and in addition to three daughters, had three sons—John, who died an infant; Thomas, baptized 8th February, 1707–8; and William, baptized 27th September, 1710.

From a bell at Wootton, Beds, we gather that his two surviving sons had commenced bellfounding in, or by, 1736, and on two bells at Bromham, in the same county, we find "Thomas Rvssell of Biddenham and William Rvssell of Wootton made me in 1739." Mr. North gathered from the Biddenham Registers that the younger Thomas only resided there between about 1734 and 1740, during which time the baptisms of three sons are recorded. Thomas Russell, the elder, died in January, 1744–5.

The sons do not appear to have continued to cast bells after their father's death, and the Wootton Foundry was closed for nearly a quarter of a century.

John Emerton, of Marston Moretaine, Beds, married Hannah Cary, of, and at, Wootton, on 8th January, 1699–1700. Their son William married Mary Warren, in 1766, and is described on that occasion in the Wootton Register as a clockmaker; shortly after his marriage he appears to have re-opened the bellfoundry, his first bell being dated 1768.

In 1779 he cast the tenor at Weston Underwood, describing himself (in

* It will be noticed by anyone numismatically inclined, that the coins on this and the last bell are both of the reign preceding that in which the bell was cast, Anne having died in 1714, and George I. in 1727.

a double-line inscription) as "of Wootton, near Bedford," in Russell's larger lettering, and using the pentacle, and Russell's scroll.

In 1780 he cast the third at Whaddon,* similarly inscribed without the scroll, another small stamp being substituted. His coin (apparently like the previous examples, a shilling) has on the obverse, bust dexter, "GEORGIVS III DEI GRATIA," and reverse, the royal arms, crowned. Occasionally he spelt his name with two Ms.

The date of William Emerton's death has not been ascertained; but his latest bell (in Beds) is dated 1789. He is supposed to have been ruined by the inability of the parish of S. John Baptist, Bedford, to pay for three bells which he cast for it. With him this foundry came to an end.

EDWARD HEMINS, OF BICESTER, OXON.

Nothing is known as to the history of Edward Hemins, bellfounder, of Bicester, in Oxfordshire, except what we can gather from his will, a long and not very interesting document, of which the substance is given on the following page.

There are eight bells by him in Bucks, of which five were cast in 1728—a year earlier than the first of the half-dozen bells which I know of by him in Oxfordshire, and three years earlier than the first in Northamptonshire, which is probably the only other county in which his bells occur.

At Wotton Underwood, in the above year, he cast the inside four of the present ring of six; his ring may possibly have originally numbered five.

The second bell (first of Hemins's ring), very properly announces that it is a recast, and gives the name of the donor of the original bell, and the date; also the churchwardens' and his own names. The third has a rather larger edition of fig. 85 repeated all round; and underneath, the names of the churchwardens and himself, and the date. The fourth has a version of the "Aaron's bells" couplet, mentioned on p. 250, with Hemins's name, and address spelt BISSITER, and the date. The fifth has:—

BEHOLD OUR USES ARE NOT SMALL THAT GOD TO
PRAISE ASSEMBLIES CALL.

* A clock was given to that church, in 1613, by the wife of a Joseph Emerton; and a John Emerton was connected with that parish, c. 1630.

followed by the churchwardens' and his own names, the date, and some more impressions of the above device.

The saunce at Preston Bissett is by him the same year, inscribed with the churchwardens' and his own names, his address BISSITER, and some stops consisting of four dots placed crosswise.



Fig. 85.

In 1730 he cast the saunce at Edgcott, spelling his address phonetically, BISTER. In 1736, the saunce at Water Stratford has his name, the date, and fig. 85; the name of the churchwarden is incised. His remaining bell in Bucks is the saunce at Grendon Underwood, dated 1740. This has an initial cross formed of four straight lines placed saltire-wise, with a dot in the centre, where the point of intersection would be, if the lines were continuous. His latest known bell is at Culworth, Northampts, dated, according to Mr. North, "December y^e 23 : 1747"; but it is not unlikely that this date is a mistake, as he died at least two years and eight months before that, and it is not known that anyone kept on the business.

His will, which describes him as "Edward Henmings of Bissiter in the County of Oxon Clockmaker," is dated 17th August, 1739, and was proved 13th April, 1745. He signs his name as Edward Hemins, as on the bells. He leaves to his loving wife, Elizabeth, "all her wearing apparel both linnen & woollen," "the bed and all y^e furniture thereto belonging whereon she doth now lie." Also "two blankets & two pair of sheets," and "the legacy of 5 shillings of lawful money." All to be delivered to her within six days after his decease. To his "brother Benjamin all my working tools instruments & [blank] y^t are made use of & belonging to ye trade of a gunnsmith," also "all the gunns barrels locks & stocks which I shall leave." To his "brother Joseph, s^d brother Benjamin Mr. John Walker of Bissiter afores^d Malster & Mr. Walls Bissiter afores^d Draper—All y^t my messuage or tenement wherein I now dwell with the appur^ts thereto belonging situate & being in Bisiter afores^d Item I give & bequeath to my s^d brother Ioseph brother Benjamin Mr. Io Walker & Mr. Rich Walls all y^t my workhouse or shop call'd or known by the name of the Foundering Shop situate & being in Bisiter afores^d with y^e appur^ts thereto belonging" with "all the rest of my goods chattles ready money debts owing & personal estates w^tsoever not herein before given & disposed of" in trust to the above four persons "y^r heirs e^xtors & administrators" and directs that the "assigns of the survivor of them do & shall as soon as conveniently may sel & dispose of the same at y^e best price y^t y^e can gett and y^e money arising thereby" after paying his debts and

funeral expenses, shall "be upon this further trust" to the same four, &c., who shall "pay & divide y^e remainder" "if any to & amongst my mother & 4 children (y^e is to say) Martha Edward John & Rich^d share & share alike." If any of the children be under the age of sixteen at the time of his decease his executors, &c. "shall apply their respective shares if any shall attain to them toward y^r maintainance & education until y^e shall attain to y^e respective ages of 16 years as afors^d" The above four persons to be joint E^xtors. Proved before the Rev. Jno. Bilstone M.A. Surrogate by J. Walker & R. Walls.

THE WARNERS, OF CRIPPLEGATE, LONDON.

A full account of the Cripplegate Foundry in London, trading as John Warner and Sons, is given in *The Bells of Kent*, so the following abridged account will suffice here :

About the year 1740 Jacob Warner was carrying on business in Wood Street, Cheapside, as a brass founder, although only free of the Tinplate Workers' Company. An amusing account is given in *Bells of Kent*, of how he was hauled over the coals by the Founders' Company for thus infringing their privileges, and how he, being a Quaker, proved a difficult person to deal with, but was at length squashed. His eldest son, John, was apprenticed to a neighbouring founder, John Cutteridge, also a member of the "Society of Friends," and in due time, namely, on August 1st, 1757, was made free of the Founders' Company; to which also his younger brother, Tomson Warner, was admitted in 1761.

On the death of their father, Jacob, the two brothers succeeded to the brass-founding business in Wood Street, Cheapside; and sometime between 1763 and 1780, they removed to Fore Street, Cripplegate.

In 1780 the brothers parted company, and John established himself in Fleet Street, as a bell and brass founder. By him we have one bell in Bucks, the fifth at Wooburn, dated 1790.

Soon after that date, the name of the firm was altered from "John Warner," to "John Warner and Son."

John died subsequently to 1812; his younger brother, Tomson, having pre-deceased him.

From John's death the bellfounding part of the business was dropped until 1850, in which year apparently (from what Mr. North says, in *Bells of Northampts*, p. 120) the firm was established in its present premises in Jewin Street, Cripplegate—though from the account in *Bells of Kent* (p. 116), it may be that the brothers John and Tomson removed direct from Wood Street to Jewin Street.

In 1854, the name of the firm was again altered, by making "SON" into the plural, "SONS."

There were not many bells cast during this intermediate period, or periods, namely, between 1790 and 1812, or shortly after those dates; and again between 1850 and 1854.

There is one such in Bucks, the single bell at Wexham, which is undated. I am inclined to assign it to the earlier portion of this intermediate period. It is inscribed in perfectly plain Roman capitals:—

CHARLES BROCK JOHN WARNER & SON FOUNDERS LONDON

At S. Stephen's, Norwich, the priest's bell is inscribed, "John Warner & Son Founders London 1796." The single bell at Colby, in Norfolk, is similarly inscribed, except that "Founders" is correctly spelt, and the date is 1801.

An undated bell at S. John's, Leicester, inscribed:—

J. WARNER & SON CRESCENT FOUNDRY LONDON.

would apparently, from the address, date between 1850 and 1853.

At Oxendon Magna, in Northampts, is a bell similarly inscribed to that at Colby, dating from the latter part of this period, 1853.

The next year we get, at Marsh Gibbon (the tenor):—

J WARNER & SONS CRESCENT FOUNDRY LONDON 1854

By 1856 (the treble at Hawridge, and the fourth at Hambleton in the following year) they had taken to disfiguring their bells with what Dr. Raven calls "the Shibboleth of modern bell-founding"—the word **PATENT** placed on the waist of their bells, under the Royal Arms. I have never succeeded in ascertaining what particular attribute or quality was patented. This word, however, no longer appears on their bells. It is not worth while to give a list of all the bells sent by them to this county, but may say that they number about forty-three in all, of which the largest is the tenor at Wing, and the most recent, the tenor at Marsworth.

THE LOUGHBOROUGH FOUNDRY (MESSRS. TAYLOR).

Joseph Eayre (see p. 115), the son of a clock-maker at Kettering, Northampts, started a foundry at S. Neots, Huntingdonshire, shortly after

1731. He died in 1771, and was succeeded by his cousin, Edward Arnold, having as partner for about a year, Eayre's foreman, T. Osborn, who then set up independently at Downham Market, in Norfolk. Arnold continued by himself, and in 1784 opened a branch foundry at Leicester (not connected with the famous old one there, which had come to an end some hundred and forty years previously); and, at about the close of the century, he gave up his S. Neots business to an ex-apprentice of his, named Robert Taylor.

ROBERT,
JOHN,
AND
WILLIAM
TAYLOR.

Taylor sent a treble to Hanslope thence in 1815. Soon afterwards he took his son, John, into partnership, and the firm was known as Robert Taylor and Sons; in 1821 they removed to Oxford. In 1822 they recast the ring of five at Calverton, and probably also cast the sanctus, which is blank. They describe themselves on the treble as W : & J : TAYLOR CHURCH CLOCK & CHIME MAKERS, and on the second and tenor, they give their address as OXFORD. They were the SONS who moved with Robert from S. Neots.

In 1824 the sons cast the upper four, out of the ring of six, at Newnton Longville. In 1825 they recast the ring of six at Brill, describing themselves as of OXFORD and BISHOP'S TAWTON DEVONSHIRE. In this year John dissolved partnership with his brother, and set up by himself at Buckland Brewer, near Bideford, Devonshire. He returned to Oxford in 1835.

In 1826 the tenor at Newnton Longville is inscribed : R : TAYLOR & SONS FOUNDERS OXFORD; and the same title for the firm appears at Bletchley, Lavendon, and Edgcott, in the three following years. Cold Brafield and Dorton have each a bell without any name, but dated 1828, which are by them; and Steeple Claydon has a bell cast in the same year, inscribed : TAYLOR & SONS, without initial.

In 1837, W. & J. TAYLOR reappears at Stewkley, but not close side by side as here printed, but, as in several bells by them from this time, each letter is stamped on the slant—in some words inclined forwards, in others backwards.

The poor ring at Stony Stratford is dated 1837:8, having been, no doubt commenced in the former year, and actually cast in the latter. The ring of five at Emberton is dated 1839.

A bell at Redbourne, Herts, cast in that year, bears the inscription : TAYLOR & SYMONDSON, BELLFOUNDERS, OXFORD, LONDON, & LOUGHBORO'. Symondson has been already mentioned as foreman to John Briant. No other bell is known with his name in the present connection.

The three lower bells (of four) at Moulsoe are by W. and J. Taylor the

same year. On the second and third, the address OXFORD is given, but on the tenor is OXFORD & LOUGHBORO. This was the year in which the now widely-known Leicestershire Foundry was opened. As William remained in Oxford, and only John (his brother) went to Loughborough, in Leicestershire, these bells were, without much doubt, cast at Oxford.

This change of abode took place in consequence of being commissioned to recast the six bells (by Thomas Eayre, of Kettering, 1754) of All Saints', Loughborough, and augment the ring to eight, provided they did the work on the spot. This was carried out in 1840, and so many orders from that neighbourhood came in, that they were almost compelled to continue at Loughborough.

In 1842 W & J TAYLOR cast the Bledlow tenor, probably at Oxford; but in the same year came the present fifth to Wing, and the treble and second to Drayton Parslow, inscribed: J TAYLOR LOBRO.

The Ickford sanctus, dated 1847, has the name, W TAYLOR, and is, therefore, no doubt an Oxford bell. The ring of three and saunce at Worminghall, dated the same year, but without any name, are also from the Oxford Foundry. Marsh Gibbon has also a bell thence, cast 1848.

William Taylor died at Oxford in 1854, and that foundry was then closed.

The only recent bells in Bucks from the Loughborough Foundry are two at Caversfield, cast 1874 and 1876 respectively; the tenor at Stoke Hamond, cast 1882; the treble and tenor at Ludgershall, and additional treble at Burnham, in 1892; all which are by John Taylor and Co.

I. W. TAYLOR,
SEN. & JUN.,
AND
E. D. TAYLOR.

Mr. John Taylor is now dead, and his son, Mr. John William Taylor, is the head of the firm, in partnership with his two sons, Messrs. J. W. Taylor, *jun.*, and E. D. Taylor.

HENRY BOND AND SONS, OF BURFORD, OXON.

This exceptionally pretty little town is interesting, not merely for its many architectural features, both ecclesiastical and domestic, but as being the site of the only bell-foundry existing at the present time in the diocese of Oxford.

A bell-foundry existed here during the middle half of the seventeenth century, but as there is no example from it in Bucks, it will suffice to give

(THE NEALES.) the following names and dates: Henry Neale, 1635, 1637; Edward Neale, 1641; John Neale, 1653; Edward Neale, 1656 to 1683. Bells with these dates occur in Gloucestershire, from the borders of which county Burford is only two miles away—except the earliest date, which occurs on four bells at Burford itself. The extreme dates of the foundry have not been ascertained, but await the investigation of the future historian of the bells of Oxfordshire.

The north transept of Burford church is called "The Bellfounders' Aisle," and contains the following epitaph on a mural slab:—

Here Lyeth the Body of
Elizabeth the Wife of Edward
Neale Belfounder Deceased
August the 8TH 1677

Here May J Rest Vnder this Tombe
Not to be Moued til the day of Doome
Vnlese my Husband Who did Mee Wed
Doth Lye with Mee when he is dead

The foundry seems to have come to an end with the death or retirement of Edward Neale, unless the following entries in the churchwardens' accounts of All Saints, Oxford,* may be taken to indicate its continuance:—

May 9, 1710.

Item paid expenses at Burford	...	...	...	12	6
for casting the saints bell	...	...	...	1	19 0

May 8, 1711.

Item paid Mr Dubber for his journey to Burford as allowed att the last accounts	7	6
--	-----	-----	-----	---	---

The present foundry is not known to have any connection with the former one, but is, in fact, an off-shoot from the Aldbourne (Wilts) Foundry, see p. 107. When Thomas Mears II., of the Whitechapel Foundry, bought James Wells's business at his sale in, **(JAMES BRIDGMAN.)** or shortly after, 1825, James Bridgman, who had been Wells's assistant at Aldbourne, took service with Mears, and worked at Whitechapel for about three years. He then returned to Aldbourne, and set up on his own account. He continued in business there until 1851, when, having met with an accident in a tower,

* For these I am indebted to Mr. A. D. Tyssen.

which permanently injured him, he retired, dying seven or eight years later.

Mr. Henry Bond, who had learnt the business under him, bought his patterns, etc., and set up for himself, in the above year, at Westcot, in Gloucestershire, on the borders of Oxfordshire. He remained there about ten years, and then, towards the end of 1861, or early in 1862, came to Burford, where (*inter alia*) he has since recast two of the bells. He has rehung many rings in Bucks, but his only bell in the county is the second at Chalfont S. Peter, dated 1884.

The three bells mentioned, and the fourth at Chipping Norton (Oxon)—the only examples of his casting that I have seen—are, in my humble opinion, decidedly good bells—far superior to several other modern bells which I have met with.

A great deal of Mr. Bond's time is occupied in bellhanging, the remainder being filled up with various engineering works.

JOHN MURPHY, OF DUBLIN.

The sixth at Wooburn, dated 1868, is by John Murphy, of Dublin. His name is mentioned in Mr. Lukis's *Church Bells*, published in 1857.

He died in 1879, leaving assets amounting to about £40,000.* He was married three times, and left ten children. The business was carried on for several years after his death.

WILLIAM BLEWS, OF BIRMINGHAM.

William Blews and Sons, of Birmingham, recast the fourth bell at Twyford, in 1869, and the treble in 1872. The foundry ceased to exist some time subsequently to 1876, but was reopened in 1889. Mr. Henry Bond, junr., of Burford, worked with this firm for some years.

GILLETT AND CO., OF CROYDON.

Messrs. Gillett, of Croydon, are a firm of clock-makers, who have lately taken to bellfounding in addition. In the Jubilee year they sent nine bells

* *Bell News* III. (1884), p. 231.

to Bucks, namely, one to Milton Keynes; two to Woughton; an extra semitone bell for the clock at Newport Pagnell; and five to Fenny Stratford. And in 1893 they sent a new tenor to Bletchley, in place of a Rudhall bell.

The title of the firm has been at various times, Gillett and Co.; Gillett and Bland (from about 1881, in which year I believe, they began to cast bells); Gillett and Co. (from 1885); and from 1888, Gillett and Johnston.

There are two bells, cast in Bucks, by men who became bellfounders for that occasion only, and it is not surprising, therefore, that they are both very poor specimens.

On the single bell at Fingest, is *incised* :—

J. HOBBS LANE END 1830.

This firm (at Lane End, near Great Marlow) are simply ironfounders, and I am not aware that they ever cast another bell.

The saunce at Hardwick, in addition to the names of the churchwardens, has :—

1850. S. SEYMOUR. AYLESBURY.

He was an ironmonger at Aylesbury.

NAYLOR, VICKERS, AND CO., OF SHEFFIELD.

Other modern founders, represented in Bucks, are Naylor, Vickers, and Co., of Sheffield, makers of *steel bells*. A ring of five of these horrible instruments hangs at Thornborough, cast in 1860 and 1861, where they replace an interesting ring of four, consisting of two "ancients," with a Henry Knight I., and an Edward Hall, which are fully described elsewhere.

A similar ring of six hangs at Waddesdon, dated 1861 and 1862.

These two rings are revolting-looking objects—nearly the whole surface of every bell scaling off in large, bright red scabs of rust. Let us hope that nothing short of the removal of their miserable remains from the towers, will check this process of disintegration, and that a happy day may come when these churches may once more possess sweet-toned bells of *bell metal*.

There still remain to be mentioned the following few unidentified waifs and strays.

The saunce at Westbury has no inscription, but merely the impressions of reverses (cross *patée*, three pellets in each angle) of four coins, spread over rather more than half the circumference of the waist. The designs are impressed, instead of being in relief, and the edges are very rough and indefinite. It would seem as if the coins had been pressed on to clay or other plastic material, from which matrices, casts have been made; and that these casts had been inserted bodily in the cope, otherwise it is difficult to account for the *impressed* forms. I took "squeezes" in the ordinary way, from which I made casts in plaster of Paris, and submitted them to expert opinion at the Coin Department of the British Museum. They were, however, not distinct enough to allow of identification, so I paid another visit to the tower, and took "squeezes" in modelling wax, which I also submitted to the Coin Department. These likewise proved insufficiently distinct to allow of identification; but Mr. B. V. Head kindly informed me that the coins are *probably* of the time of Edward III., *i.e.*, between 1327 and 1377. This bell, therefore—Westbury being only five miles from Buckingham—should go with the group described on pp. 14 to 19. The coins appear to be three groats and one half-groat.

Four bells inscribed as follows, in a plain, light set of Roman capitals, not unlike James Keene's usual set, but a size larger, about $1\frac{3}{8}$ inch high; the only ornament being a curve in the central bar of the H, like a curb-bit:

At Whitchurch, the third (a cotemporary bell in front of it having evidently disappeared) has:—

∇ND SOLEMNE VOYCE 1019

The fourth has:—

WEE SOVND FORTH OVR BREATH 1019

followed on the next line, by the names of the churchwardens.

The single bell at Cholesbury has:—

COM AND PRAYE

The treble at Drayton Beauchamp has the same, except that the E is

transferred to its correct position, and the date 1621 added: the figure 6 this time being the right way about.

This inscription seems to show affinity with Leicester and Bedford founders; it occurs on twenty bells—the first word always repeated—in Leicestershire, Northampts, and Beds, always (apparently) in “Brasyer’s smaller alphabet” of ornate Lombardic capitals (Plate XXIII.) The majority are by members of the Watts family, and a few by Newcombes, while two seem to show a Newcombe and Oldfield partnership. A few are undated; the others run from 1593 to 1638.

However, though it seems possible that the founder of these Bucks bells may have learnt his work at Bedford, it seems almost certain that they were not cast by any member of that or the Leicester foundries.

The single bell at Hedsor, in plain, rather heavy letters about $\frac{5}{8}$ inch high, has :—

A K J300

No member of the Knight family of Reading is known with this initial, and the lettering is not Samuel Knight’s smaller set of about the same size.

A small bell at Little Kimble (unhung, and kept at the rectory) has, in plain, rather heavy letters, about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch high :—

R † S † ESQR † 1713

The saunce bell at Cuxham, Oxon, cast the same year, has similar figures, but no letters. I fancy they *may* be by William and Robert Corr, of Aldbourne (see p. 106), but put this forward merely as a suggestion.

The two bells at Ibstone have no inscription, but in place, the tenor has a series of triangles running all round, three inches high, and more or less equilateral :—



The only other bell in this style of art, that I have met with, is the saunce at Cottisford, Oxon, with devices like these :—

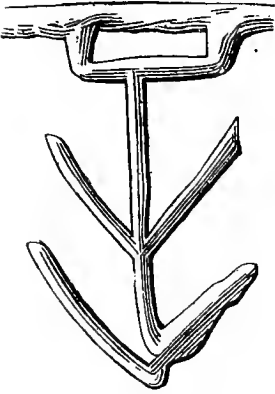


Fig. 86.

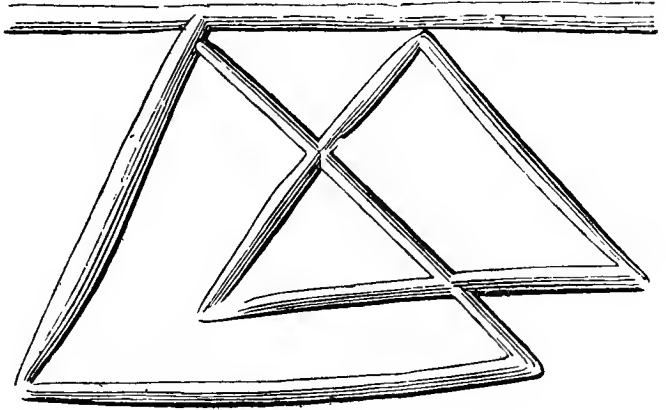


Fig. 87.

The bells seem to belong to the eighteenth century.

The following bells were accidentally omitted from their proper places :
Lester and Pack (p. 100); the bell in the clock-tower at Wendover, dated 1763, raises the number of examples by them in Bucks to thirty-four.

Ellis Knight (p. 127): the fourth at Wendover resembles the treble (cast 1633).

James Keene (p. 163): there were formerly two bells by him at Twyford, dated 1627.

Robert Atton (p. 203): the tenor at Oving, cast 1617, resembles the second at Fringford, Oxon; and the former treble at Twyford was said to bear: + R. A. 1618 (lettering not recorded).

One of the later Henry Bagleys (p. 217): the tenor at Water Stratford has the same lettering as the other bells of that date, and is ornamented with coins, and the large rose and *fleur-de-lis* from No. 3, on Plate XXXII.

Anthony Chandler and (?) Richard Chandler II. (p. 226): in 1662, the other two bells at Little Wolston, and the tenor at Leckhampstead, are by

Anthony; while the second at the latter place, dated 1664, is like the Middle Claydon second of that date—perhaps by Richard II.

Richard Chandler III. (p. 227): the tenor at Lillingstone Dayrell, dated 1674, is like the Akeley tenor of the same date.

A third example by Anthony, in the last year of his life (1679), is the single bell at Great Wolston, with merely his initials and the date.

END OF PART I.

PART II.

LOCAL USES.

EN EGO CAMPANA, NUNQUAM DENUNTIO VANA,
LAUDO DEUM VERUM, PLEBEM VOCO, CONGREGO CLERUM,
DEFUNCTOS PLANGO, VIVOS VOCO, FULMINA FRANGO,*
VOX MEA, VOX VITÆ, VOCO VOS, AD SACRA VENITE.
SANCTOS COLLAUDO, TONITRUS FUGO, FUNERA CLAUDO,
FUNERA PLANGO, FULGURA FRANGO, SABBATHA PANGO ;
EXCITO LENTOS, DISSIPO VENTOS, PACO CRUENTOS.

Englished :—

Behold, my vses are not fmall,
That, GOD to prayse, Affemblyes call :
That breake the Thunder, wayle the Dead,
And cleanse the Ayre of Tempests bred ;
With feare keepe off the Fiends of Hell,
And all by vertue of my Knell.

From *A Helpe to Discourse*, by W. B[asse] and E. P[hillips], 12mo, London, 1627, †
p. 61.

The first two “Englished” lines were inscribed by Edward Hemins on a bell at Wotton Underwood. The Latin lines may be more literally “Englished” as follows :—

* In *The Burnynge of Paules Church in London, 1561, and the 4th of June, by Lyghtnynges, &c.* (12mo, London, 1561), there is mentioned, among other “Popish superstitions,” “ringinge the hallowed Belle in great Tempestes or Lightnings.”

† This is the sixth edition of this curious little book, and the earliest existing at the British Museum. It went through numerous later editions, several of which may be seen there.

Lo I the Bell, never announce unmeaning things,
 I praise the true God, call the people, assemble the clergy,
 The dead I lament aloud, call the living, break the thunder-bolts,
 My voice is the voice of life, I call you, come to sacred rites.
 I extol the saints, drive away thunders, close funerals,
 Funerals I lament aloud, break the lightnings, set the Sabbaths ;
 I rouse the sluggish, disperse the winds, pacify the bloodthirsty.

Another version of the third line (and a decided improvement), is:—

DEFUNCTOS PLORO, PESTEM FUGO, FESTA DECORO.
 I lament the dead, put to flight pestilence, hallow festivals.

The above rhyming hexameters give a tolerably complete summary of the ancient uses of Church Bells ; but some few pages must be devoted to tabulating their various uses in this county at the present time, in addition to their primary use of summoning to services. These uses are given in greater detail under the several parishes, in so far as I have information ; but, as those who before me have written the History of the Church Bells of a County, have found—

“It is a matter of regret to me that the information is imperfect, about one-third of the clergy having sent no reply to my list of queries, so that the details which are given must only be taken as a sample of the whole.”*

Some of the uses are of great antiquity, and have been handed down for centuries—from hundreds of years even anterior to the Reformation.

Others, such as the marking of certain patriotic rejoicings, were in vogue at least by the beginning of Henry VIII.'s reign : a payment for ringing for his coronation, in 1509, is quoted on p. 42 ; on p. 44 is quoted a payment for ringing, in 1525, in honour of a successful battle ; and on the same page a payment, in 1536, for ringing on the occasion of a royal wedding. Wedding peals, for non-royalties, were evidently known by Elizabeth's reign. Mr. North† quotes a tariff for them from the churchwardens' accounts of Loughborough, under date 1588 ; and one from those of S. Martin's, Leicester, under date 1612-13.

The following notes on the mediæval hours of services and ringing, are given in *The Symbolism of Churches and Church Ornaments*, by William Durandus (Bishop of Mende), with notes, etc., by the late Revs. J. M. Neale and Benj. Webb (Leeds, 1843, p. 91, etc.):—

* *Bells of Kent*, p. 121.

† *Bells of Leicestershire*, p. 119.

Bells are commonly rung for the Divine offices twelve times during the twelve hours of the day : etc. :

“At Prime, one ; at Tierce, three ; at Sexts, three ; at Nones, three ; at Vespers, one (not one only, but many times are they rung, because in the time of grace the preaching of the Apostles was multiplied. The ringing ‘many times’ being only thus [*i.e.*, one] accounted) ; and at the last hour, one ; in whole, twelve.”

The hours were : Prime, 6 a.m. ; Tierce, 9 ; Sexts, 12 ; Nones, 3 p.m. ; Vespers, 6 ; and Compline, bedtime. They are recorded in rhyme as follows :—

At *Matins* bound : at *Prime* revil'd : condemn'd to Death at *Tierce* :
Nail'd to the Cross at *Sexts* : at *Nones* His Blessed Side they Pierce :
They take Him down at *Vesper*-tide : in grave at *Compline* lay
Who thenceforth bids His Church to keep Her sevenfold Hours alway.

It may be worth quoting here (*op. cit.*, p. 93) the six kinds of bells used in the church :—

Squilla*	...	...	rung in the <i>Triclinium</i> (<i>i.e.</i> , Refectory).
Cymbalum	...	...	„ <i>Cloister</i>
Nola	...	...	„ <i>Choir</i> .
Nolula (or double Campana)†	...	...	„ <i>Clock</i> .
Campana	...	...	„ <i>Campanile</i> .
Signum	...	...	„ <i>Tower</i> .

In Saxon times, as we find in Ælfric's catalogue of Church appliances, there were distinguished, “Clocca, belle ; Tintinnabulum, litel belle ; Campana, mycel belle.”‡

SUNDAY USES.

In the Middle Ages the usual rule for services was, Matins at 8, Mass at 9 ; but it is somewhat doubtful whether, as a rule, a bell was rung for the latter. At some places the hours were 7 and 8.|| In post-reformation times, when the sermon grew to be considered so important a feature in a

* Literally a *sea-onion* ; probably a kind of hand-bell, formed out of a hollow ball of metal, furnished with a slit for the sound, and with a loose pellet inside.

† *Nolecta*, or *Duplex*, are the names quoted by Professor Westwood, in *Archæologia Cambrensis*, III. (1848), p. 232.

‡ *Archæological Journal*, 1863, Vol. XX., p. 359.

|| See *Bells of Kent*, p. 122.

service, the ringing of a bell was introduced to give notice when there was to be a sermon, and at the present time, when a sermon at the morning Sunday service is the almost invariable rule, it is not always easy, or even possible, to distinguish between the two uses. Then, again, the days of pluralism made it uncertain, in many places, whether there would be a service at all, and a bell to give notice of an intended service (to be held some hours after the ringing, and not following it immediately) makes a third cause for early ringing on Sundays. The mere fact of a particular ringing being called in any place "the Sermon bell," hardly proves that it may not be a survival of the earlier use; while, on the other hand, the absence of such later name does not necessarily prove its ancient origin. All early Sunday ringings that I have notice of, are therefore included in the following list, and the more obvious "Sermon bells," rung immediately before, or in the middle of, or after, chiming or ringing for service, are placed in a later list:—

AT 7 AND 8 A.M. Stoke Goldington.

AT 7 IN SUMMER, 7.30 IN WINTER; AND AT 8.30. Chalfont S. Giles.

AT 7.30 AND 8. Quainton.

AT 7 AND 9. Marsh Gibbon (the first now discontinued).

AT 7. Amersham, Aylesbury, Buckland, Burnham, Great Missenden, Newport Pagnell (called Sermon Bell), Wing, Woughton (said to be to give notice of Morning Service).

AT 7 IN SUMMER, 8 IN WINTER. Aston Abbots, Chicheley (called Sermon Bell), Great Horwood, Long Crendon.

AT 8, 9, AND 10. Leckhampstead.

AT 8 AND 9. Loughton (the latter now discontinued), Padbury (ditto).

AT 8 AND 10. Medmenham (the latter as Sermon Bell).

AT 8. Beachampton, Broughton (formerly when there was only one Service, alternately Morning and Afternoon, the chiming was at 8 when Service was to be at 11, and at 12 when at 3), Chesham, Steeple Claydon, Drayton Parslow, Dunton, Edlesborough, Haversham, Iver, Lathbury, Ludgershall, Marsworth (on all other days, as well as Sundays, when there is to be a Morning Service), Newton Blossomville, Oakley, Olney, Shabbington, Shalston, Sherington, Stoke Mandeville, Stone, Taplow, Tingewick (to give notice of Morning Service), Turville, Willen, Worminghall, and Wraysbury. Also formerly at Hoggeston (until about 1877), Ivinghoe (until 1889), and Stewkley (has latterly given way to a Celebration at that hour).

AT 9 AND 10. Ellesborough.

AT 9. Farnham Royal (called Sermon Bell), Great Linford, Marsh Gibbon, Milton Keynes, Newnton Longville, Preston Bissett, Radclive. Formerly at Hillesden (called Sermon Bell), and at Twyford.

AT 10. Stowe (called Sermon Bell).

At Ickford, Ravenstone, and Stoke Hamond, there is ringing "early," but the time is not specified.

SERMON BELL. Besides the cases above mentioned, the Sermon Bell is rung at the following places, either immediately before the chiming or ringing for the service, or after a quarter of an hour's chiming or ringing, and followed by another touch on all the bells, or during the last five or ten minutes before the service. In this list I have included those places where ringing or chiming of a single bell seems possibly to have originally been intended as a Sermon Bell, although it is not so called at the present time: Amersham (not called Sermon Bell), Aylesbury (ditto), Beachampton, Broughton, Chalfont S. Giles, Chesham Bois (not called Sermon Bell), Steeple Claydon (ditto), Dorney (ditto), Hanslope, Hoggston, Great Horwood, Little Horwood, Ickford, Leckhampstead, Long Crendon, Loughton, Little Marlow, Marsh Gibbon, Marsworth, Oakley, Olney, Oving (not called Sermon Bell), Padbury, Radclive, Shabbington (not called Sermon Bell), Stoke Hamond (ditto), Stone (ditto), Swanbourne, Tingewick (rung at 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.), Towersey, Twyford, Worminghall, and High Wycombe. Formerly at Chetwode, Drayton Parslow, and Winslow.

At Moulsoe, Sherington, and Wavendon, a Sermon Bell is rung, but the time and manner are not specified.

RINGING AFTER MORNING SERVICE. This may be either to give notice that there will be an Afternoon (or Evening) Service, or to indicate that there will be a Sermon at that Service. Aston Abbots (for Afternoon Service, called "Dinner Bell"; and until about 1858, a bell was also rung after Afternoon Service, the object of which is not clear), Buckingham (as Sermon Bell), Buckland (after both Services, so the purpose is not clear), Dunton (as Sermon Bell), Haversham, Great Linford (as Sermon Bell), Loughton (for Afternoon Service), Ludgershall, Marsworth (on all other days besides Sundays, when Morning Service is followed by an Afternoon Service), Newnton Longville (as Sermon Bell), Shenley (purpose not stated, probably for Afternoon Service), Swanbourne (for Afternoon Service, called "Continuation Bell"), Tingewick (for Afternoon Service, called "Oven Bell"), and Woughton (for Afternoon Service). Formerly at Beachampton

(for Afternoon Service), Drayton Parslow (probably for ditto), and Marsh Gibbon (evidently for ditto, as second Sermon Bell is rung the same way as for the Morning Service).

At Chalfont S. Giles the Sanctus is chimed after Holy Communion.

WEEK-DAY USES.

MORNING AND EVENING AVE. The latter is better known under its later (but still over eight centuries old) name of **CURFEW**. Both are still rung at Buckingham from Michaelmas to Lady Day: the Morning Ave being at 6 a.m. Winslow, between the same dates, both are rung, the Morning Ave being rung all the year round; at eight o'clock between the above dates, and at seven o'clock during the summer half-year. At Newport Pagnell, rung every week-day from 1st March to 1st November, at 5 a.m.; and at 8 p.m. every week-day throughout the year. The Curfew only, at Chesham, from first Sunday after Michaelmas Day, to the Saturday preceding 10th March. Also at Fenny Stratford during the winter; this can only be a revival from about 1727, as for many years previously (probably from Elizabeth's reign) there had been no church here. At High Wycombe, both the Morning and Evening Ave survived until 1836, and the Curfew alone until 1853; the morning ringing here was at four o'clock. At Aylesbury and Marsh Gibbon the Curfew was discontinued within living memory. At Great Marlow it survived during the winter half-year, until the old church was pulled down in 1832; and at Ivinghoe, until the bells were recast in 1875.

PANCAKE BELL. Originally the Shrivng Bell—rung in the forenoon of Shrove Tuesday, to call the faithful to confession before the solemn season of Lent.* The origin of Pancakes, and of that name being given to this ringing, came from its being unlawful to eat butter during Lent, consequently all that remained in each house was used up on this, the last day before the fast, in specially-made cakes, and the Shrivng Bell reminded housewives that it was time to see to them.

The following entry in the oldest MS. book among the borough archives of Buckingham is to the point; it is dated 6th Edward VI. = 1552:—

* *Bells of Kent*, p. 125.

ñ yt is ordeyned & agreed before the bayliff & the steward
 w^t the howll consent & assent of all the burgeffes of the borroh that
 Afftes shroff tewyfday next to come noo p^on noe p^one fhall bake any
 kynd of kake w^t butter w^tin the pr^onte of the borroh vppon payn to
 forfeite for e^vy bach fo ph^od^o xx^s.

It is still rung at Buckingham, Chesham (discontinued about 1880, but revived 1889), Lathbury, Marsh Gibbon, Newnton Longville (irregularly), Olney (the second and fourth bells used, to imitate the sound, "Pan-cake"), Tingewick, Winslow, and High Wycombe. At the following places it has been discontinued within living memory: Aylesbury, Great Horwood, Little Horwood, Padbury (after the ringing of a single bell, boys were allowed to jangle all the bells), Ravenstone (since about 1857), Thornborough (rung by *women*—probably all the bells jangled, and not one bell *rung*), and Woughton. It was also observed at the following places, but I have no precise information as to how long since it was dropped: Steeple Claydon, Granborough (where it was rung by women, who were paid a halfpenny apiece), Hanslope, Quainton, and Sherington.

DEATH KNELL. The method varies in detail in nearly every parish. In some few of the less populous parishes it is tolled almost immediately—even within one hour—of the death; but in most instances it is tolled the following forenoon. In no case does it seem to be tolled after sunset or before sunrise.

"Nine tailors make a man," will be readily recognised as a corruption of "nine tellers mark a man," which is the normal number of blows (usually three blows repeated three times) to indicate that the deceased was a man. Two blows repeated three times are the normal tellers for a woman, and three single blows for a child. These generally precede the tolling, in some cases they follow it, and occasionally they are struck both before and after. In many cases the tellers merely indicate sex, and the approximate age of the deceased is shown by the use of different bells: the tenor usually indicating an adult—the intermediate bells (where they exist) denoting various stages of adolescence, and the treble showing an infant. In some parishes the age is tolled. Occasionally the tellers are struck on each of the bells in succession. A very few parishes exceed the normal number of tellers for a male (the tellers for a female are more variable): Cuddington has 5 × 3 on tenor = man, 3 × 5 on tenor = woman, 5 × 3 on third = boy, 3 × 5

on third = girl. Chalfont S. Giles has $4 \times 3 =$ male, $3 \times 3 =$ female. Chalfont S. Peter has $3 \times 4 =$ male, with the same as the preceding parish for a female; adults and children distinguished by tenor and treble. Stowe has five blows for a male, three for a female. Perhaps the most elaborate distinguishing marks are at Ickford, where for a male over six years, the bells are tanged round three times, followed by the ringing of the tenor; for a female over six years, the bells are tanged round twice, followed by the ringing of the second; and for a child under six years, the bells are tanged round once, followed by the ringing of the treble. A few parishes have three blows on each bell in succession for a man, two on each for a woman, one on each for a child. Some parishes have no tellers. At Hardmead three strokes are given on each bell, irrespective of age and sex.

CALL BELL FOR BEARERS. In a few parishes a few blows are tolled an hour before funerals (or, half an hour before the funeral knell begins), to summon the bearers. This is done at Aston Abbots, Adstock, Broughton, Little Horwood, and Thornborough. At Marsh Gibbon a bell is tolled fifty blows at 9 a.m., on the day appointed for a funeral.

TOLLING AFTER FUNERALS. The sixty-seventh Canon directs that:—

. . . when any is passing out of this life, a bell shall be tolled, and the Minister shall not then slack to do his last duty. And after the party's death, if it so fall out, there shall be rung no more than one short peal, and one other before the burial, and one other after the burial.

Of these four uses, the first may be said to be obsolete, the two next very generally observed, and the fourth quite exceptional. I have only returns of its observance at Chicheley, Edlesborough, Marsh Gibbon (the Tellers only?), Oakley (? ditto), and Turweston. "Muffled peals" are rung, however, in many places, after the funeral of anyone specially connected with the church.

"REMEMBER, REMEMBER,
THE FIFTH OF NOVEMBER,
GUNPOWDER TREASON, AND PLOT:
FOR I SEE NO REASON
WHY GUNPOWDER TREASON
SHOULD EVER BE FORGOT."

The following towers still carry out this injunction : Burnham, Chalfont S. Peter, Steeple Claydon, Ellesborough, Granborough, Hambleden, Hanslope, Hedgerley, Hillesden, Great Horwood, Little Horwood, Ickford, Great Linford, Long Crendon, Marsh Gibbon, Medmenham (irregular), Great Missenden, Oakley (recently revived, after having been discontinued since 1843), Oving, Stone,* Swanbourne, Thornborough, Turville, Woughton. Discontinued more or less recently at Aston Abbots, Beachampton, Drayton Parslow (last time 1886), Stewkley, Tingewick. Apparently discontinued somewhat longer ago, at Loughton, Marsworth, Padbury, Sherington, Stowe, Taplow, and High Wycombe. How universal this and the next ringing formerly were is shown by the exceptional note appended to Quainton at the Visitation ordered by Bishop Williams, 11th July, 1637 : " No ringing on the king's holy daies."

OAK-APPLE DAY = 29th May, was the other " king's holy day." Great Missenden is, apparently, the only tower in the county where this May ringing is still observed. It seems to have been only recently discontinued at Tingewick.

GLEANNING BELL. So far as my information goes, this is no longer rung anywhere in the county. At Aston Abbots, where it was also called the Leasing Bell, it was discontinued about 1883 ; it was rung 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. At Olney it appears only to have been rung for thirty or forty years, and was discontinued in 1885 or 1886 ; rung at 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. At Ravenstone it was discontinued about 1854. At Sherington it was rung " formerly " ; and at Granborough it is " said " to have been rung formerly.

DINNER BELL. Is rung every week-day at 1 p.m., at Emberton, Newport Pagnell, Sherington, and Winslow, and at Olney every day. At Granborough it has been discontinued since 1887. At Aston Abbots a bell is rung after the Morning Service on Sundays, to give notice of Afternoon Service, which is called the " Dinner Bell " ; and at Tingewick the same practice is known as the " Oven Bell " (as already mentioned, p. 275).

CHRISTMAS PRACTICE. At many parishes where change-ringing has not been introduced, the bells are not rung regularly, except for some three to six weeks before Christmas. In most cases the ringing coincides with

* At least Christmas ringing begins about that date.

Advent. This season begins on the nearest Sunday to S. Andrew's Day (Nov. 30th), and in some parishes the ringing begins on that day; "old 't Andrew's Day" (Dec. 11th) is marked by ringing at Marsh Gibbon; and was formerly at Padbury; while at Thornborough both the old and new style day were thus marked formerly. At Stowe the ringing begins on S. Andrew's Eve. At Great Linford the church is dedicated to that saint, which is supposed to account for the observance. Other parishes observing this day are Beachampton, Hanslope, Little Horwood, Stowe, and Tingewick. It is likely that this usage may be accounted for by S. Andrew being considered the patron saint of lacemakers, a very important industry over a great part of Bucks, until recent years. In some places the day was formerly kept by the lacemakers as a holiday with festivities.

Ellesborough begins the Christmas ringing on S. Catherine's Day (Nov. 25th), and there is a legend there that one of the Queen Catherines (which one is not stated, but it may be supposed to have been Catherine of Aragon) was lost in a fog, and found again on the 25th November, whereupon there was general rejoicing and ringing of bells throughout the county. S. Catherine was also looked upon, in this county, as a patron saint of pillow-lace makers. Milton Keynes begins practice a month before Christmas, and Stoke Mandeville "not less than four weeks" before Christmas; but these have no necessary reference to S. Catherine. At Loughton the practice begins about six weeks before Christmas, and there and at Ellesborough it continues until January 6th, the Eve of Old Christmas.

RINGING ON 21ST DECEMBER. At Granborough, at 5 a.m.; at Marsh Gibbon, at 6 a.m., and again in the evening, as the "shortest day"; formerly at Loughton, at 5-6 a.m., and at Moulshoe at 4 a.m.; still at Quainton at daybreak, at Stone at about 5 a.m., and at Swanbourne at 6 a.m.; the five latter as "S. Thomas's Day." The Rev. E. E. Edgerley has suggested to me as a reason for this ringing, that probably certain charities are (or were formerly) distributed in those parishes on that day.

At Stone the Christmas ringing begins about November 5th, once a week: the number of nights is gradually increased, until, for the last week, it is every night, and from S. Thomas's Day, every morning also, about 5 a.m.

RINGING ON EASTER MORNING about 5 a.m., at Beachampton, and at daybreak at Quainton.

DAY OF THE MONTH TOLLED at Shenley every morning on the tenor, after the chiming for the 8.45 service.

DESCRIPTION OF TWO ANCIENT HAND-BELLS

FOUND NEAR BUCKINGHAM.

(See *Frontispiece.*)

THESE bells, which exactly resemble very large cow-bells, are both in the possession of J. T. Harrison, Esq., of Buckingham, to whose kindness I am indebted for the opportunity of figuring and describing them.

The larger specimen was found about 1870, in grubbing Barton Hartshorn Wood, about four miles W.S.W. from Buckingham, and is, like other examples of its class, not cast, but fashioned out of a sheet of metal bent double (the bend forming the crown or apex of the bell) and riveted down the sides; a little triangle of metal being left on each side at the bend, which overlap the join in the sides for an inch or so. A loop handle is fixed in the *crown*, the perpendicular portions being of round iron, and the horizontal (or rather curved) central part has a crescent-shaped section, the concave side upwards. The following are the dimensions:

Height of bell, $9\frac{5}{8}$ inches (one corner of the shoulder is $\frac{1}{4}$ inch higher).

„ handle, $2\frac{5}{16}$ inches. Width, $6\frac{1}{8}$ inches.

Total height, $11\frac{1}{8}$ inches.

Breadth of crescent-shaped portion of handle, $1\frac{1}{16}$ inch.

Diameter of bell at lip, 7 inches by $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

„ „ top, $7\frac{1}{8}$ inches; rounded off in the reverse direction.

The sides of the bell are fastened together by five rivets on each side, the uppermost on each side being four inches from the top. The crown-staple is a loop continuous with the handle outside; it is broken near one end, and a small portion appears to be missing, so its original depth cannot be accurately ascertained, but would be about two inches. The clapper has no ball, but gradually increases in thickness from its hooked upper end,

which is closed round the crown-staple, while the outer, or free end, is slightly rounded off; it is nearly square, with a maximum thickness of $\frac{7}{8}$ inch; it would project about $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{3}{8}$ inch beyond the level of the lip of the bell.

The smaller specimen was fortunately noticed (and secured) by Mr. Harrison, in a heap of old iron, at a sale in September, 1893, at Lord's Fields Farm, in Whittlebury parish, Northampts, but less than half-a-mile from Lillingstone Lovell parish, in Bucks, and six miles due north from Buckingham. Mr. Harrison could learn nothing as to its history, but it seems most probable that it was found in ploughing or digging on the farm.

It is so similar to the previous example (even to the number and position of the rivets), that the one description does for both. Its dimensions are:

Height of bell, $8\frac{1}{8}$ inches.

„ handle, $1\frac{7}{8}$ inches. Width, $4\frac{3}{8}$ inches.

Total height, $9\frac{1}{8}$ inches.

Breadth of crescent-shaped portion of handle, $\frac{1}{8}$ inch.

Diameter of bell at lip, $6\frac{3}{8}$ inches, by $4\frac{3}{10}$ inches.

„ „ top, $6\frac{3}{8}$ inches; rounded off in the reverse direction.

The crown-staple is again continuous with the handle; it is broken near one end (in a similar position to the other bell, perhaps showing where the loop was "shut" or welded); but as no portion is here missing, the depth can be ascertained to be $2\frac{3}{8}$ inches.

The clapper projects about $\frac{1}{8}$ inch beyond the level of the lip; it is possibly not the original one; it is of round iron, $\frac{5}{8}$ inch diameter, looped on to the crown-staple; and has a sub-compressed ball, about $1\frac{3}{8}$ inch in transverse diameter, by $\frac{5}{8}$ inch in height.

There is little doubt, from what is known about other examples, that they were ecclesiastical bells; a very similar one was actually used in Scotland, at Struan, in Athole, as the church bell, down to the year 1828. It seems likely, however, that these small bells were originally intended, and used, as Sacring bells, rather than as "tower" bells. Several similar specimens are described and figured by Mr. Ellacombe in *Bells of the Church* (1872), p. 134, and *Bells of Gloucestershire* (1881), p. 161; others by Mr. Joseph Anderson, in *Scotland in Early Christian Times* (1881); and an Irish example by Mr. Robert Moore in *Archæological Journal* (1863), Vol. XX., p. 76.*

Though the pattern is a very early one, its use was continued, as Mr. C.

* Numerous other references to similar specimens are there given.

H. Read, F.S.A., of the British Museum, informs me, until recent times (and, in fact, is so even now for cattle-bells); and it is, perhaps, impossible to assign a date to the present examples more nearly than to say that they are probably much later than the above references would suggest.

These bells are (to quote Mr. Moore's account, just referred to) "formed of a single sheet of metal" (= iron) "hammered into the desired shape, the edges overlapped at the sides and riveted together; the bell thus fashioned was then dipped into melted brass or yellow mixed metal, which adhered to the surface both externally and internally, forming a complete coating, of which, however, few traces are now found on these relics, the oxidation of the iron beneath having thrown off the casing of brass." Mr. Anderson (*above*) supposes they were "coated externally with bronze to enhance" their "appearance and sweeten" their "sound"; but Mr. Ellacombe (*Bells of Gloucestershire*, p. 163) says, "the coating of bronze which appears on these rivetted bells was not laid on for the purpose of "sweetening the tone"; it is the unavoidable flow of the metal used in brazing the sides together. I would suggest that, considering how completely they seem to have been covered with this yellow metal, it was probably added for appearance' sake.

Any account of the bells of Bucks would be incomplete without a brief notice of a bell-shaped vessel of bronze or bell-metal (fig. 88), which was



Fig. 88.

included in a sale of household goods at Olney, in, or before 1850. Its present whereabouts is unknown; only too likely it is no longer in existence. For the drawing and account of it I am indebted to Mr. Hugh Gough, of Redhill, Surrey.

It was $6\frac{3}{4}$ inches in height; 6 inches across the base (what would be the *crown* of a bell); and 9 inches across the mouth. The inscription being the right way up when the mouth is uppermost, shows at once that it never was intended for a bell. It reads:—

† O MATER DEI MEMENTO MEI ANNO DNI M D LVI

The lettering (fig. 89) is drawn from a very good rubbing, taken by Mr. Gough.

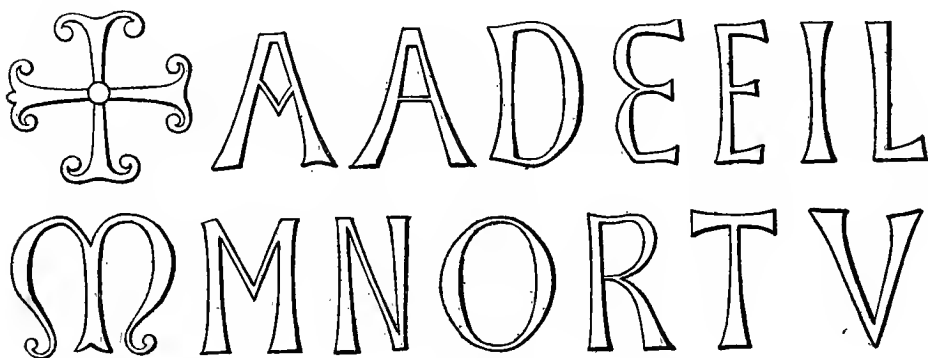


Fig. 89.

It was, perhaps, judging from the inscription, a stoup for holy water; though quite possibly a mortar. In Archbishop Grindal's Injunctions* at York, 1571, he charges churchwardens and others to see

. . . that all Vestments . . . Handbells, Sacringbells, Seascers, Crismatories, Croses, Candlesticks, Holywater stocks or Fattes, Images, and all other reliques and monuments of superstition & ydolatrie be vtterly defaced, broken, & destroyed.

Though the only holy-water stoups with which most of us are familiar, are the stone basins remaining—generally in a mutilated condition—in many of the churches, they were also made of metal as long ago as Saxon times. Among the gifts of Æthelwold, Bishop of Winchester (A.D. 963–984) to the Monastery of Peterborough, there is mentioned a “water fet” of brass, with

* Appendix to the Second Report on Ritual, p. 414.

another of more precious metal; these were *situlæ*, stoups or vats for the holy water, the use of which is found among the earliest rites of the Anglo-Saxon Church. Pope Gregory directed S. Augustine to hallow the fanes of pagan idolatry by aspersion with holy water.*

Parker (*Concise Glossary of Architecture*, 7th edit., p. 270), says: "In this country a small niche with a stone basin was formed in the wall . . . as a receptacle for holy water, but sometimes a vessel placed on a stand or pedestal was used."

Mr. Gough kindly called my attention to the description in *Archæologia*, Vol. X., with an engraving, of a vessel of brass presented to Wreay Church, Cumberland, some years ago. It has three feet, and a handle like a pail. Round the upper part is an inscription in Norman French: † PRIES. PÆR. LALME, etc. He suggests that it was either a holy-water stoup, or a vessel pertaining to the font.

In the *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1813, Vol. 83, Part II., p. 17,† is a figure and account of "a bell-metal Mortar . . . nine inches and a quarter in height, eleven and a half in diameter, and weighs about eighty pounds avoirdupois." It need not here be described in detail: it is sufficient to say, that it is richly ornamented, straighter-sided than the Olney vessel, with an enlarged foot, and a pair of handles, with two inscriptions:

(Near the rim is:—)

✠ MORTARIY' . SCI . JOHIS . EVANGEL' . DE . I'FIRMARIA .
B'È . MARIE . EBO'

(And below the handles:—)

✠ ER' . WILL'S . DE . TOYTHORP . ME . FECIT . A . D . M . CCC . VIII .

Or translated: "The Mortar of (*or*, dedicated to) S. John the Evangelist, belonging to the Infirmary (of the Abbey) of the blessed Mary at York." And, "Brother William of Touthorp made me A.D. 1308."

This inscription fortunately gives all necessary information as to the use of the double-handled pattern.

Mr. Gough sent me a drawing copied from *Northern Notes and Queries*, 1889, Vol. III., p. 140, of a Dutch example of this pattern, recently purchased in Kinross, inscribed: LOF GODT VAN AL. Its height is about six

* *Archæological Journal*, 1863, Vol. XX., p. 357.

† Again mentioned, *ibid.* p. 314.

inches, diameter three and a half inches, weight two and a half pounds, and capacity ten ounces, liquid measure.

In the *Archæological Journal*, 1861, Vol. XVIII., p. 91, three hand-bells are mentioned with that inscription, dated 1544-48, and all cast by Johan Van der Eynde, Latinised as Johannes a (*or de*) Fine.

Another hand-bell is there described, having a representation of Orpheus playing to the beasts, and the same inscription as the Olney vessel, with the addition of PETRVS GHEINEVS ME FECIT 1571; but the Bucks specimen was quite possibly of English make.

The British Museum has a fine series of bronze mortars, including vessels which may have been holy-water stoups.

The following entry in the churchwardens' accounts of Wing (Bucks) for the year ended Trinity, 1527, shows a holy-water stoup which was, from the context, almost certainly of brass or bronze:—

Itm payde for A fenfer & A holywater stoupe ... vijs.

and the following, from the churchwardens' accounts of S. Lawrence's, Reading, for 1 Edw. VI. = 1547, certainly looks like bronze (bell-metal), and as if cast by a bellfounder:—

It of John Saunders for a holy wat^r pott & a hondbell waying xxviiij^{li}.
at j^d. ob the ii. ... iij^s. vj^d.

CKESTIT ME FIKI FECET (Blunders, for, C——? me fieri fecit)
 ? —— *caused me to be made.*

CONJUGIUM PARTUS MYSTERIA FESTA DECORO.
To marriage, to childbirth, to mysteries, to festivals, I give grace.

CRISTI BAPTISTA CAMPANA GAUDEAT ISTA.
May he who baptised Christ, rejoice in this bell.
 (The last letter of the first word, is, however, doubtful ; see Hughenden.)

DET SONITUM PLENUM DEUS ET MODULAMEN AMÆNUM.
May God grant me a full sound and a tuneful note.

DOMINUM CAMPANÆ CLANGORE LAUDATE.
*Praise the Lord with the clamour of the bell : or,
 Ye bells with your clamour praise the Lord.*

* DULCIS INSTAR MELIS, CAMPANA VOCOR GABRIELIS.
I am sweet as honey, and am called the bell Gabriel.

* ECCE GABRIELIS SONAT HÆC CAMPANA FIDELIS.
*Behold, here (lit. this) sounds the faithful bell Gabriel : or,
 Behold, this bell of faithful Gabriel, sounds.*

ECCE QUAM BONUM ET QUAM JUCUNDUM.
Behold how good and joyful a thing it is.

—— FECIT :—FECIT ME :—FECIT NOS.
 —— *made it :—made me :—made us.*

FORTI NIHIL DIFFICILE.
To the brave nothing is difficult.

GAUDE VIRGO MATER.
Hail (or rejoice) Virgin Mother.

GLORIA DEO IN EXCELSIS.
Glory to God in the highest.

HÆ CAMPANÆ IN GLORIAM DEI ET IN PIAM COMMEMORATIONEM
 ANNI SEMISÆCULARIS VIC. REG.
*These bells (were given) to the glory of God and in pious memory of the
 mid-century year of Queen Victoria.*

HEC NOVA CAMPANA MARGARETA EST NOMINATA.
This new bell has been named Margaret.

HENRICUS UTHWATT ARMIGER ME SUIS SUMPTIBUS COLLORARI
(blunder for Collocari) CURAVIT.

Henry Uthwatt, Esquire, caused me to be set up (Collorari would mean "to be painted") at his expense.

H. VI. 1440. GAUDE QUOD POST IPSUM SCANDIS ET EST HONOR TIBI
GRANDIS IN CÆLI PALATIO.

Henry VI., 1440. Rejoice, because thou goest up after Him, and art highly honoured in the palace of heaven.

* HUGH GARGATE SIBILLAQUE UXOR EJUS HÆC TYMPANA FECERUNT
EXPONI.

Hugh Gargate and Sybil his wife caused these bells to be set out (or, offered).

* HUIUS CAMPANÆ NOMEN EST J'HU SPECIALE.

The proper name of this bell is Jesu.

IHESU PIE FLOS MARIE.

O pious Jesus, Mary's flower.

* IN HONORE BEATI LAURENCII.

In honour of the Blessed Laurence.

IN HONORE DEI ET SANCTI LAURENCII.

In honour of God and Saint Laurence.

IN MULTIS ANNIS RESONET CAMPANA IOHANNIS.

May the bell John (or, of S. John?) sound for many years.

INSIGNIA THOMÆ IOHNSON.

The armorial bearings of Thomas Johnson.

INTONAT DE CELIS VOX CAMPANÆ MICHAELIS.

The voice of the bell Michael thunders from the heavens.

IOHANNES VYLLEBY ME FIERI FECIT.

John Willoughby caused me to be made.

JACOBUS EST NOMEN EJUS.

His name is James.

* JESUS NAZARINUS REX JUDEORUM.

Jesus of Nazareth King of the Jews.

IOHANNES DIER HANC CAMPANAM FECIT.

John Dier made this bell.

LAUDATE DOMINUM OMNES EJUS ANGELI.
Praise the Lord all ye Angels of His.

** MARIA THOMA HOC SICLUM SERVA ME.
O Mary and Thomas, keep me safe through this life.

ME RESONARE JUBENT HOMINUM MORS { CONCIO } FUNUS (Conero
 is a mere blunder).
The death, the assembling, the burial of men, set me ringing.

ME TIBI X̄PE DABAT I. CHETWODE QUEM PERAMABAT.
John Chetwode gave me to Thee, O Christ, whom he greatly loved.
 (Perhaps intended to mean, *I was given to Christ by J. Chetwode, whom He
 (Christ) greatly loved.*)

MISSI DE CELIS HABEO NOMEN GABRIELIS AMEN.
I bear the name of Gabriel who was sent down from Heaven. Amen.

NOMEN MAGDALENÆ CAMPANA GERIT MELODIÆ.
This bell bears the name of Magdalen the tuneful.

NOS PRECE SANCTORUM DEFENDES XPE TUORUM.
Thou, O Christ, wilt protect us with the prayers of Thy Saints.

NUNTIA SUM C̄EPTÆ PERITURÆ PRÆVIA VITÆ ET MODO TRANSACTÆ
 VOX EGO CERTA TUÆ.
*I am the harbinger that announces the beginning of thy mortal life, and the
 sure voice that tells of its end.*

ORA MENTE PIA PRO NOBIS VIRGO MARIA.
Pray with pious mind for us, O Virgin Mary.

PRO CAROLO NEWSHAM HANC RESONO MUSAM.
In behalf of Charles Newsham I sing this my song.

PRO REGE ET ECCLESIA.
For King and Church.

PULSA VOCO PLEBEM TRACTARE NEGOTIA VILLÆ.
When I am struck I call the people to deal with the town's business.

QUINQUE QUÆ MAXIMI SUNT PONDERIS CAMPANÆ (QUIBUS SIMUL
 ADDITA FUIT NON PARVA METALLI MOLES) DE NOVO SUNT
 CONSTATÆ SUMPTIBUS HENRICI UTHWATT ARMIGERI ANNO

DOMINI 1756, JOSEPHO EAYRE ARTIFICE, ROBERTO CHAPMAN
RECTORE, PHILIPPO WARD IOANNE RAWLINS ÆDITUIS.

The five heaviest bells (to which there was added at the same time no small weight of metal) were re-made at the expense of Henry Uthwatt, Esq., A.D. 1756, Joseph Eayre founder, Robert Chapman rector, Philip Ward John Rawlins churchwardens.

QUOD SIT SACRA DIES PRIMO DENUNCIO MANE.

That the day is a holy day I announce in the early morning.

ROBERT PERROTT PHILOMUSICUS AUDITU DIGNUS.

Robert Perrott, a tuneful singer, worth hearkening to.

* SANCTA TRINITAS UNUS DEUS MISERERE NOBIS.

O Holy Trinity, one God, have mercy upon us.

SANCT^{E}_{A} (Various) ORA PRO NOBIS.
O holy (——) pray for us.

SICUT ROS HERMON IN MONTE SION.

Like unto the dew of Hermon that fell upon the hill of Sion.

SINT PRO ELYA MICHAEL DEUS ATQUE MARIA.

May Michael, God, and Mary, be on the side of Elias (probably bell's name, from the donor).

SIT NOMEN DOMINI BENEDICTUM.

Blessed be the name of the Lord.

SOLI DEO GLORIA PAX HOMINIBUS.

To God alone be glory and to men peace.

SONORO SONO MEO SONO DEO.

With my sonorous sound I sound unto God.

SUM ROSA PULSATA MUNDI MARIA VOCATA.

I am the smitten Rose of the world, whose name is Mary: or, I have been named Mary the smitten Rose of the world.

VOCO VOS ORATE VENITE.

I call you; pray and come (for, come and pray).

VOCOR IOHANNES.

I am called John.

VOX AUGUSTINI SONET IN AURE DEL.

May the voice of Augustine (bell's name) sound in the ear of God.

VOX EGO SUM VITÆ.

I am the voice of life.

WARNER ET FILII EJUS ME FECERUNT AMICI ME DEDERUNT
LAUDATE DOMINUM IN SONO CAMPANÆ.

*Warner and his sons made me. Friends gave me. Praise the Lord in the
sound of the bell.*

END OF PART II.

PARTE III.

INSCRIPTIONS.

THE figures in brackets, following each inscription, give the diameter of the bell at the lip, in inches.

The number of bells quoted in various parishes, under date 1552 or 3, or 1637 or 8, are from the (MS.) Lists made at the Visitations of the County, at those dates : see under "Bibliography," in the Introduction. The quotations under 1714 are from Browne Willis's MS. List (*Ibid.*) ; and those under 1755, are from his *History and Antiquities of the Town and Hundred of Buckingham*, published in that year.

ADDINGTON. [Assumption of the*] B.V. Mary.

- | | | |
|----|--|-------|
| 1. | CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1870 ∴ | (28½) |
| 2. | 1656 CHANDLER MADE ME | (31) |
| 3. | R A 1626 | (34¼) |
| S. | (Blank) | (10¼) |

2 : by Anthony Chandler (p. 224). The lettering is the smallest set on Plate XXXIII. ; the clapper is too long ; the bell ought to have been turned when the "restoration" took place in 1870. Tenor : by Robert Atton (p. 205), in his smallest lettering (Plate XXX.). Saunce : perhaps late eighteenth century. Old frame and hangings ; evidently repaired by Warner, when he recast the Treble. Horizontal iron stays and sliders.

5 May, 1553, Adington, iij great bellys and one fauns bell.

1714, 3 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

1755, three modern Belles.

ADSTOCK. S. Cecilia.

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------|
| 1. | | (33½) |
| | ❖ Sancta Anna Ora Pro Nobis ❖ I ⊕ S | |

* Browne Willis, *Hist. Buck. Hundred*, p. 115.

2.	RICHARD CHANDLER MADE ME 1676	(34 $\frac{3}{4}$)
S.	1826	(12 $\frac{1}{2}$)

Treble: by John Sturdy (p. 26). The crowned capitals are the upper set on Plate XI.; the initial cross is No. 1, and the other one is No. 7, on that Plate; his initials are in the smaller lettering on the same Plate, separated by a coin (see fig. 14); the fourth bell at Thrapstone, Northampts, is similarly inscribed. Tenor: by the third Richard Chandler, in his one-inch lettering (p. 227); has been turned, and the crown-staple broken. Saunce: evidently by Thomas Mears II.; cast without the side (= double) canons; iron lever (in place of wheel).

A third bell (Tenor, the cage being one inch wider than that of the existing tenor), was sold within living memory. It was cracked, and was used in that condition for several years, but the authorities being ridiculed on account of it, at last sold it.

1553, iij great belle & one faunse bell.

2 August, 1637, 3 Bells S^{ts} bell the steeple wants pgeting . . . The west window in the Bellfry to be made new.

1714, 3 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

1755, three Bells; the first and third are modern, but on the second is this Inscription, *Sancta Anna, Ora pro nobis.*

Browne Willis seems, for once, to have fallen into an error in calling the ancient bell the second.

On the frame is cut:—

I O H N I 6 I 8 I E F S

Jeffs is a mid-Bucks name at the present day, and probably this excellent bell-hanger belonged thereabouts. Other frames by him still remaining, in this county, are at Simpson, 1623, and Bow Brickhill, 1628. Those at Hardwick and Whaddon are very similar, but do not bear his "sign manual." In the churchwardens' accounts of S. Mary's, Oxford, copied by Mr. A. D. Tyssen, the name appears in the account for the year ending at Easter, 1650:—

Item paid to Geffs and a man to help him to take of	}	. 3 . 6
the fourth Bell to repayre the brasses thereof and for		
making a stay for ye Tennor		

The Death Knell is tolled early in the morning, when the death occurs during the night; and when during the day, as soon as notice is given to the sexton. A bell is tolled at funerals, and a few strokes an hour before, for the bearers to prepare.

On Sundays the bells are chimed for the Services, the saunce used for the last five minutes ("Parson's bell").

By order of the churchwardens, it is entered in the Register, that the bells are never to be rung, on account of the clock chimes!

No churchwardens' accounts, and no reference to the bells in the Registers.

Many thanks to the Rev. T. Cockram, Rector.

AKELEY-CUM-STOCKHOLT.

S. James.

1. **EDWARD HALL MADE ME 1726 IN** (25)
2. RICHARD CHANDLER MADE ME 1674 (26½)

Treble: has a long round shoulder, and the inscription is below the rims, in Richard Chandler III.'s 1.2 inch high lettering (p. 236). Tenor: one of the earliest bells by Richard Chandler III., in lettering $\frac{1}{16}$ of an inch high, a copy of his father, Anthony's, set (p. 227).

The present church was built in 1855, and the bells have modern hangings (by White?); but the old clappers with iron baldricks; no sliders, though treble has a stay. The tower unusually clean. Both are very good bells.

5 May, 1553, Akeley ij great belle [~~o~~ one faunfe bell hangyng in the fame church]*
8 July, 1637, Akely, 2 bells.

1714, 2 bells.

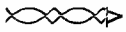
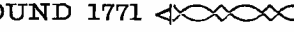

















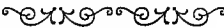
1755, at the West End is a wooden Turrit, lately rough cast, in which hang two small modern Bells.

Lipscomb copies this account.

It is reported in Foscott that one of the bells there was sold about 1830, and taken to Akeley.



AMERSHAM.



S. Mary.



1.  OUR VOICES SHALL WITH JOYFULL SOUND
MAKE HILLS AND VALLEYS ECCHO ROUND 1771 
(On Waist :) PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT (Incised :) JN^o
LAWRENCE & JN^o TOWNE CH* WARDENS^o (34½)
2. (The inscription, length 20 inches, has been cut off, and carefully filed smooth; the remainder of the circumference is filled with)       
         
(36½)
3. THE GIFT OF THOMAS TYRWHITT DRAKE ESQ: T.
MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1818  (39)

* Erased.

4. THIS BELL WAS GIVEN TO THE PARISH OF AMERSHAM
BY W: DRAKE ESQ: OF SHARDELOES J754

(On Waist:)  THOMAS LESTER & THO: PACK FECIT  (41½)

5.  PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1776  (45)

6.  UNTO THE CHURCH I DOE YOU CALL  ROBERT SHIPPEN
DEATH TO THE GRAVE WILL SUMONS ALL
D:D RECTOR RALPH ADAMS IOHN TOWN CHURCH WARDENS ∴
R ∴ C J745 ∴ (49½)

Treble: (p. 101). 2: the ornaments which remain, are a slightly larger size of the two small figures at the top of Plate XXI., namely, a *fleur-de-lis* and a cross patonce with flourished lower limbs; they show that the bell is by R. Phelps (p. 98); the crown is less flat than in bells cast subsequently to his time at the Whitechapel Foundry. 3 (p. 105) and 4 (p. 100): the manor of Shardeloes,* in this parish, was, in the time of Elizabeth, in the possession of William Tothill, Esq., who had thirty-three children! His eldest daughter, and co-heiress, Joane, was married to Francis Drake, Esq., of Esher, in Surrey, a gentleman of the Privy-Chamber to King James I. Their eldest son, Sir William Drake, Knt., was bapt. 1606; created Bart. 1641; purchased the manor of Agmondesham from William, Earl of Bedford, in 1665, and built the Market House, mentioned below, and died unmarried, 1669. His youngest brother, Francis, was twice married, and by his second wife had one son, Sir William Drake, Knt.; M.P. for Amersham; died 1690. His eldest son, Montague Drake, Esq., of Shardeloes, was born 1673; M.P. for Amersham, 1695; died 1698. He was succeeded by his eldest son, Montague Garrard Drake, Esq., M.P. for Amersham, 1713; died 1728. To him succeeded his second son—the eldest having predeceased him—William Drake, Esq., born 1723; M.P. for Amersham from 1746 to his death in 1796. He was the giver of the fourth bell. His eldest son predeceased him, and he was succeeded by his second son, Thomas Drake, Esq., born 1749; took the name of Tyrwhitt, and (on the death of his elder brother) resumed the name of Drake in addition; M.P. for Amersham; died 1810. His eldest son, who succeeded him, was Thomas Tyrwhitt Drake, Esq., whose name appears on the third bell. He was M.P. for Amersham, 1826; died 1840. Succeeded by his eldest son and namesake, the present squire, born June 21st, 1817. Tenor: by Robert Catlin (see p. 141). Robert Shippen, D.D., rector, was presented by William Drake, Esq. (the donor of the fourth bell, mentioned above), and inducted 20th April, 1744. He died within the next two years, his successor being inducted 2nd April, 1746.†

16 Aug. 1637, Agmondsham, 5 Bells, & St's bell & a Clock.

1714, 5 (raised to 6 by about 1752. Possibly the tenor was an addition.)

* Lipscomb, III., 153.

† Lipscomb.

I have to thank E. J. Payne, Esq., for the following extracts from the church-wardens' accounts, entitled :

“THYS VS THE COWNTING BOKE OF OW^R LADY CHURCH OF AGMONDESHAM.”
BEGINNING OCT., 31 HENRY VIII. (1539).

Paid to gery* for mendyngs of bawdryks	...	...	iiij
Paid for mendyng of ye bell clap	...	...	j
Paid to gery for mendyng of bawdryks	...	...	ij
Paid for a new bell Roope	...	...	xvj
Paid for a sansebell Rope	...	...	vj
Paid for ye gret bell Rope	...	...	xviiij

from the last day of Octobre in the xxxijth yere of the reigne of kynge herry theight[†] unto the same day twelvemonyth.

Itm for mēding off the mary bell (erased, being entered by mistake among the receipts).

‡ [It payd to Robte Smythe of Chesh ^m for a bell rope	...	...	xvj
It payde to Cock the carpentore & his s ^r vants for trussyng	}	...	ij ij
the gret bell & the marie bell & makyng of two settes			
[in the Churche	...	...
It payd to Gery for mendyng of the bell ropps & bawderycks	...	...	j
It ^m for mēdyg the mary belle to wylde	...	...	ilij
It ^m to Thom ^s Taylar ^r ffor mēding the bell wyele	...	...	vj

In an Inventory of goods belonging to the church, made 12th April, 1597, is :—

to peces of bell mettell by wayght xxxv^{li}

Among the “layeinge forthe for” the same year :—

It p ^d for a rope for ye greate bell by weyght xiiij ^{li}	...	...	...	...	ij	vj
at iij ^l p ^r li	...	...	...	...

the Last daye of Aprill 1598.

(In the list) . . . a gable & a Roll . . .

It two peces of bell mettall by weyghte xxxv^{li}

The next account is dated the xij daye of Aprill, 1599 :—

(In the list appears) . . . a gable & a roll . . .

It two pecies of bell mettall by weyghte xxxv^{li}.

It layde out about the takinge downe the bell	...	...	xviiij
It payde for a rope for the lyttell bell	...	...	viiij

* In another place spelt Gere.

† I.E., 1540-41.

‡ Entries included between these marks show that they are consecutive in the original.

1599.

Item geven to the Ringers one the Ringinge day	...	ij
Item for hanginge one the bell whele & mendinge	} ...	xvj
the Baldrickes		
Item a Rope for the fore bell waying vi pound & a halfe pris		xx

In an Inventory made 25th April, 1600 :—

Item towe peses of bellmetell by waight xxxv ^{li}		
for mending a gogin	... ..	iiij

12 June 1601.

[It for Castinge of the Bell	... ..	vj	x
It for makinge the clapper	... ..	vij	vj
It for feching & carrying the Bell	... ..	x	
Spent at our goeing to Denham & at the Bargonyng	} ...	v	
[with the Belfounder			
[spent at the hanging up of the Bell	... ..	iiij	
p ^d the carpenter for a dayes work	... ..		xij
p ^d for a rop	... ..	iiij	
p ^d y ^e goodman harrisson for work	... ..	ij	
p ^d for nayles & Iorn worke	... ..	ij	
It for Badrickes	... ..	vij	
to farmer for nayles	... ..		iiij
[mor for nayles	... ..		iiij

At the end of the account the churchwardens state that they have delivered to the next churchwardens the same "Curch goods w^{ch} we Rec" from the last churchwardens, "Exepting tow peses of Bell metell w^{ch} wer used wth y^e bell as in p^tculler." In the list comes, "a gabell rope." In the list made 11th April, 1602, appears "a gabell." In both lists this item is followed by "a Roller," which may mean a roller, or ground-truck, for the rope to pass over.

11 April 1602.

Item payd for mending of bell wheele	... ..	ij	vij
It payd for whitethere*	... ..	ij	x
It payd for iiij roapes for the bells	... ..	xij	
[It payd for the ringers on the ringinge day	... ..	vij	vj
[It payd for a gowdginge for on of the belles	... ..		iiij

July 2, 1602.

Itte for the wether cocke	... ..		xvj
[Itte bestowed upon the ringers upon the quenes day	... ..	iiij	
[Itte to Richard Sanders for trussing the great bell	... ..	ij	

* This was horse-hide, or "kip," for making baldricks.

20th May, 1603.

"A gable a rowle" appears again in the inventory.

It layd out for A Roape for the great bell [?]

D^d to the next Churchwardens . . . A Cable, wth a Rowle.

The next account, undated, but probably 1604:—

p^d for mending ye Clocke & bell x
Delivered unto the new Curchwardenes . . . a Cabell with a Rowell.

The next account, probably 1605:—

It a Rope for the Sanc : bell	...	...	...	xij
It a badricke for the great Bell	...	...	...	ij vj
It tow Ropes wayd xxvj ^z	...	...	...	viiij viij
It for a houp for the great bell & for workmanship & nayles }	...	...	...	xviiij
for a Rop & a badricke	...	...	...	v
Delivered unto the new Curchwardens . . . a cabell w th a Roll.				
Itt p ^d the Ringers	...	...	...	ij

(This may belong to the following account.)

The next account, taken the 13th April, of "disbursments" from the previous 7th May, no year, but apparently, 1606:—

Itt for half a hid of whitleather	...	...	...	iiij viij
Itt paied for a key for the belfrey dore	...	...	...	vj
Delivered to the New chirchwardines . . . a Gabell w th a Role.				

(The book is filled up with briefs dated 1682 to 1684.)

Death Knell: the tenor rung for adults; one of the smaller bells, according to age, for younger persons. Tellers: three strokes on each bell for a male, and two on each for a female.

Tenor tolled for funerals. Muffled ringing at the funeral of a ringer, or any old parishioner when requested.

On Sundays, the treble is rung at 7 a.m. For Services, bells rung or chimed according to side of ringers who present themselves; generally rung once. For the last quarter of an hour before Morning and Afternoon Service the tenor is tolled, and for five minutes before Evening Service.

Midnight ringing on Christmas and New Year's Eves. Ringing on Christmas Day for Service; also ringing on Easter Day, Ascension Day, and Whitsun Day; Queen's Birthday (24th May); Accession (20th June); and Prince of Wales's Birthday (9th November). Third bell rung for Vestry Meetings.

Many thanks to the Rev. E. T. Drake, Rector, and to Mr. E. Elburn, Parish Clerk, an enthusiastic ringer.

ASHLEY GREEN.

S. John the Evangelist.

Modern parish : church consecrated 1875. Two bells.

ASTON ABBOTS.

S. James.

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------------|----------------|-------|
| 1. | ♣ ♣ 1 6 5 2 * ♣ | CHAUDLERMADEME | (28½) |
| 2. | * 1 6 5 2 ♣ ♣ | (ditto) | (29½) |
| 3. | EDWARD HALL MADE ME J 739 | | (31) |
| 4. | ♣ ♣ 1 6 5 2 * | CHAUDLERMADEME | (33) |
| 5. | —EDWARD—HALL—MADE—ME—J 740— | | (35¼) |

Treble, 2 and 4: by Anthony Chandler (p. 224); the ornaments are, ♣ = fig. 77; ♣ = fig. 78; * = fig. 79. The lettering on the two bells by Hall does not appear elsewhere, in this county at any rate (p. 236). The bells were rehung (left-handed) by a local carpenter when the church was restored in 1859. All the stays are at the wheel end of the stock, except the second. The clappers of the three lower bells are encased in wood, and are therefore probably original.

The Gleaning, or Leasing Bell, used to be rung during harvest time, until about 1883, at 8 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Death Knell as soon as convenient. Tellers, 3 × 3 = a man; 2 × 3 = a woman; 1 × 3 = a child; both before and after the tolling.

At funerals, tolling from half an hour to an hour, beginning with thirty strokes to call the bearers.

On Sundays, a bell rung at 7 a.m. in summer, and 8 in winter (except when there is Service at that time). A bell is rung after Morning Service, to intimate that there will be Afternoon Service: this is called the "Dinner Bell." Until about 1858 the tenor used to be rung after the Afternoon Service. Beyond the above there used to be no rule for ringing for Services. Now the bells are chimed (?) as follows: one bell for five minutes; three bells for five minutes; all five for eight minutes; interval of two minutes; three bells for five minutes; and one alone for the last five minutes.

Ringings about three or four times a week during Advent, but no fixed days. Midnight ringing on New Year's Eve (11.30 to 12.30). Ringing for weddings (when paid for). Ringing on 5th November discontinued by the late vicar (*i.e.*, between 1853 and 1887).

Many thanks to the Rev. T. W. Martyn, Vicar.

23 July, 1952, Abbotte Aston.

Itm in the steeple iij bells.




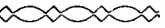

l̄im j fantus bell.

l̄im ij handbelle.

1714, 5 bells. (So also in another place in B. Willis's MSS., xxxviii., 1.)

ASTON CLINTON.

S. Michael.

1. THE REV^D JOHN GEORGE RECTOR JOHN BASTON
RICHARD SLAUGHTER 
CHURCH WARDENS MEARNS & SON OF LON-
DON FECIT 1806 (31)
 2. THE REV^D JOHN GEORGE RECTOR JOHN BASTON
RICHARD SLAUGHTER CH WARDENS.
THOMAS MEARNS & SON FECIT 1806 (32)
 3. THE REV^D JOHN GEORGE RECTOR JOHN BASTON
RICHARD SLAUGHTER CHURCH WARDENS 
MEARNS & SON OF LONDON FECIT 1806 (34½)
 4. THE REV^D JOHN GEORGE RECTOR JOHN BASTON
RICHARD SLAUGHTER CHURCH WARDENS 
THOMAS MEARNS & SON OF LONDON FECIT 1806 (36)
 5. (*Ditto to 4, except pattern*)  (39½)
 6. THE REV^D JOHN GEORGE RECTOR JOHN BASTON
RICHARD SLAUGHTER CHURCH WARDENS THOMAS
MEARNS & SON 
OF LONDON FECIT 1806 (44)
- S. 1778 (14¾)

Lipscomb (II. 89) says the Rev. John George, Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford, was presented by Jesus College, and inducted May, 1799. Having vacated this Rectory by accepting other preferment, he was again presented, and inducted March, 1804. M.A., March, 1787; B.D., March, 1795.

The Saunce is doubtless by Pack and Chapman, of the Whitechapel Foundry. Iron lever.

Weight of tenor given in Messrs. C. and G. Mearns's List as 13 cwt.

23 July, 1553, Aston Clynton,—

l̄i iij Bells hangynge in the Steple / And for one of them ther is owynge amonge the pisheners the Some of xxj *li*.











l̄i one Bele callid the Sanctis Bele

l̄i one other litle Bele

1714, 5 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

ASTON SANDFORD.

S. Michael.

1.		 Sancte	 Moma	 Or □	□	⊕ (28½)
2.			† 6 7 5			(30¼)
3.						(32¼)
		 Sancte	 Elemes □	 Ora	 Pro	 Nobis □ ⊕

The treble and tenor are from the Wokingham Foundry, some few years before the middle of the fifteenth century (p. 52). For the initial cross and capital letters, see Plates XV. and XVI. ; the abbreviation mark is the smallest stop on the latter. The square stop is fig. 32, and the circular one is a groat stamp. Second: by Ellis Knight and Henry Knight III., of Reading (p. 134).

All three clappers have iron baldricks ; the treble's is perhaps original : it has a very small oval ball, and flight 4½ inches long.

July, 1552, Astone Samford.

Iť ij Great bells in the steeple.




Iť ij (?) hande bells.

12 July, 1637, 3 Bells . . . The steeple wants boarding on the north side.

1714, 3 bells.

ASTWOOD.

S. Peter.

1.		Sancta	Katerina	Ora	Pro	Nobis	∇ (33¼)
2.		Sit	Nomen	Domini	Benedictum		∇ (36)
3.		GOD	SAVE	OVR	KING	I 631	∇ (39)

The two first bells are by John Walgrave (p. 31) ; the initial cross and shield are figs. 17 and 18 (on that page) ; the capitals are on Plate XII. The tenor is by James Keene ; his initials are in the lettering shown on Plate XXVI., where the initial cross is No. 2. The frame is probably seventeenth century (? new when the tenor was added). The treble has a very old stock, some of the straps being nailed, the others bolted ; crown-staple broken. Iron baldricks to treble and second ; the latter also has some of the straps nailed ; on the transom of the wheel is cut, **J B 1820**. The tenor has all the canons broken off ; it has a huge rough stock, twenty-two inches high ; some straps keyed, the rest bolted ; clapper with flattened ball, and long flight.

Death Knell as soon as intimation reaches the clerk. Tellers, three strokes on each of the three bells = a man ; two on each = a woman ; one on each = a child.

For funerals, tolling once a minute for half an hour ; tenor for adults ; the treble for children.

On Sundays, bells chimed for fifteen minutes before the Services ; treble rung the last five minutes. A few strokes, morning and afternoon, to give notice of Sunday School.

Ringing at Christmas, and generally on New Year's Eve.

No old churchwardens' accounts.

Many thanks to the Rev. C. W. Cahusac, Vicar.

22 July, 1637, Astwood. 3 Bells.

1714, 3 bells.


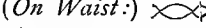
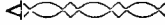
Lipscomb (IV. 9) mentions an Inventory in the Register, dated 3rd May, 1782, made by order of Luke Heslop, B.D., Archdeacon of Bucks, of goods and effects belonging to this church, wherein, *inter alia*, it is recorded that :—


“ In the tower are three bells and a clock.”




AYLESBURY.

S. Mary.

1. I MEAN TO MAKE IT UNDERSTOOD. THAT THO' I'M LITTLE
YET I'M GOOD. PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1773:
(30½)

2. IF YOU HAVE A JUDICIOUS EAR YOU'LL OWN MY VOICE
IS SWEET AND CLEAR 
(On Waist:)  PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1773
 (32¼)

3. SUCH WOND'ROUS POW'R TO MUSICK'S GIVEN. IT ELE-
VATES THE SOUL TO HEAVEN. PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON
FECIT 1773  (33½)

4.  MUSICK IS MEDICINE TO THE MIND  PACK & CHAP-
MAN OF LONDON FECIT 1773  (36½)

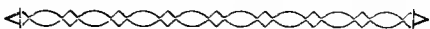
5. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON
(On Waist:) PRAISE YE THE LORD; (*sic*) EDWARD
BICKERSTETH. M.A. VICAR

ACTON TINDAL }
ALFRED SELF } CHURCH WARDENS
EDWARD REDHEAD } SEPT. 1ST 1854.

(39¾)

6.  PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON
FECIT 1773  (42)

7. YE RINGERS ALL THAT PRIZE YOUR HEALTH & HAPPINESS. BE SOBER MERRY WISE & YOU'LL THE SAME POSSESS

(On Waist:)  PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1773 (45½)

8. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1850
 IN WEDLOCK BANDS ALL YE WHO JOIN WITH
 HANDS YOUR HEARTS UNITE
 SO SHALL OUR TUNEFULL TONGUES COMBINE
 TO LAUD THE NUPTIAL RITE

(On Waist:) THO TINDAL }
 ZACHARIAH DANIEL HUNT } CHURCH WARDENS
 MOSES LOVETT }

(50)

S.  1612 
 W U Y (21½)

1714, 6 bells (saunce no doubt existing, although not mentioned).

Lipscomb (II. 47) has: "In the tower are eight bells, and a saint's bell. The old tenor, which belonged to a peal of six, mentioned by Willis, is supposed to have been cast in 1623, and had this motto—"Non sono animabus mortuorum sed viventium." In 1773, the old bells were re-cast, or exchanged for eight, the tenor not exceeding 22 cwt. and, besides the old metal, cost 239*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.*, exclusive of the saint's bell." The weights are, according to Sheahan (*History of Bucks*, 1862, p. 65): treble, about 11 cwt.; II., 11 cwt. 2 qrs. 9 lbs; III., 13 cwt. 0 qrs. 3 lbs.; IV., 14 cwt. 2 qrs. 19 lbs.; V., 16 cwt. 2 qrs. 0 lbs.; VI., 17 cwt. 1 qr. 15 lbs.; VII., 19 cwt. 2 qrs. 17 lbs.; Tenor, 22 cwt. 0 qrs. 0 lbs.* Treble and second have their canons broken off.

The former fifth was inscribed, according to Gibbs (*History of Aylesbury*, 1885, p. 27): "To honour both of† God and King Our voices shall in concert‡ ring Pack & Chapman of London fecit me|| 1773." The present bell cost £39, according to Sheahan (*op. cit.* p. 65).

The former tenor was inscribed, according to Lipscomb, with the same doggerel as the present bell, except that he reads, "Wedlock's bands," and omits "tunefull," and instead of the names that are on the present bell, the former one was, like the rest of the ring, by Pack and Chapman, and bore, in addition, "Benj. Dudley, John Fowler, and W^m. Perrin, Ch. Wardens, 1773."

The saunce is by William Yare, of Reading (p. 91); the pattern is fig. 42; the shield (fig. 36) is the trade stamp of Roger Landen, of Wokingham, a fifteenth

* 22 cwt. is also the weight given in Messrs. C. and G. Mears's List.

† Lipscomb reads, *our* instead of, *of*.

‡ Lipscomb reads, *consort*.

|| *Me* is evidently an error.

century predecessor of Yare's, in this ancient bell-founding business. There are other examples of the use of this shield (by W. Yare) during the same year, at Harwell, in Berks; the rest of its history has been given on p. 93. The saunce is hung with a half-wheel.

On the cage of the tenor is cut, in well-formed letters :—

WILLIAM CHAPMAN BELL HANGER 1638

And on other parts of the frame are more superficially cut, W. E. 1773, and R. W. 1773, showing, evidently, the dates of the construction of the frame, and of its alteration from six to eight cages.

In the Register of Burials for 1773, the following note is inserted :—

July ye: 12 :th 1773 /
 A new peal of Eight
 Bells cast by Pack
 & Chapman & hung by
 Rob^t Turner were
 opened by the College
 Ringers — — —

W. E. and R. W. were, in all probability, the actual hangers, working for Robert Turner. The College Ringers would mean the Ancient Society of College Youths.

An old ringing board, deciphered with some difficulty, hangs in the bell-chamber, doubtless removed from the no longer existing ringing-chamber :—

(*On the frame at the top:*) NOV. 12. 1804.

(*On the board:*) Was rung in this Steeple
 A Compleat peal of Grandsire
 Tripples of 5040 Changes
 By the Aylesbury Society
 In three Hours & 16 Minutes
 By the Following Persons :—

In ^o Wheeler Jun ^r	1	W ^m Bunce	5
In ^o Tompkins	2	In ^o Wheeler Sen ^r	6
Hor ^d In ^o Bunce	3	W ^m Cartwright	7
Tho ^s Clark	4	In ^o I. Murfitt	8

These fine bells cannot, unfortunately, now be rung. The tower is a central lantern, and not only did the late Sir G. G. Scott give his opinion that it was not safe for ringing, but in the restoration of the church (? in 1850), the lantern was opened up, and the floor of the old ringing-chamber removed, so that it is now

impossible to ring them, the drop to the floor of the nave (whence they are chimed), being far too long a "draught."

The churchwardens' accounts are not extant beyond 1749. I have to thank Mr. Jos. Jas. Jenns, the Parish Clerk, for allowing me to make the following extracts :—

1749-50.				
Two Ringing days @ 10/- each	...	...	...	£ 1
1751-2.				
Ringng days 8 @ 10/- each	...	...	...	4
1755.				
Sept: 3 ^d Pd Mr Smith at the Bell a ringing Day by D ^o*	...	...	...	,, 10 —
1756.				
Jan ^y 27 th Pd Mr John Bigg Walton† Churchwarden for Ringng Days—				
Sparrow catching Polecats Hedge Hogs &c for 1754 & 1755 in full	...	...	...	} 3 . 5 . —
to Easter 1755 as th Receipt	...	...	...
June 22 ^d Pd John Day a ringing Day as th D ^o	...	...	...	— 10 —
Oct: 22 ^d Pd Mr Freeman for Ringng by D ^o†	...	...	...	— 10 —
1757.				
May 29 Mr Freeman a Ringng Day th D ^o||	...	...	...	,, 10 —
1763.				
Oct: 25 th Paid Rich ^d pearson Beer for ye Ringng (Kings Inauguracon)	...	...	...	— 10 . 0
1764.				
Sept: 11 th paid Edw ^d peck for Beer for ye Ringng (ye princes Amelia going thro)	...	...	...	— 10 . 6
1770.				
June 9. paid M ^{rs} Freeman for Beer for Ringng on the Kings birth day	...	...	...	0 . 10 . 0
paid for Ringng to Mrs Todd	...	...	...	0 . 10 . 0
paid for Ringng to Joseph Marlow	...	...	...	0 . 10 . 0
1771.				
Decr: 11 th : Pd Tho ^s North for Ringng	...	...	...	0 . 10 . 0

30th March 1773 At a Vestry then held in the Parish Church of Aylesbury pursuant to Notice given in the usual manner on Sunday last.

It was unanimously agreed that as the first, fifth & sixth Bells belonging to our Church are crackt & the others are very much out of repair the Churchwardens are

* I.E. Mr. Boyce.

† Now a separate ecclesiastical parish.

‡ I.E. Chas. Capell.

|| I.E. Receipt.

hereby empowered to contract for the exchanging the present six peal bells for eight New peal Bells the tenor to weigh twenty two hundred or thereabouts but not more than that weight & the other seven to be weight in proportion

Next it was agreed that Messrs Thomas Pack & William Chapman of White Chapel London Bell founders shall be employed in the above work & the Churchwardens are requested to contract with them on the best Terms they can make

JOSEPH BURNHAM

(He was Vestry Clerk; this is followed by a quantity of other signatures).

1773.

April 2. Paid 1 Letter from Pack by Coach 0.0.7

1773—**Cred^r**:

July 13th Paid Mr Chapman as \pounds Receipt 170 — —

(The new ring having been opened, as quoted above from the Register, on the previous day.)

for the Bell Ropes Receipt 2.11 —

to the Bell founders Men — 10.6

(Several bills follow, some or all of which, may be connected with the bells.)

A Lift of those Persons who Subscribed towards

the new Peal of eight Bells open'd

the 12th July 1773

(The total comes to) £106.4.—

1775.

Aug^t 8 Paid Pack and Chapman 69.9.9

1776.

April 10 Paid for Roaps by Two Bills 3.19.11

1777.

16 May Paid Tho^s North for Ringing Beer 0.10.0

The Curfew was discontinued within the memory of living persons; the fifth bell was used.

The "Pancake Bell," on Shrove Tuesday, has also been discontinued within the memory of persons still living. It was rung at noon, on the seventh bell.

Death Knell at any time after the death; generally within twenty-four hours. Tolloed for about a quarter of an hour; the tenor used, except for a child, when the treble, or other of the smaller bells, is used. Tellers: three strokes = male; two = female.

On Sundays, the second or third is chimed at 7 a.m. For the Services (Morning, Afternoon, and Evening), bells all chimed for fifteen minutes; then tenor alone for ten minutes, and saunce for the last five minutes.

Bells chimed on New Year's Eve, just before midnight, and again as soon as the clock has struck. Also chiming when the Judge comes to hold the Assize.

Many thanks to the Rev. C. C. Mackarness, the late Vicar.

The Clock Tower.

Single. (Blank)

(15¾)

The Clock Tower was completed in 1877, on the site of a Market House rebuilt in 1806, and to which a clock was added in 1848. The bell was previously the Market Bell. The original Market House, with a Town Clock, was said to have been erected in 1530, by Sir John Baldwin, Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, then Lord of the Manor; and King Henry VIII. gave the timber for it.* (Sir John Baldwin bought the Manor from the Earl of Wiltshire, who was the father of Anne Boleyn.†) Mr. Gibbs, however,‡ finds that this should be that Sir John “re-edified it,” at about that date, implying that the original building was older.

In the Record Office is the following:—

1555 The late howffe of ffryers in Aylesbury
 The bell there —j. this bell was fold by
 the vifitor^r to fyr wiffm Baldewyn &^s
 now remaynehte (*sic*) as the mikkett Bell of Aylesbury

Sir William Baldwin was the son and heir of Sir John. He married Mary, daughter of Thomas Tyingham, Esq.|| The clock bell is certainly as old as the seventeenth century, and is most likely the same bell that is mentioned as having come from the House of Friars in the previous century. The clapper, which has been taken out of the bell, is made to hang with a baldrick, and the ball is flattened; additional points, so far as they go, to show that the bell is of a certain age.

The Monastery was of the order of S. Francis (= Franciscan); commonly called Grey Friars. It was founded 1386; surrendered 1st October, 30 Henry VIII.§

Chapel of Ease: S. John. Modern church, consecrated 1883, with one bell.

District Church: Holy Trinity, Walton. Modern church, consecrated 1845, with one bell.

BARTON HARTSHORN.

S. James.

1. (19)
 + I A C O B U S : E S T U D O M E N U E I V S

2. (20¼)
 ✠ I H E S V P I E F L O S M A R I E

The letterings and other stamps on these bells are figured on Plate VI., where the upper set represents the treble, and the lower set the tenor. They are both probably fourteenth century bells, of more or less local manufacture. For the

* *Records of Bucks*, IV., 452. † Gibbs's *History of Aylesbury*, p. 83.

‡ *Op. cit.* p. 402. || Lipscomb, IV., 374. § Gibbs, *op. cit.*, pp. 79, 86, etc.

treble, see pp. 14, 15; and for the tenor, p. 17. The treble has very high canons, with string-pattern moulding, and a flattened head. The tenor has a larger flattened surface on the crown, and unusually small canons for an old bell.

They hang in an open cot at the W. end of the nave roof. The tenor has an old stock, with the straps nailed on to it, and the clapper, which has an iron baldrick, is perhaps the original one.

4 May, 1553, Barton Hartshorne . . . two gret belle one Sance bell.
(The indenture is signed "by me John Porter." See p. 17.)

July, 1637, Barton Hartshorne, 2 Bells S^{ts} Bell. The north butterice of ye steeple also [in decay] . . . a wethercock or crofse wanteth upon the top of the steeple.

1714, 2 (sanctus not mentioned).

1755, At the West End is a little Turrit lathed and plaistered over, and tyled at Top, in which hang two small Bells.

Death Knell tolled as soon as possible after the death: no tellers.

Tolling for half an hour before funerals.

On Sundays, chiming for about half an hour before Service.

Sometimes chimed (?) after a wedding.

Thanks to the Rev. E. L. Smith, Vicar.

BEACHAMPTON.

Assumption B.V.M.

1. (34)
 ✻ I ⊕ S Sancta Margareta Ora Pro Nobis
2. ✠ ROS: PRECE: SANCTORVM: DEFENDAS
 : XPE: IVORVM (35½)
3. (38½)
 ✻ ROBERT ATTON MADE ME 1633 WE
- S. *(Running border, fig. 82, all round.)*
(On waist:—) (14½)
1695

Treble: by Johane, or Johanna, widow of John Sturdy (p. 27); both letterings are on Plate XI., where the initial cross is No. 2. Second: a fourteenth century bell, probably cast somewhere in the Midlands (p. 13); some of the letters (Plate V.) belong to William Rufford's set (the lower set on Plate IV.) Tenor: in the medium-sized set of letters, shown at the bottom of Plate XXXI.; the rose is No. 10 on Plate XXX.; WE probably denote William Elmer, who was a "pious and worthy benefactor of this Parish," who "died in the year 1652. He founded a free school and endowed it," &c., &c.* The saunce is evidently by Richard Chandler III., the

* From a record painted in the church, recorded in Browne Willis's MSS., and in Lipscomb, II., 531 (foot-note), and 534.

figures belonging to his 1.2 inch set (p. 232); the running pattern, fig. 82, only occurs elsewhere to my knowledge at Bicester, Oxon. (p. 234); straps nailed on, though the stock is new; wooden lever.

In the return made 1552, the list of church goods at "Bechampton" is unfortunately torn off.

10 July, 1637, 3 Bells & a Sts The crose of the steeple wanting . . . the steeple and the Church wants pgeting.

1714, 3 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

The bells were all rehung, about the seventies: they hang in a small turret, open at the sides.

Death Knell not rung after sunset, or before sunrise. Notice of the death is sent about an hour after the body is laid out. Tellers: $3 \times 3 =$ a male; $2 \times 3 =$ a female.

One bell tolled at funerals.

On Sundays, the treble has been rung from time immemorial at 8 a.m. Now, on the second, fourth, and fifth Sundays of the month, when there is a Celebration at that hour, the three bells are chimed, followed by the treble only. Before Morning and Evening Service, the tenor, as Sermon Bell, is rung for fifteen minutes, then the three (chimed?) for ten minutes: the saunce for the last five minutes.

Formerly a bell was rung directly after Morning Service, to give notice that there would be an Afternoon Service; but now, as there always is an Afternoon Service, this ringing is done away with.

The bells are rung three or four evenings a week during Advent, beginning on S. Andrew's Day; every night during the last week before Christmas; at midnight on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve; and at about 5 a.m. on Easter Day.

On Good Friday, only the tenor is used.

Formerly the bells were rung on the Queen's Birthday, and 5th November; but these ringings were discontinued when the Churchwardens ceased to pay for them, about or before 1870.

No references to the bells in the parish records.

Very many thanks to the Rev. D. Long, Rector.

BEACONSFIELD.

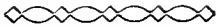
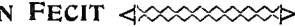
S. Mary and All Saints.

1. MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON
VOX EGO SUM VITÆ.

MDCCCLXXXIV.

TO THE GLORY OF GOD; AND IN MEMORY OF
EDMUND BURKE.

UNG ROY. UNG FOY. UNG LOY. (30½)

2. THOS^S MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1794 
3. CAST BY H. BAGLEY. MDCCXXII.
RECAST BY MEARS AND STAINBANK,
MDCCCLXXXIV.
- 4, 5, 7. (*Ditto to 3, but on the waist, instead of shoulder.*)
6. LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT  (*Incised :*) IOSEPH
MILLWARD & W^M HORE CH=WARDENS J760
(*Underneath, incised :*) J2=3=J4
8. MEARS AND STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON.
VOCO VOS ORATE VENITE.
MDCCCLXXXIV.
TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN MEMORY OF
BENJAMIN DISRAELI EARL OF BEACONS-
FIELD. K.G.
FORTI NIHIL DIFFICILE. (49 $\frac{3}{4}$)

The tower was re-opened after the restoration of the ring, on September 9th, 1884. Messrs. Mears & Stainbank added a new treble and tenor, and recast four out of the old six, and rehung the whole ring, with improved gudgeons and brasses. The total cost was £508. It is now one of the best rings in the county.

Treble : Lipscomb (III., 191, etc.,) says that after Mr. Burke's acquisition of a seat for Wendover, in the House of Commons, in 1768, Ralph Earl Verney placed at his disposal the large sum of twenty thousand pounds ; with which Burke immediately effected the purchase of a small portion of the manor of Beaconsfield, named Gregories, belonging to Mr. Waller. Mr. Burke continued to hold this estate until his death in 1797 ; and Gregories was subsequently the residence of his widow ; but not as stated by Lipscomb, of their son, for he predeceased his father. Burke is buried in the churchyard. His widow died in 1812, and the house was burnt down about a year later ; but she had, a few years previously, sold the property to Josias Duprè, Esq., who had already, about 1770, purchased the adjoining estate, Wilton Park.

As I have given elsewhere a translation of the Latin Inscriptions, I add here the English rendering of the Norman-French (Burke's family motto) on this bell :—
“ One king, one faith, one law.”

Tenor : weight given in Messrs. Mears and Stainbank's List, as 21 cwt. The late Earl of Beaconsfield is so popular a public character, that it is barely necessary to remind anyone, that he took his title from this town, when he was raised to the peerage in 1876. He had no property here, his estate being at Hughenden ; still, the title was quite a legitimate excuse for getting up subscriptions for a new bell in

his memory, as was the connection with the parish of the earlier illustrious statesman for another one. *Forti nihil difficile* is Lord Beaconsfield's family motto.

4 Aug: 1637, Beaconffield, 4. Bells. s^{ts} bell. a clock.
1714, 5 bells.

Henry Bagley seems to have recast these five bells, at Reading, in 1722.* His list dated 1732, preserved among B. Willis's MSS., xliii. 26, states the number of bells cast by him for this tower, as six, but the extracts which follow, seem to prove this to be an error.

In 1760 Lester and Pack recast the fourth (the present sixth); and the bell cast in 1794 by the elder Thomas Mears (the present second), apparently raised the number from five to six.

The following extracts were made some years ago, by E. J. Payne, Esq. :—

FROM THE VESTRY BOOK, 8TH AUGUST, 1722 :—

(A Vestry held) for y^e Runing of y^e 5 Bells and y^e
Churchwardens Dow agree witt y^e Bell founder to
take them from Beconsfield and Bring them to y^e
said Town and to Draw Artickels accordingley.
Chr: Newell Rector.

FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS :—

1722

ffor Casting y ^e five Bells	...	...	...	55	..	..
ffor Casting y ^e Brases for y ^e Bells	...	...	...	2	2	..
Payd John Groves Bill	...	...	...	11	4	..
Henry Tomson's Bill	...	...	...	5	15	6
Isaac Keen's Bill	...	...	...	6		3
May y ^e 28 th Gave y ^e Ringers	...	...	...	5		
y ^e 29 th Gave y ^e Ringers	...	...	...	6		
Payd for Drink for y ^e men that hope Down wit y ^e Bells				8	6	
Payd for y ^e Artickels and Bounds with y ^e Bellfounder	...			19	4	
for Gooing to Reding to See y ^e Bell Wayed in and out				3	5	..
and to see that wee had our own Mettel	...	...	...
Payd Thomas Treadway for Leather for y ^e Bells	...			10		..

1760.

Paid Tho ^s Lester on Ballance for a Bell as ^{ph} Bill	}	30	13
& rec ^t			
May 1760 Paid for Beer when the Bell was taken down and put up			8

* See pp. 213 (foot-note), 214, and 215; and *Bells of Gloucestershire*, p. 121.

BIDDLESDEN.

S. Margaret.

Single.

J 7 3 4

(234)

These small figures are probably Phelps's of Whitechapel; the bell was rehung some few years ago. The church was erected about the date of the bell: it joins on to Biddlesden House, the turret in which the bell hangs is not attached to the chapel in any way, but is over the dairy kitchen; the staircase leading to it also leads to several lumber, etc., rooms: the uprights for the banister are formed of carved oak bench-ends, from the old church.

Browne Willis (*Hist. Buck. Hund.*, p. 151, etc.) supplies the following particulars:—

“At the Diffolution” (viz. 1539), “the King's Visitors made this Return: . . . Bells, Lead, and other Buildings worth there by Estimation 5*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*”

“On the Surrender this church was very soon after demolished, and the Bells sold, or given away by Sir Robert Peckham to Denham Parish (at the End of this County) near Uxbridge in Middlesex. These were five very large ones, as I have heard, and continued at Denham 'till 1683, 35 Car. II, when they were run into 8, as they now remain.”

(Four of this ring are still in existence, as will be seen by referring to Denham.)

“On the Destruction of the Abbey the Parishioners resorted to a small Chapel adjoining to a Dwelling House; this was a little tyled Fabrick, and had a Bell in a Turrit.* . . . but this is quite demolished, and an unconsecrated Chapel fitted up in the left Wing, or Office, of the Proprietor's Dwelling House.”

Henry Sayer, a proprietor of vandal tendencies, as Browne Willis informs us, was himself in turn “demolished,” by being murdered by one, Richard Noble, an Attorney, “for which barbarous Murther he, the said Noble, was executed at Kingston, March 28, 1713.” He was succeeded by his son Henry Sayer, who destroyed every trace of the Abbey, and the “little tyled Fabrick,” and built the present church.

5 May, 1553, byleefden, [great bell]† one fance bell.

8 March, 1557. The Monastery of Bytlefden— $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{The leade ther (&c.)} \\ \text{The bell e—ijj. these bell e were sold} \end{array} \right.$
by doct^r London byinge visit^r at the diffoluçen. As ys wytaneffed by Tho: Todde. byinge a monke of the howffe & others.

Thomas Todde appears by Browne Willis's *History of Abbies* (1719, Vol. II., p. 12, etc.), to have been the Sub-prior and Cellarer. The account of the old ring of five bells is given there nearly in the same words, as in his *Hist. of Buck. Hundred*.

* In his 1714 list, is, one bell.

† Erased; these indentures, with the inventories filled in, in the rough, were evidently written before the church was visited, and such details as numbers, added on the spot.

Death Knell about an hour after the death, except it occurs at night, when it is tolled at 8 next morning. Tolling at funerals, from the time the procession can be seen from the belfry. Used on Sundays for about 10 minutes before the Services. These usages are of old establishment.

Many thanks to the late George M. Morgan, Esq., of Biddlesden Park.

BIERTON.

S. James.

- 1, 2, 3. (30, 32½, 34½)
 ‡ ♪ J : BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1816. ♪ ‡ ♪ ♪
 4. ‡ J : BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1816. ‡ ♪ ‡ ♪ (35)
 5. ‡ ♪ J : BADRICK, J : THORN, J : WHITE C : W : J :
 BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1816. ♪ (38½)
 6. ‡ JOHN BRIANT HERTFORD FEICT (*sic*) 1809 T - THORN &
 H : WEBB C : W ‡ ♪ † ♪ ‡ † ♪ (42½)
 S. RICHARD CHANDLER MADE ME 1678 (20)

Treble : diameter much reduced by tuning. Saunce : by Richard Chandler III. in his 1-inch lettering (p. 227). Half-wheel ; iron baldrick ; straps nailed, central pair keyed ; no brasses, the gudgeons work in iron rings. Hung left-handed ; and are apparently in ringing order, but long drop to floor of lantern.

23 July, 1552, Birton,

1†m iiij belle in the Steppull one fanbell one handbell one sacryng bell.

14 July 1638, Byrton 5 bells S^{ts} bell & a clock.

1714, Beirton, 6 (sanctus not mentioned).

Lipscomb (II. 104), "six modern bells, and a small one," and (II. 407), reports that the bell from the desecrated chapel of Quarrendon was brought here : if so, this must have happened before 1714, when Browne Willis's list was written.

BLEDLOW.

Holy Trinity.

1. 1638 (32½)
 2, 3. 1683 (34½, 36½)
 4. (40½)
 RICH KEENE CAST THIS RING 1683
 5. THE REV : WILLIAM STEPHEN VICAR RICHARD PIGGOTT
 & JAMES HARGRAVE CHURCHWARDENS.
 W & J TAYLOR FOUNDERS. 1842. (44½)

Treble : intended no doubt for 1683, the figures being Richard Keene's, like the other bells (p. 170) ; one of single canons broken. 3 : one of the side canons

broken (hanging loose); an extra strap added through the crown to take its place; bottom of lip much tuned away. Tenor: has flat canons. Rich deposit of guano; everything quite white with it. Domestic pigeons included in the happy family which nest here. Cages old, left-handed (very probably same age as the bells). Wheels, stocks, etc., apparently by Taylor. Iron stays.

The slider of the treble consists of a short iron pin, projecting into the pit, hinged (by eye and nail) to the under side of the upper beam of the frame. It is kept up in a horizontal position, and prevented from going more than a certain distance each way, by an iron, like an angular horseshoe: the two extremities of this are nailed to the inner side of the beam, and the slider rests on the flattened central portion.

The other bells have their sliders very much in form like what I have elsewhere called "bolt-like sliders;" but here, instead of their sliding like a bolt, in staples or copses, the horizontal bolt of wood (in which the short iron slider is fixed at right angles) is suspended to the frame by iron rods. These allow the slider to swing (like a parallel ruler) when the stay comes in contact with it, within the limits determined by a wooden stop at either end.

23 July, 1552, Bledlowe, 1tn iiij Belle in the steeple.

17 July, 1637, Bledloe. 4 Bells & S^{ts} Bell. . . . A new Bellfry dore . . . the steeple in the stone worke [in decay]

1714, 5 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

At the death of Henry Knight I., in January, 1622-3, "Bledlowe in the County of Buck" owed him £4 2s., probably for recasting a bell. See p. 125.

BLEDLOW RIDGE.



S. Paul.

Modern Parish; church consecrated 1868. One bell.

BLETCHLEY.


S. Mary.


1. GOD PRESERVE THE CHVRCH   A
 Ⓐ R 1717  (27½)

2. NOW PEACE & GOOD NEIGHBOVRHOOD 
 A: R Ⓐ 1713  (28)

3. QUOD SIT SACRA DIES PRIMO DENUNTIO
 MANE+++++

A: R Ⓐ 1712 Ⓐ            
 (30½)

4. AD TEMPLUM PER ME POPULUS PROPERARE
MONETUR 1712  (32½)





5. PULSA VOCO PLEBEM TRACTARE NEGOTIA
VILLÆ 1712 A : R  ++++++ (34½)

6. ROBERT, STAINBANK, FOUNDER, LONDON, 1867. (36)

7. R : TAYLOR & SONS : OXFOD. (*sic*) MDCCCXXVII. (38½)

8. (*By Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, 1893.*)

The remains of a fine ring by Abraham Rudhall I. (p. 110). Treble : pattern, fig. 46, the bell-stamp is fig. 49 ; a canon broken. 2 : ornament, a fragment of fig. 48. 3 : pattern, fig. 45, for $11\frac{1}{4}$ inches ; and in the second line, fig. 46, repeated eight times, covering a space of 3 ft. 3 in. 4 : ornament, a fragment of fig. 48. 5 : pattern, fig. 45, for $5\frac{5}{8}$ inches. All canons off these last two bells. 6 : tuned away from lip ; new stock with bell. According to a MS. vellum book, designed by Browne Willis, and preserved in Bletchley Church, the former bell was inscribed :—*Est Campanarum sine me symphonia nulla.* The 7th bore :—*Conjugium partus mysteria festa decoro.** The old tenor, when I saw it in 1887, was cracked from one of the canons, through the shoulder, to the figure 8 ; the mischief was allowed to extend, until in 1893, a new bell was substituted. The old tenor bore :—

ME RESONARE IUBENT HOMINUM
MORS CONCIO FUNUS   
BROWNE WILLIS ESQ^R BENEFACTOR
~~~~~ A  R 1718 ~~~~~ (44½)

One much regrets the loss of this memorial of the excellent and eccentric Buckinghamshire "worthy." It may, perhaps, from its date, have been by the second Abraham Rudhall ; the lettering on the upper five averages about  $1\frac{1}{8}$  in. (individual letters vary from a bare inch, to a full inch and an eighth), while on this bell the lettering was about  $1\frac{9}{16}$  in. The figures as before. The patterns were fig. 46, three times, and double rows of fig. 47, for  $6\frac{3}{4}$  in., and 1 ft.  $5\frac{5}{8}$  in., respectively. This was the third ring of eight erected in this county : Denham being the first, and High Wycombe the second. The bells were quarter-turned by Gillett, in 1893, and rehung in the old frame ; before this, some straps of the treble and second were keyed. A board (part broken off) is nailed on the frame facing the door, on which is carved :—

\* Quoted by Lipscomb, IV., 19, and Lukis, *Church Bells*, p. 64 : both have a misprint.



(*The upper line is effaced*) }  
 John and Richard Willi }  
                   Made Th }

The back of the board is also engraved : I managed to read the first line :—

{ es £f 2 Benifactor

The lower line I could not contrive to read. The “Benifactor” was, of course, Browne “Willes.” These bell hangers, Jn. and Rich. Williams, lived at King’s Sutton, near Banbury, Northampts : and hung bells *on the cross*, that is, instead of the cages being placed parallel with the walls of the tower, they run across diagonally, from corner to corner. This frame was probably made in 1712.

Chicheley has a similar frame, with a very similar board, giving their names and address, and dated 1718. The frame at Penn is similar, except that it is a “left-handed” one, and may perhaps be by them, although it has no name-board ; it was finished by 5th January, 1702-3. The frame at Cookham, in Berks (not far from Marlow), may also be by them, but bears no name ; it was probably constructed in 1717. In 1720 they hung the Great Marlow bells, the churchwardens’ accounts record :—

Paid the three Williams’s Bellhangers.

So there was probably another of the family in the business at that date.

In 1727 they hung the bells at Holy Trinity Church, Hull. An anonymous writer in *Bell News* (III., p. 400), quotes the name-board as follows :—

John and Richard Williams of Kingston, in Northampton Shier in the year of our Lord made this frame, 1727.

There is no Kingston in Northamptonshire, so this must be a mistake on the part of the Williams’s, or their copyist, for King Sutton, as before. It is not stated whether this frame is “on the cross” or not.

In Vol. XL. (5841) of the Additional MSS. (in the British Museum), the Rev. William Cole, who was presented to the Rectory of Bletchley by Browne Willis, in January, 1753, and resigned it in 1768, has preserved (fo. 53) a long letter (even though not given in its entirety) to Browne Willis, from Abel Rudhall (Bellfounder, of Gloucester, and grandson of the Abraham who cast this ring), dated March 30th, 1759. It is chiefly concerning the bells of Wells Cathedral, with a little gossip interspersed, but near the end he writes :—

I remember to have heard *Blechley Bells*, but it is *so long since*, that I can’t account much for them, *any more* than that I thought them a *very good Peal*, & the *Tenor* I suppose *can’t cost 20!* the *casting only without Addition of metal*. . . . Your much obliged & most humble servant *Abel Rudhall*.

The allusion to the Tenor sounds as if Browne Willis had contemplated having it recast, though for what reason I cannot say.

In his MSS. in the Bodleian Library, cix., 30, the inscription on one of the bells here, is given as :—

Sana manet Christi plebisque Religio vana.

This would mean one of the bells *previous* to the Rudhall ring. The inscription is not a familiar one; but it was on the former tenor at Ivinghoe, dated 1628.

Aug: 1637, 5. Bells . . . the north west butterice of the steeple [in decay].

### *BOARSTALL.*

S. James.

The church is modern, with one small bell added about the end of 1885. Before this addition, its functions were performed by the clock-bell in—

#### Boarstall Tower.

*Single.*

RICHARD KEENE MADE ME 1661

(23½)

Lettering the size of, but not matching, the tiny 1, on Plate XXVI. All canons broken: iron baldrick to clapper.

23 July, 1552. borefall . . . in the steeple iij great belle . . . (*torn off*)  
16 July, 1638, 3 bells S<sup>ts</sup> Bell.

No bell here in 1714, except the one in Boarstall House.

The old chapel had a tower at the west end, according to a painting mentioned by Lipscomb (I. 92). The bells which hung there are mentioned in the following letter from the King's Council at Oxford, to Sir William Campion, Knt., Governor of Boarstall :—

Sir, Whereas there is very great want of bell-metal for casting of ordnance for his Maties service, and being informed that you have lately demolished a church by Boarstall, so as this want may be supply'd by y<sup>e</sup> bells taken down in that church; we pray you to send hither to Oxford by a safe convoy w<sup>th</sup> all possible expedic'on, *all y<sup>e</sup> said bells*, and cause y<sup>m</sup> to be deliver'd to Sr George Strode or Mr Wandesford at y<sup>e</sup> Schooles, to be employ'd for making of ordnance. And you are to assure y<sup>e</sup> parishioners of y<sup>e</sup> parish, that they shall receive satisfaction for these said bells, so soon as his Maties great occasions will permit y<sup>e</sup> same. So we bidd you farewell, and rest your loving friends,

Cottington.

Hertforde.

Hen. Dovor.

Chichester.

F. Seymour.

Edw. Nicholas.

Oxford, this 26 of July, 1645.

The church does not appear, however, to have been "demolished," though it may

have been much mutilated, and the tower was probably demolished. The building was repaired in 1660; but having become dilapidated in the course of the eighteenth century, was rebuilt in 1818 by Sir John Aubrey, Bart., the impropiator; "but without either a tower or a bell, exhibiting an unusual instance of a church, with rights of sepulture and marriage, destitute of provision for complying with the ecclesiastical canons."\*

A tradition existing in the village that the bells had not been sent to Oxford, but buried in some part of the grounds of Boarstall House, Sir John Aubrey caused a search to be made for them in the well within the moated enclosure; but one of the labourers meeting with an accident, by which his leg was broken, the undertaking was abandoned, and the fate of the bells still remains unknown.

This church is under Brill.

*BOVENEY.*

S. Mary Magdalen.

- |    |                  |              |              |                   |          |          |          |
|----|------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1. | <b>H O N A R</b> | <b>G O D</b> | <b>1631</b>  | (29)              |          |          |          |
| 2. | <b>H O P E</b>   | <b>I N</b>   | <b>G O D</b> | <b>1636</b> (30½) |          |          |          |
| 3. |                  |              |              | (34½)             |          |          |          |
|    | <b>A</b>         | <b>B</b>     | <b>C</b>     | <b>D</b>          | <b>E</b> | <b>F</b> | <b>G</b> |

Treble and 2: by Ellis Knight, of Reading (p. 127). Tenor: no doubt from the older Reading establishment, about 1534-36 (p. 63); it is well-proportioned, and well-cast; letters, Plate XVII.

The bells hang in a little wooden turret over the west end of the church; no stays or sliders; the clappers have peculiarly small balls, and iron baldricks.

18 July, 1552, Boveney. Iñ iiij Bellis of the wiche the purveyour of the Kynges workes of his majestie hono<sup>r</sup> & Castell of wynde<sup>r</sup> called whetley toke one of them A wey.†  
(? 9 Aug :) 1637. Boveney Chappell in poia de Burnhā 3 Bells.  
1714, 3 bells.


This is a chapel-of-ease to Burnham, where all funerals are, and the Death Knell is tolled there.

On Sundays, the bells are chimed for half an hour before the Services; a single bell for the last few minutes. No special ringing on any occasion.

Thanks to the Rev. R. F. Rumsey, Vicar.

*BRADENHAM.*

S. Botolph.

- |       |                                                              |                                                                                      |
|-------|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.    | <b>T H O M A S M E A R S O F L O N D O N F E C I T 1799</b>  |  |
| 2, 3. |                                                              | (Tenor, 27½)                                                                         |
| †     | <b>M I C H A E L : D E : V V T M B I S : M E : F E C I T</b> |                                                                                      |

\* Lipscomb, I., 92.

† Boveney is only about two miles from Windsor.

Treble : by the first Thomas Mears (p. 104). 2 and Tenor : were cast during the later years of the thirteenth century, or, at any rate, not later than 1310 (p. 6). The cross and lettering are on Plate III. Of three other known examples by Michael de Wymbis (all in this county, though he was a London founder), two are in the next parish, alphabetically speaking ; the other one is at Lee. Canons broken off the second ; those of the tenor are moulded with string-pattern : the argent very large and high. They are very long-waisted and resonant bells.

1552, bradnam, iij belles bought & vnpayd for / on fance bell.\*

This seems to show unquestionably, that the two ancient bells are not in their original home, but were bought second-hand, probably on the dissolution of some religious house, about 1537-39.

15 Aug: 1637, Bradnam 3. Bells.

Bradenham is not mentioned in Browne Willis's List ; but in Langley's *History of Desborough Hundred*, published 1797, p. 167, is, "In the tower, which is low, hang two bells, and there is a clock also in it."

### BRADWELL ABBEY.

Formerly extra-parochial. There is no church, but a small desecrated chapel. The Survey of the Benedictine Priory of S. Mary, now in the Chapter House, Westminster, taken on its suppression in 1526,† has :—

Itm. the steple is latelie buylded w<sup>t</sup> borde thereupon uncov'd. . . .

Itm in the church ij . bells which be worth . . .

### BRADWELL, OLD.

S. Lawrence.

1, 2. (24 $\frac{3}{4}$ , 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ )  
 † M J C B A E L : D E : A A U M B J S : M E F E C J C  
 3. ———RICHARD———CHANDLER———MADE  
 ———ME———1700——— (27 $\frac{1}{4}$ )  
 4. † Aox Avgvstini Sonet In Abre Dei (30)  
U

Treble and 2 : see under Bradenham (just above). The second seems to me to be, for its size, an extremely fine-toned bell ; the treble has some of its canons

\* This inventory is in duplicate ; the second copy is headed "Reffpecmet,"= Respectment, and contains the signatures of the Commissioners, viz., "Francis Rufsell Morris barkley Edmond Pekham Robt Drurye Wyllm Tyldefley." The first four were Knights, the fifth "Esquier." † Lipscomb, IV., p. 42.

broken, and three holes drilled through the crown for extra straps, which, in spite of what some bell-hangers say, I believe is apt to interfere with the tone ; but still a remarkably good bell. 3 : the inscription is in Richard Chandler III.'s 1.2-inch lettering, placed down among the rims, like the North Marston bell of the previous year (p. 233). Tenor: unfortunately cracked through the lip, at right-angles to where the clapper strikes, and the cause is not obvious ; probably the result of some foul blow. The cross and capitals are shown on Plate XII. ; the shield is fig. 18, and shows the bell to be by John Walgrave, who died about 1440 (p. 30 *et seq.*). This inscription is recorded by Browne Willis, MSS. cix., 29. This bell has a very thick stock ; all the straps pass *through* it, instead of two or more pairs being on the outside.

The bell-chamber is in a neglected condition, and the hangings in bad order, but the frame, which is left-handed, appears to be sound. On it is carved :—

### I F W E 1652

possibly not all cut at the same time. The gudgeons of the treble are at the top of the stock ; those of the second are near the top ; those of the third half-way up ; and the tenor's near the bottom. Peculiar wheels—probably made in the present century. Wooden bolt-like sliders to all.

Browne Willis, in his *History of the Abbies* (II., p. 37), says, that in the tower of Snellshall Priory, in Whaddon parish :—

were, as 'tis reported, 4 small Bells, which being carried to *Bradwell* Parish Church in this Neighbourhood, were hung up there.\* On the biggest is yet remaining this Inscription, *Vox Augustini sonet in aure Dei.*

1714, 4 bells.

(*BRADWELL, NEW*—see Stantonbury).

*BRICKHILL, BOW.*

All Saints.

- |    |   |              |                      |              |             |             |                   |
|----|---|--------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| 1. | ✠ | GOD          | SHVE                 | OVR          | KING        | 1634        | (27¾)             |
| 2. |   | CHANDLER     | MADE                 | ME           | 1670        |             | (30¼)             |
| 3. | ✠ | V B G D      | ✠                    | Ó B 2        | ✠           | D E E C     | E E ✠ W (34½)     |
| 4. |   | SO II        | (Fig. 69, for 8 in.) | DEEO         | (Do. 8 in.) | G I O R I A | (Do. 7½ in.) PAX  |
|    |   | (Do. 4¼ in.) | H O M I N I B V S    | (Do. 1¾ in.) | 1649        | (Do. ¾ in.) | A (Do. ⅞ in.) B I |
|    |   | (Do. ⅞ in.)  | C                    | Ⓢ            | (Do. ¾ in.) |             | (37¾)             |

Treble: by James Keene, in his ordinary lettering ; except the two last figures of the date, which are heavy (p. 164) ; the cross is No. 1, on Plate XXVI. 2 : by

\* Quoted by Lipscomb, III., 507, foot-note.

Anthony Chandler (p. 226); iron baldrick. 3: for some other bells by this unknown sixteenth century founder (perhaps Lawrence Wright), see p. 47; crown-staple broken, the present one is keyed. Tenor: by Henry Bagley I. (p. 215); cracked, a large piece out of lip; has not been used for years; the wheel (keyed) almost gone; iron baldrick. The three upper bells, and probably the tenor also, appear to have their original stocks; inner straps nailed, central pair on the two upper bells, keyed, others bolted. The three upper bells (those in use) have deal wheels of a remarkable pattern, evidently local manufacture. All the stocks are high.

The bell-chamber is very dirty, and the woodwork (floor, &c.) somewhat rotten. On the frame, facing the trap, is carved:—

I 6 2 8

I · I

These are the initials of the hanger, John Jefs, whose name appears at Adstock (which see), and Simpson.

July 1637, Bowbrickhill 4 bells. . . . steeple wants pargetting on the south side . . . the belfrey wants paving.

Bowbrickhill chappell. I: S<sup>t</sup> Bell.

(This chapel is not in existence at the present time, and is not mentioned by Lipscomb. The number of bells intended, is probably, one, *and* a Sanctus.)

Among the many thousand documents preserved at Claydon House\* is a letter from Browne Willis, "To the R<sup>t</sup> Honourable The Earl of Verney Member of Parliat:" dated May 15th, 1756, in which he appeals for the preservation of "the Pharos of the County viz Bow Brickhill chur:" which it was proposed to pull down. He adds: "the Gentln. will fight for their four Bells w<sup>ch</sup> are good ones."

### BRICKHILL, GREAT.

Nativity B.V.M.

1, 3, 4, 5.

(30, 34, 36, 39).

∞ W & T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1789 ∞

2. THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1840 (31½)

6. THE REV<sup>D</sup> M<sup>R</sup> PITT RECTOR EDWARD WATTS ESQ<sup>R</sup>  
JN<sup>O</sup> EDWIN ESQ<sup>R</sup> GENTLEMEN M<sup>R</sup> W<sup>M</sup> TURNEY & M<sup>R</sup>  
W<sup>M</sup> MATTOCKS CH. WARDENS

W & T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1789 (43¼)

S. G C I 6 8 I

\* The late Rt. Hon. Sir Harry Verney, Bart., by whose kind permission I quote it.

4 and 5 : somewhat tuned from lip. The tenor is given in Messrs. C. and G. Mears's List, and subsequently in Messrs. Mears and Stainbank's, as 14 cwt. : it is probably a little in excess of this weight. The Rev. John Pitts, A.B., who had been a master at Eton, was presented to the living by Mrs. Frances Bristowe, and inducted 29th January, 1761. His successor was inducted December 13th, 1793. The saunce is one of the earliest bells by George Chandler, in his father, Anthony's, lettering (p. 230). Its straps are nailed on a recent stock ; those in the centre keyed ; iron lever.

All the stays are *double*, made of two pieces of wood, one on each side of the stock, crooked, so as to meet, and form one perfectly invulnerable stay, capable of allowing the canons of the bell to break, without themselves receiving the slightest injury ! Otherwise these bells appear to be in ringing order.

Among the benefactions to the parish, is the produce of a piece of ground to buy bell ropes.

jo Aug : 1637, Brickhill mag<sup>a</sup> Bells 5 & St<sup>s</sup> Bell . . . The steeple & Church wants pargetting.

1714, 6 (saunce not mentioned).

Lipscomb, IV., 64, states that there are six modern bells, cast out of five, made in 1718. The previous quotation, however, seems to show this to be erroneous.

*BRICKHILL, LITTLE.*

S. Mary Magdalene.

- |    |         |    |   |          |      |             |      |    |    |         |    |    |       |
|----|---------|----|---|----------|------|-------------|------|----|----|---------|----|----|-------|
| 1. | +       | Y  | Q | G        | I    | uz          | uu   | na | an | uu      | uz | uu | (29½) |
| 2. | ✠       | HD | ✠ |          |      | CONVOCHNDVM | ✠    |    |    | CCEITYM |    |    | (30½) |
|    | 1639    | IK |   |          |      |             |      |    |    |         |    |    |       |
| 3. |         |    |   | CHANDLER | MADE | ME          | 1669 |    |    |         |    |    | (33½) |
| S. | (Blank) |    |   |          |      |             |      |    |    |         |    |    | (11)  |

The treble, which is cracked, and not used, is of unknown authorship, but for an attempt to "place" it, see p. 189. Its date is probably during Mary's reign. The syllables an and na are each one stamp, and are, like the capitals, reversed, (and most of them are the wrong way up as well) ; they are figured on Plate XXVII. ; the first, fourth, and sixth, are the first stamp ; the second, third, fifth, and seventh, are the second. 2 : by James Keene ; the cross is No. 2, and the *fleur-de-lis* No. 6, on Plate XXVI., where the IK are also shown. Tenor : by Anthony Chandler. Messrs. Gillett, in 1887, fitted such an enormous clock-hammer to strike on it, that I fear its days are numbered, even if it survives to date of publication. The saunce is, I think, a piece of seventeenth century workmanship. It retains its original stock probably ; with the straps nailed ; central pair keyed, but the keys gone ; crown-staple broken. It is chimed by a sort of rudimentary wheel, an interesting stage of







shoulder of the bell. The last figure of the date (see fig. 64) is peculiar, but is almost certainly a 5 reversed, and not a 7. The lettering is very similar to that used by Henry Bagley I., at Ashendon, but is slightly smaller. I have not met with this cross, lettering, or pattern (fig. 63, running here for  $7\frac{1}{4}$  in.) elsewhere. Straps nailed; crown-staple probably broken in the seventeenth century; wooden lever. The bell-chamber is in an extremely filthy condition.

20 July, 1552, browgton

Iñ ij hand belle & a facren bell

Iñ iiij belle & a fanfys bell hanggyn in the stelpull

July, 1637, 4 Bells S<sup>ts</sup> Bell . . . The north window of the Chancell and the Bellfry windowe ptly boarded up. . . . The Bellfry wants paveing. . . . The Church and steeple want pgeting.

1714, 4 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

Death Knell tolled for 20 minutes on tenor, preceded by the tellers,  $3 \times 3 = a$  male;  $2 \times 3 = a$  female. An hour before a funeral the bell is tolled 10 or 12 times to call the bearers together, and rung the last 20 minutes.

On Sundays, two bells are chimed for five minutes, at 8 a.m., which is said to be in order that people may put their clocks right; this is now utilised for an Early Celebration. Formerly when Service was held alternately, morning and afternoon, here and at Gt. Linford, the bells were chimed at eight, if the Service was at eleven, and at twelve, if the Service was at three. For Morning and Evening Services, the bells are chimed for twenty-five minutes; the saunce for the last five minutes, and signifies a Sermon Bell. These are old usages.

Ringing immediately after weddings.

Many thanks to the Rev. C. C. Luxmoore, Rector.

## BUCKINGHAM.

SS. Peter and Paul.

1. >> I MEAN TO MAKE IT UNDERSTOOD THAT THO IM  
LITTLE YET IM GOOD <<<<<<

CHAPMAN & MEARS OF LONDON FECERUNT 1782 (32½)

2. IF YOU HAVE A JUDICIOUS EAR YOU'LL OWN MY VOICE  
IS SWEET AND CLEAR CHAPMAN & MEARS OF

LONDON FECERUNT 1782 (34)

3. >>> OUR VOICES SHALL WITH JOYFULL SOUND MAKE  
HILLS AND VALLEYS ECHO ROUND <<

CHAPMAN & MEARS OF LONDON FECERUNT 1782 (35½)

4. >>>> SUCH WOND'ROUS POWER TO MUSICK'S GIVEN IT  
ELEVATES THE SOUL TO HEAVEN <<<<<<

>>>> CHAPMAN & MEARS OF LONDON FECERUNT  
1782 <<<<<<<< (38½)

5. >▷ ● MUSICK IS MEDICINE TO THE MIND CHAPMAN & MEARS OF LONDON FECERUNT 1782 ◀◀◀◀ (41½)

6. WHILST THUS WE JOIN IN CHEARFULL SOUND MAY LOVE AND LOYALTY ABOUND CHAPMAN & MEARS OF LONDON FECERUNT 1782 (43½)

7. IN WEDLOCK BANDS ALL YE WHO JOIN WITH HANDS YOUR HEART UNITE SO SHALL OUR TUNEFULL TONGUES COMBINE

◀◀▷ TO LAUD THE NUPTIAL RITE. CHAPMAN & MEARS OF LONDON FECERUNT 1782 ◀◀◀◀ (48½)

8. ◀◀▷ ☀ WILL<sup>M</sup> ELLIOTT BAILIFF. RICH<sup>D</sup> WHEELER T. TOWN W. BOUGHAN W & I. NORRIS COLLECTORS I. MANDER HANG US 1782 ◀◀◀◀

◀◀▷ CHAPMAN & MEARS OF LONDON FECERUNT ◀◀◀◀ (53½)

The heaviest ring of eight in the county. Tenor: said to weigh 27 cwt. William Elliott served the office of Bailiff of the town in 1771, and for the second time in 1782. The circular stamp is a large medallion, measuring 2½ inches in diameter; the field seems to be a floral device, and in the border, or exergue, is a zigzag pattern.

A fine ringing chamber, and well kept.

26 July, 1552, Buckingham Towne . . . . .

It̄ .v. great belles in the steeple

It̄ one fantē bell

It̄ ij hand bellis

5 May, 1553, buckynghm . . . they (the feyd churchw̄dens) have allfo refeyvyd .v. great belle & one faunfe bell.

The old church had a square tower, supporting a spire of wood covered with lead, perhaps dating from the thirteenth century. On 7th February, 1698-99, the tall wooden spire was blown down in a gale of wind, without any material damage being done to the rest of the building.

Among Browne Willis's MSS. (xxii., 45) is a copy of a letter from him to Mr. Justice Denton, dated "Whaddon Hall Oct. 3, 1737," and informing him that "a superstructure" was to be "erected on the present Tower, after taking down the monstrous Balcony." . . . "and the Bells mounted and then the ropes may not longer dangle indecently in the Church or Ale carried to be drunk in the middle of it and other Acts done which breed and instill into youth Future irreverence to the place."

This most worthy man evidently took it for granted that Belfry morals were

hopeless, and despairing of effecting any improvement, merely sought to put these things out of sight, instead of the scandal taking place in the body of the church.

This contemplated alteration was not apparently carried out until 1753, when the tower was raised in height about 24 feet.

Bound up with Browne Willis's MSS. (xxii., 57) is a letter to him, from which the following is an extract :—

Sir, Agreeable to your desire, I have inform'd myself particularly of the weight of the great Bell, which is  $24 : 2 : 12$ .<sup>C Qrs lb</sup> & I find the parish have contracted with Lister,\* for the new one to be twenty six Hundred, or as near it as possible. . . . . your much oblig'd & obed<sup>t</sup>

humble servant E : P : Wogan

Bucking Ham }  
Thursday even } [notes added in other writing—  
[ 1751 added ] A<sup>o</sup> 1751 The 5 Bells cast into 6  
with ab<sup>t</sup> 1800 additional metal]

[The great Bell brought to Bucks  
ab<sup>t</sup> April 1752 is 2700<sup>†</sup>  
pound weight 2 quarters  
& 7 pound & the 5th 2200  
as is Newport biggest Bell]

The weights of the former, and then existing tenors, are again given in his MSS., xxxviii., 2.

Among the thirty-odd-thousand documents preserved at Claydon House, † is a letter from Browne Willis "To the Right Honourable The Earl of Verney, Member of Parliament," dated Whaddon, February 19th, 1756, in which, writing of Buckingham, he says, "I wish the Bells were new run at Gloucester For they are very Indifferent as several judges of them have observed But I doubt I shall live to see very few Improvements at that Town."

The increased weight of the masonry added to the tower in 1753, proved too great for the old piers which supported it, and on March 26th, 1776, the tower fell, only a few minutes after the ringers had left it. || Lipscomb says it contained five modern bells (probably a mistake for *six*), the tenor weighing 25 cwt.

\* Thomas Lester, of the Whitechapel Foundry, 1738-52.

† In Messrs. C. and G. Mears's List, issued 1852, by an oversight, two distinct rings are entered for Buckingham. Among the "Peals of Eight Bells," is, "Buckingham Town ... 8 (bells) 24 Cwt (weight of Tenor) ;" and among the "Peals of Six Bells," "Buckingham, Buckinghamshire ... 6 (bells) 27 Cwt (weight of Tenor)." In later Lists of the Whitechapel Foundry, the first entry only was inserted, until the 1891 Edition, when the correct number, with the higher weight, were given.

‡ The late Rt. Hon. Sir Harry Verney, Bart., by whose kind permission I quote it.

|| The Rev. F. G. Kiddle, *Records of Bucks*, V., 414. Also Lipscomb, II., 578.

Among the Wills given in *Hist. Buck. Hund., &c.* (p. 59), the following bequests to the bells here, occur:—

Henry Collier, will proved 19 May, 1501, “*Item*, I bequeath to the Bells in *Bucks.*” (*i.e.*, Buckingham town, not Buckinghamshire, which we now understand by this abbreviation) “13s 4d.”

“*Margaret Colier*, of *Bucks.* Will dated and proved 1502, gives 6s. 8d. to *Bucks Bells.*”

“Will of *Nicholas Aston*, of *Buckingham*, dated *January 4*, 1505. . . . gives . . . to the Bells 6s. 8d.

From Michaelmas Day to Lady Day, the fifth is rung for about five minutes, at 6 a.m., and the common tradition exists here, of a person who was lost, finding out his or her whereabouts on hearing a bell, and leaving money for this ringing to be continued in perpetuity through the dark half of the year. Rung again as the Curfew at 8 p.m.; evidently a survival of the Morning and Evening Ave.

On Shrove Tuesday, the seventh is rung for about 10 minutes, as Pancake Bell, some time between 10 a.m. and noon, usually from 11.50 a.m. to 12 noon.

Death Knell, for persons over twelve years of age, on the tenor; under twelve, on the second bell. At the conclusion, after a minute's pause, nine strokes on the tenor for a male, and six for a female.

On Sundays, for Morning and Evening Service, the treble is rung for seven minutes, then the tenor for eight minutes; then all bells chimed or rung. Sermon Bell rung on the treble after Morning Service. These are old usages.

Before the Easter Vestry, the fourth is rung for five minutes.

The sixth is said to be the Fire Bell.

Very many thanks to the Rev. F. G. Kiddle, Vicar, especially for his kindness in giving me access to the Registers. (See Buckingham Foundry.) \*

### The Town Hall.

*Single. (Blank)*

(c. 16)

Probably seventeenth century; possibly older. Hung rigid, for clock to strike on; no clapper.

### BUCKLAND.

All Saints.

- |    |                                 |           |
|----|---------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. | ELLIS AND HENRY KNIGHT MADE MEE |           |
|    | ( <i>On Waist:</i> )            | †675 (26) |
| 2. | CHANDLER MADE ME 1693           | (27)      |
| 3. | 'GEORGE CHANDLER MADE ME        |           |
|    | 1708                            | (32½)     |

Treble: (p. 134) low canons. 2: lettering 1.2 inches high, by "the firm" (p. 232); rather high canons. Tenor: letters  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches high (p. 234); high canons. All crown-staples broken.

Death Knell immediately after the death, if before sunset, otherwise next morning. For an adult, the tenor is used; for a child over seven years, the second; and for a child under seven, the treble. Tellers: both at beginning and ending of the knell, three strokes = a male; two strokes = a female.

On Sundays, the tenor is rung for two or three minutes at 7 a.m. For the Services the bells are chimed for fifteen minutes. At the conclusion of each Service the tenor is rung for two or three minutes. These are old customs.

The bells are chimed on November 1st; no doubt because it is the Anniversary of the Dedication Day of the Church. The tenor is rung for Vestry Meetings.

No churchwardens' accounts extant, earlier than 1820.

Many thanks to the Rev. E. Bonus, Vicar.

In the Inventory made 23rd July, 1552, for "Bucklond," the bells are not mentioned; and again when the church was visited in July, 1638, no mention is made of them.

In 1714, 3 bells.

### BURNHAM.

S. Peter.

- |    |                                                    |      |                     |
|----|----------------------------------------------------|------|---------------------|
| 1. | I: TAYLOR AND C <sup>O</sup> FOYNDERS LOVGHBOROVGH | 1892 | (30 $\frac{3}{4}$ ) |
| 2. | C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON                        | 1855 | (32 $\frac{1}{2}$ ) |
| 3. | <b>RE</b> <b>WI</b> <b>IB</b> <b>I624</b>          |      | (35)                |
| 4. | THOMAS LESTER OF LONDON MADE MEE                   | J749 | (37 $\frac{3}{4}$ ) |
| 5. | HENRY KNIGHT MADE MEE                              | +67† | (40 $\frac{3}{4}$ ) |
| 6. | THO <sup>S</sup> SWAIN MADE ME IN J755             |      |                     |
|    | THO <sup>S</sup> GOLDWIN JAMES BATTING             |      |                     |
|    | CHURCH WARDENS                                     |      | (44 $\frac{1}{2}$ ) |
|    | <i>Clock-Bell.</i> BORNHAM                         | +70† | (21 $\frac{1}{2}$ ) |

Treble: one of the ugly new-fashioned bells without canons. 3: by Richard Eldridge (p. 243); the two last pairs of initials are probably those of the churchwardens; letters fully  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches high. 4: (p. 99) canons broken. 5: by Henry Knight II. (p. 133). Clock bell: evidently by Samuel Knight (p. 136), in the  $\frac{9}{16}$  inch lettering used on the fifth bell here, and other bells from this foundry since 1659,—except the small H and the figure 7, the first of which corresponds with the lettering on the Great Marlow saunce. Crown-staple broken, and, consequently no clapper.

The tower suffered renovation in 1892 (and the addition of a spire), when the

bells were rehung by the builder, under, however, the supervision of a hanger from Messrs. Taylors' Foundry. Some of the old struts are retained, but all the horizontal timbers are new; the additional treble is hoisted a considerable height above the other bells.

In the old tower the bells hung left-handed. On the frame, near the tenor, was carved in large, well-executed figures 1624. The ringing-chamber was on the ground floor, whence a rickety (but rather curious) wooden staircase led up to the next loft; thence by ladders. There were two lofts between the ringing-, and bell-, chambers, and the whole presented a general appearance of dirt and neglect. Kicking about in the lofts were three ancient helmets, which used to hang on iron brackets in the chancel; but when a previous "restoration" came, they were taken down, and left to be used as footballs in the tower! The upper loft (the bell-chamber) was a wooden construction, perhaps added in 1624, when the frame was made, according to the date carved on it. The frame was supported on cross-beams round the interior of the next loft. All the bells were quarter-turned in the old frame, except the (then) treble, whose date (1855) probably shows that of the operation.

The clock-bell used to hang in a small wooden turret on the roof of the tower, but was dethroned with the rest of the old work, and it was proposed, instead of restoring it to its legitimate use as saunce bell, to send it to the school chapel at Cippenham, at the other end of the parish.

9 Aug: 1637, 5. Bells St<sup>s</sup> Bell. a clock but it doth not goe.  
1714, 5 bells (saunce not mentioned).

In the Surrender of Burnham Abbey, dated September, 1539, quoted in *Hist. of Abbies* (II., 16), is:—

The Monastery of the Order of St. *Austyn*, . . . Bells and Lead worth 40*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*

8 March, 1557 The þiory of Burnehme. The leade of the same was none. for the Steple was made. w<sup>t</sup>. Stone & thother buyldinge Church & Cloyfter were all Tyled as ys Certefyed by Wiffm Tyldesley. (&c)

The belle — iij — po3 — ccc as Apperyth by the said Certaff. whiche were fold by the commiffion<sup>s</sup> docto<sup>r</sup> London & others at the dissolucon.

Death Knell for about twenty minutes. Tenor for adults; treble for children. Tellers, both before and after the knell: 3 × 3 = a male; 3 × 2 = a female.

On Sundays, the treble is rung at 7 a.m., "as a warning." For the 8 a.m. Service, three bells are chimed. For Morning and Evening Service, all the bells rung for about half an hour. For the Afternoon Service, one bell is rung. The same on Christmas Day and Good Friday. On Christmas Eve, ringing about 7 p.m., and again from midnight to 1 a.m. On New Year's Eve, ringing about 7 p.m., and from 11.30 p.m. to 0.30 a.m. Ringing on Queen's Birthday and 5th November. Ringing for weddings when desired.

Many thanks to the Rev. R. F. Rumsey, Vicar.

## CADMORE END.


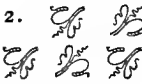

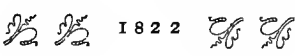


S. Mary le Moor.\*

Modern parish ; church built 1851. One bell.

The church stands actually in Oxfordshire, but the parish lies chiefly in Bucks, and it belongs to the Archdeaconry of Bucks.

## CALVERTON.

All Hallows.

1. ✠ W: & J: TAYLOR CHURCH CLOCK & CHIME MAKERS FECIT  
1822. \*  (30¼)
2.  \* ✠ TAYLOR FOUNDER OXFORD 1822 ○ ○ \*  
 (32¾)
3.  1822  (34)
4. (Blank) (35¾)
5.  ○ ○ ○ THIS PEAL WAS RECAST BY W: & J: TAYLOR OX-  
FORD NOV<sup>R</sup> 20: 1822. (39½)
- S. (Blank) (11¾)

Treble: much tuned from lip; stock only six inches high. The \* = a double triangle. 2: The coins (? sixpences) are  $\frac{7}{8}$  inch diameter; the first has S. George and the dragon, dated 1822; the second is undecipherable, but is probably not identical. 4: evidently by Taylor, like the rest. Tenor: the coins (? crowns) are  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches diameter; the first has bust dexter; second, probably the same; the third is apparently S. George and the dragon. Saunce: nearly the same size all the way down; rather large canons; perhaps cast about the end of last century?

1714, 5 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

Lipscomb, IV., 87, says the old church contained five bells; the present church was built in 1818. He gives the weight of the tenor at "about 17 cwt.," which would probably be that of the former bell; the present one would be only 12 cwt.

## CASTLETHORPE.

{ Probably B. V. Mary;  
{ now SS. Simon and Jude.

Single. †    (30¼)

By Johanna, widow of Richard Hille, shortly after 1440 (p. 26). The stamps are figs. 10, 11 (twice), and 12; the lozenge, however, being shown as No. 3, on Plate XI. Crown-staple broken.

\* *Fide* Sheahan, p. 884.



1714, 3 bells.

Lipscomb's account (IV., 90) confuses the numbers of the bells, and the weight given for the tenor is less than the survivor would weigh :—

The height of the tower was originally 71 feet ; but the rain having been suffered to destroy the timbers of the roof, it fell down on Monday 22 Dec. 1729; and being meanly rebuilt, was lowered about 30 feet, and only the second of three bells, which it had contained, was put up again; the first and third being sold to defray the expences of re-building it. The weight of the largest bell (which was broken,) was 4 cwt. 2 qr. 18 lb., and was purchased for Fenny-Stratford Chapel, at 40*l.* 10*s.* On the second and third bells were inscribed, " God save the King, 1620."\*

The word "second," in this last sentence, is (if the numbers in the preceding sentences are correct), evidently a misprint for "first." It seems probable that the word "the" in the inscription on these two bells, should have been "our," and that they were early examples by James Keene.

Death Knell for about twenty-five minutes, unless a longer time is specially ordered; about three strokes in two minutes. Tellers: three blows = a male; two = a female. For a funeral, minute tolling for about twenty-five minutes previously.

On Sundays, for the Services, the bell is chimed (?) for twenty minutes.

Before the present schoolroom was built, the Sunday School was held in the Church, and the bell was used as a summons to it, at 9 a.m. The bell is used for Vestry Meetings.

The distich, common to most counties, appears here :—

" Thrup poor people  
Sold the bells to build the steeple."

Many thanks to the Rev. M. A. Nicholson, Vicar.

### CAVERSFIELD.

S, Lawrence.

1. J. TAYLOR & CO<sup>Y</sup> FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH, 1876  
(*On Waist* :) IN HONORE BEATI LAVRENTII (c. 27)
2. † I N H O N O R E · D E I · E T S A N T I · L A V -  
R E N C I I (20<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>)
3. J. TAYLOR & CO<sup>Y</sup> FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH, 1874 (c. 30)

The treble replaces a fourteenth century bell inscribed :—

+ O I N + K O K O R E + B E A T I + L A V R E N C I I

\* See the extracts from Cole's MSS., under Fenny-Stratford.

See p. 14; the pretty little cross and lettering are shown at the bottom of Plate I. 2: early thirteenth century; the cross and lettering are on Plate II. The tenor replaces an early thirteenth century saunce bell, with the inscription on sound-bow *reversed*:—

· I J J ð P ? @ · T N V R @ C @ F @ A J J A P ? I T  
H ? ? I @ · R O ? V · @ · A J J I B I S · T A Q R A Q · Q V H

The lettering is the upper set on Plate I. (to be read *backwards*). For some account of these two ancient bells, and an attempted reading of the inscription on the last, see p. 3, *et seq.*

Besides the barbarity of getting rid of these two bells, it was a great mistake to put the survivor in a ring with modern bells; the "cry" of the ancient being entirely different (notice the respective diameters); it should have been kept to use as a saunce, or any other purpose for which a bell is used singly. Its original crown-staple is broken, and the present one is keyed, showing it to date from probably the seventeenth century. Turned; new stock, etc., no doubt by Taylor. It has a new clapper, which is *much* too heavy, and the sooner it is taken out again the better. It was evidently put in to try and extract some music from this curious piece of antiquity, which has the very smallest amount of resonance.

5 May, 1553, Cavrffylde—two great belle [one fance bell]\*

July, 1637, Caversfeild 2 Bells 1 of them a S<sup>ts</sup> Bell. . . . the Steeple Church and Chancell pgeting. The steeple decayed in the stone worke.

1714, 2 Bells. (The saunce bells are omitted in this List, but the other two are hard to reconcile.)

I have included this parish, although it has ceased since October, 1844, to belong to Bucks. By the Act 7 and 8 Vic. c. 61, it was incorporated with the county of Oxford. It is included in Bucks by Lipscomb, whose History was published in 1847, without comment; and also in Parker's *Ecclesiastical and Architectural Topography of Bucks*, published in 1849.



The Death Knell is tolled as soon as the sexton, who lives at Bicester, two miles away, can be fetched. Nothing to distinguish sex or age.

On Sundays, for the Services, two bells chimed for ten minutes, then one bell for five minutes.

Thanks to the Rev. W. Bryant, Vicar (with Stoke Lyne, Oxon.).

CHALFONT S. GILES.

S. Giles.



1. RAISD BY VALENTERY SUBSCRIPTION  LESTER & PACK  
OF LONDON F<sup>ECIT</sup> 

1764

(27)

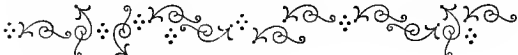
\* Erased.

2. **THO I AM BUT SMALL I WILL BE HEARD AMONGST YOU**  
**ALL R \* C FECIT J742**  (27½)

3, 6.  **T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1820.**   
 (30, 38½)

4. (*Incised:*) **IN<sup>O</sup> PARKER & W<sup>M</sup> SANDERS CH=WARDENS 1764**  
*Next line, in relief:*) **LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT** (30)

5. **DICIMUS REYNOLDS RECTOR \* R \* CATLIN FECIT J742**

 (32½)

*Clock-bell. (Blank)* (13½)

2: by Robert Catlin; it was evidently, when first cast, the treble; has been turned. 3 and tenor: the pattern on the latter is a size larger than that on the former: one oval and two half lozenges, measure respectively,  $2\frac{9}{10}$  and  $2\frac{1}{8}$  inches. 4: diameter much reduced by tuning away from outside of lip. John Parker, son of Mr. Peter Parker, died September 24th, 1776, aged 56; a mural tablet to his memory, and that of other members of his family, exists in the church. 5: has been turned; Decimus Reynolds, of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, A.B., 1731; A.M., 1735; was collated by the Bishop of Lincoln, and inducted 10th March, 1735; he was also Vicar of Aylesbury; died about 1755. Clock-bell: probably seventeenth century, while its stock may date from the sixteenth; straps nailed; hole in stock for wooden lever; crown-staple broken. The bell is hung rigid, and has no clapper (crown-staple broken). Frame: eighteenth century, with newer hangings (? by Warner), and the bells were rehung in 1889, in the old frame, by Greenleaf and Blackbourn of Salisbury.

Aug: 1637, Challfont St<sup>i</sup> Egidii 4 Bells St<sup>s</sup> bell. a clock. . . . the butterices of the steeple in some decay.

1714, 4 bells (saunce not mentioned).

Death Knell tolled as soon as notice is sent to the sexton: tellers,  $4 \times 3 =$  a male;  $3 \times 3 =$  a female.

On Sundays, from 1st March to 1st November, the treble is rung at 7 a.m.; and from 1st November to 1st March, at 7.30 a.m., and again always at 8.30 a.m. The bells are rung before each Service for a quarter of an hour, and chimed for the next quarter of an hour, and these are called Sermon Bells. A bell is rung immediately at the conclusion of Holy Communion. These usages date back beyond the memory of persons now living.

Ringling on New Year's Eve and Christmas Eve. Ringling occasionally at the conclusion of the Marriage Service.

A bell is rung for Vestry Meetings; also when a fire occurs.

No churchwardens' accounts extant.

Many thanks to the Rev. Pownoll W. Phipps, Rector.

*CHALFONT S. PETER.*

SS. Peter and Paul.\*

1, 3, 4, 5.

(27, 31 $\frac{3}{4}$ , 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 36 $\frac{1}{2}$ )

◇ THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON F<sup>E</sup>CIT 1798 ◇◇◇◇◇

2. HENRY BOND & SONS BELL FOUNDERS  
BURFORD

OXFORDSHIRE 1884

(29 $\frac{1}{4}$ )

6. JOHN HATCH SEN<sup>R</sup> WILLIAM HUNT CHURCH WARDENS.  
W<sup>M</sup> GURNEY JOS<sup>H</sup> HATCH JOS<sup>H</sup> GURNEY JOHN HATCH  
JUN<sup>R</sup> ◇◇◇◇◇

(*On Waist:*) THO<sup>S</sup> MEARS OF LONDON F<sup>E</sup>CIT 1798 (40)

The second is the only example by Mr. Bond in the county (p. 261). All re-hung by him in 1884; all turned except the second. The previous second was cracked by the clapper of the tenor, which broke during ringing: the lower portion flew out of the tenor cage, into that of the second, where it jammed between the cage and the lip of the bell as it revolved, and split the bell. Tenor: weight given in Messrs. C. and G. Mears's List (1852), and also in Messrs. Mears and Stainbank's, as 11 cwt.

18 July, 1552, Chalfont Sainte Peter, V. belles in a ringe one other litle bell comonly called th fanctus bell.

17 Aug: 1637, Chalfont S<sup>i</sup> Petri 5 bells S<sup>ts</sup> bell a clock.

1714, 5 bells (saunce not mentioned).

The church was re-built 1726. Lipscomb (III., 246) says it has "six modern bells, re-cast by Aldridge." Aldridge sounds like *Eldridge*, the foundry of which family probably came to an end in 1714 (but see p. 245). The greater part of the List of Bells in Bucks made by Browne Willis in that year, was corrected down to 1752, but as no alteration is noted for this parish, Lipscomb's statement is probably confused.

Death Knell occasionally as "passing bell," as soon as possible after the death; but more frequently the following morning. Tenor for adults, treble for children: tellers, 3 × 4 = a male; 3 × 3 = a female. At funerals, single bell tolled usually; but occasionally muffled or half-muffled ringing.

On Sundays, bells chimed fifteen minutes for Matins; rung for about an hour before Evensong. These uses are of recent introduction.
















\* Lipscomb, III., 244.



indebted to Mr. H. Gough) is difficult to explain, unless the bells were only small ones, and not tower bells, because no bells appear to be missing here, and I can find no other place of the name (or at all resembling it) elsewhere.

*CHEDDINGTON.*

S. Giles.

- |                                                                                   |                                                                                   |                                                                                   |                                                                                   |                                                                                   |                                                                                    |                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.                                                                                |                                                                                   |                                                                                   |                                                                                   |                                                                                   |                                                                                    | (31½)                                                                               |
| GOD                                                                               | SAVE                                                                              | OVR                                                                               | KING                                                                              | 1638                                                                              |                                                                                    |  |
| 2.                                                                                | <i>Johannes</i>                                                                   | <i>axp</i>                                                                        | <i>hanc</i>                                                                       |                                                                                   | <i>cam-</i>                                                                        | (34½)                                                                               |
| <i>panam</i>                                                                      | <i>fecit</i>                                                                      |                                                                                   |                                                                                   |                                                                                   |                                                                                    |                                                                                     |
| 3.                                                                                |                                                                                   |                                                                                   |                                                                                   |                                                                                   |                                                                                    | (35½)                                                                               |
|  | GOD                                                                               | SAVE                                                                              | OVR                                                                               | KING                                                                              | 1634                                                                               |                                                                                     |
| 4.                                                                                |  | <i>ancta</i>                                                                      |  | <i>maria</i>                                                                      |  |                                                                                     |
| <i>ora</i>                                                                        |  | <i>pro</i>                                                                        |  | <i>nobis</i>                                                                      |   | (39½)                                                                               |
| 5.                                                                                |  | RICHARD                                                                           |  | CHAUNDELER                                                                        |   | RICHARD                                                                             |
|                                                                                   |                                                                                   |                                                                                   |                                                                                   |                                                                                   |                                                                                    | CHAUNDELER                                                                          |
|                                                                                   |                                                                                   |  | 1638                                                                              |  |                                                                                    |    |
|                                                                                   |                                                                                   |                                                                                   |                                                                                   |                                                                                   |                                                                                    |    |

Treble and 3: by James Keene (pp. 165, 164); the initials on treble, and the cross on third, are on Plate XXVI., where the latter is No. 1. The two last figures of the date on third do not match the rest of lettering, but are like the figures in fig. 64, with which 3 this one is probably identical. Straps of treble keyed; those of third bolted. 2: by John Dier, towards the end of the sixteenth century (p. 240); inscription, in clumsy lettering, clumsily set on cope; stock 20 inches high; all straps keyed, and stamped M; recent wheel. 4: probably by John Saunders, of Reading, 1539-59. The rebus shield (Plate XIX.) is only known here, and at Hitcham (p. 70); it is here stamped the wrong side up; the stop is fig. 38. The S of "Sancta" has never been stamped; perhaps the moulder's intention was to use a capital, but not having it immediately at hand, he stamped the rest of the inscription, and forgot to add this initial. Stock 20 inches high; mortise cut horizontally through the centre, near the top, probably for a lever, before the days of wheels. Straps keyed; wheel of a most peculiar pattern, partly keyed. Tenor: by Richard Chandler I. (p. 221); the stops are fig. 77, except the one following the date in each instance, which is fig. 80; stock 21½ inches high; all straps bolted; new wheel by G. Darney, 1880, copied from the previous pattern. The wheels of 1 and 3 are of the same pattern, less archaic than the fourth, but still peculiar. All the clappers in elaborate wooden cases, with very long flights. On the frame is carved **W M**, probably the initials of the seventeenth century bellhanger. The bells are hung left-handed, in a bad circle.

18 July, 1552, Chedington (*also cheddÿgton, and chevyndon*).

Ii oñ facryn bell & ij hanbele Ii in the stypel iiij belle

(*On reverse:*) this Invytery wanteth . . . Ii ij handbelle a Sakring bell . . .

July, 1637, 4 Bells (*The name of the Commissioner appears under this parish:—*  
Wittm ffofter p uli vifitacē).

1714, 5 bells. So also in Browne Willis's MSS., xxxviii., 2, where the inscription on the fourth is given.

### CHENIES.

S. Michael.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

(26 $\frac{3}{4}$ , 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 31, 32, 34)

∞ T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1826 ∞∞∞∞∞

6. ∞ T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1826. ∞∞∞∞∞

∞ REVD JOHN WING RECTOR. ∞∞∞∞∞∞∞∞

GEORGE DODD

JOSEPH RANDLE GURNEY

} CHURCH WARDENS.

WILLIAM BEESON CLARK

(37 $\frac{1}{2}$ )

Tenor: The Rev. John Wing, A.M., was inducted 12 November, 1827; resigned 1829; he was also, from 1807, Rector of Thornhaugh, with Wandsford, Northamptonshire. Weight given as 10 cwt. in both C. and G. Mears's, and Mears and Stainbank's Lists.

17 Aug: 1637, Cheinies 4 bells a clock The top of the steeple in decay.

1714, 4 bells. (This continued to be the number until 1752, at any rate, and probably until 1826.)

### CHESHAM.

S. Mary.

1, 5.

(33 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ )

∞ THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1812 ∞∞∞∞

2, 3, 4.

(34 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 36 $\frac{3}{4}$ , 38 $\frac{1}{2}$ )

∞ T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1812 ∞∞∞∞∞∞∞

6. THE REVD ROBT HOLT BUTCHER VICAR IOHN BAILEY  
& THOS CREED CHURCH WARDENS JULY 1812 ∞∞∞∞ (47 $\frac{1}{2}$ )

S.

✻

I

⊕

S

✻

(15)

The ring (cast by Thomas Mears II., p. 105) was rehung about 1885, by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, with iron stays; 3: canons broken. Tenor: the Rev. R. H. Butcher was inducted 11th February, 1781, by exchange, on the presentation of the Duke of Bedford, the patron. His successor was inducted on 9th October, 1822. Weight given in Messrs. C. and G. Mears's List (1852), and also in Messrs. Mears and Stainbank's, as 17 cwt. ♪ note, F. Saunce: by John Sturdy, who died

1458 (p. 27); the letters are from the smaller set on Plate XI.; the cross preceding them is No. 2, and the stop following them is No. 4, on that plate. On the stock is cut, 1790.

There is a tradition that the bells belonging to this parish, and those belonging to Great Missenden, were accidentally exchanged, having been sent up to the Whitechapel Foundry to be re-cast, at the same time; but a reference to those bells will show that this is a mistake. Of course this tradition may be founded on some fact of long ago, which is now no longer obvious.

The Curfew is rung on the third bell, every evening, at eight, from the first Sunday after New Michaelmas Day, until the Saturday preceding the 10th of March.\* The day of the month is now added at the end.

1552, 18 July, Chesham Magna 1īm v. bells in the stepill. . . . Iīm iij candleticke of Latyn and a egie of Latyn & iij litle bellz. & ij handbellz fold for xxxvs.†

1714, 5 bells (saunce not mentioned).

Chesham is fortunate in possessing an interesting MS. book,‡ entitled—

Chesham Magna. A Booke Concerning the Repayring of the Seates and of the Bells of the Parish Church and Building of a newe Gallery, Anno Domini 1606. James Wedon, George Littlepage, Churchwardens.

At the end it is endorsed :—

Rychard Bowle, gentleman, gave this Booke ready written to the p'ish of great Chesham, Mense Maii, Ano. Dni. 1607.

It contains upwards of ninety pages, the first being taken up with a sort of "contents :"—

This booke conteineth a true declarac'on of the causes and the manner of procureing authoritie for entering and proceeding into the charge of repayreing the p'ish church of great Chesham, in county of Buck. And of the newe makeing of sundry and newe seats and repayreing the olde. And of the building and erecting of a faire new Gallery on the south side of the saide Church. And also of the newe casting of two of the Bells and makeing of a newe frame and newe hanging of all the five Bells. And howe every

\* *Records of Bucks*, III., 74 (1863), and IV., 32.

† Quoted *ib.* III., 66; but not *literatim*.

‡ For these extracts I am indebted to Mr. R. S. Downs, of Wycombe, who gathers— from his epitaph and from incidental references in the book—that Mr. Richard Bowle, the writer, was born in 1550 (but where unknown), and was probably Steward to the Earl of Bedford's Chesham property. Besides giving contributions both in kind and in money to the restoration, he appears to have acted gratuitously as Clerk of the Works. He died in 1626, and was buried at Chesham. It is to be hoped the book will some day be published in its entirety.



p'ticuler p'rishioner of abilitie was rated by sundry p'sons att special assemblies for the charge hereof beside what voluntarie benevolence from sundry p'sons was afforded.

And howe (etc.)

And howe some opposed both the worke, the order and the paymente: who notwithstanding did after yeld.

And Lastlye how (etc.)

All which premisses being propounded and concluded by Sir Edmund Ashfeld, Knight, Mr. Saunders our minister, Richard Bowle, Gent, George Littlepage and James Weedon, Churchwardens, by virtue of the Com'ission to them in that behalf directed (etc.)

And in this Booke at large written as a memorable act of the p'ishioners and others in that behalf, Whiche Booke and the writeing thereof was geven and bestowed upon the p'ishe by the good will and guift of Richarde Bowle, farmor, to the right honorable Edward Erle of Bedford, of the parsonage of Chessam Wooburn, the second day of Marche 1606 in the fowrth yere of the raigne of our sovaraigne Lord James by the grace of God of England, Fraunce, and Ireland, King, defender of the faith, and of his highnes raigne of Scotland the fortith.

Next follow interesting details concerning the repairs, but foreign to the scope of the present work, and then :—

|                                                                                                   | <i>li.</i> | <i>ss.</i> | <i>d.</i> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| For tenñ loads of square tymber ... ..                                                            | vj         | xiiij      | iiij      |
| More for three posts ... ..                                                                       |            | vj         | viiij     |
| Saweinge the tymber ... ..                                                                        | iiij       | vij        | vj        |
| Plancks to board under the frame of the bells, xxxiiij, j <sup>r</sup> p foote ...                |            | xxxiiij    |           |
| Carpenters worke in takeinge downe the olde frame and makeinge and finishing the new frame ... .. | xviiij     | j          | iiij      |
| Casting of one of the Bells by composition ... ..                                                 |            | iiij       |           |
| Paid more for mettles that wanted to that Bell ... ..                                             | iiij       | viiij      | viiij     |
| Careage of that Bell twice and charges ... ..                                                     |            | xxxvj      | viiij     |
| Iron for the clappers and the hanging of the Bells ... ..                                         | iiij       |            | vj        |
| Casting the Brasses and Careages and for the Bells, etc. ... ..                                   |            | xxj        | viiij     |
| Baldricks and ropes for the Bells ... ..                                                          |            | xviiij     |           |
| A long Rope to pull upp the Bells ... ..                                                          |            | xxvij      |           |
| Mending the clock ... ..                                                                          |            | xv         |           |

After this follows a list of voluntary offerings, some of which may have been for belfry requisites :—

“Benevolences & charges geven and ymployed towards the building and repairinge aforesaid,” consisting of “tymber, carreage, etc., voluntarily and freely geven by sundry p'sons.”

The “Pancake Bell” survived until about 1880, and was revived in 1889.

Death Knell tolled once a minute for an hour, twelve hours after the death. Tenor used for all over sixteen years of age; fourth for those between twelve and sixteen; third, between eight and twelve; second, between four and eight; and the

treble for infants up to four years old. Tellers:  $3 \times 3 =$  a male;  $2 \times 3 =$  a female. Single bell tolled at funerals.

On Sundays, the bells are chimed at 8 a.m. for a quarter of an hour. They are rung for one Service, and chimed for the other two. The sanctus used for about the last two minutes. These usages go back beyond living memory.

Ringing on Christmas and New Year's Eves; and for weddings when paid for.

Notice of fires and markets is given by the Town Hall bell.

From the Register:—

1812. The old Bells were taken down on the 12<sup>th</sup> of August. Six new bells were hung in the Steeple Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> and a Peele was rang on the same day


Robert Holt Butcher Vicar

Many thanks to the Rev. Charles E. Boulton, Vicar.

District Church, Christ Church, Waterside. Consecrated 1864; one bell; with (unconsecrated) Chapel-of-Ease, S. George, Tyler's Hill.

*CHESHAM BOIS.*

S. Leonard.

- |    |                  |               |            |             |              |                                                                                     |       |
|----|------------------|---------------|------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 1. | ( <i>Blank</i> ) |               |            |             |              |                                                                                     | (25½) |
| 2. | <b>CHANDLER</b>  | <b>MADE</b>   | <b>ME</b>  | <b>I705</b> |              |                                                                                     | (28½) |
| 3. |                  |               |            |             |              |                                                                                     | (31¼) |
| +  | <b>Sancte</b>    | <b>Andrea</b> | <b>Ora</b> | <b>Pro</b>  | <b>Nobis</b> |  | ∩     |

Treble: an old bell, with large moulded canons. Width between the rims,  $\frac{11}{16}$  of an inch; and a slightly raised band between them, where an inscription would naturally be, is  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch wide (as at Chearsley). 2: by "the firm," in George Chandler's  $1\frac{3}{8}$ -inch lettering (p. 234). The founder of the tenor, from the arms on the shield, fig. 15, is supposed to have been named Kebell, or Kebyll (= Keble) (p. 28). The capital letters are the smaller set on Plate XI.; the cross (No. 8) and the crowned *fleur-de-lis*, are also on that Plate. See a note on another bell by this founder, at Little Linford.

1714, 3 bells.

Death Knell within six hours of the death. Tellers:  $3 \times 3 =$  a man;  $2 \times 3 =$  a woman; both on tenor.  $3 \times 3$  on treble = a child. Single bell tolled at funerals.

For Services on Sunday the bells are generally chimed; the tenor alone for last five minutes. This has been the custom beyond living memory.

Occasionally ringing for a wedding. Single bell for Vestry Meetings.

Many thanks to the Rev. G. G. Roworth, Rector.

## CHETWODE.

SS. Mary and Nicholas.

Single. † Ω Ε : ℥ Ι Β Ι : X <sup>2</sup> P Ε : D H B H ℥ : I : C H Ε ℥ -  
 W Θ D Ε : ♯ V Ε Ω : P Ε R H Ω H B H ℥ (28)

S. (*Blank*) (11 $\frac{3}{4}$ )

The family of Chetwode has been in possession of this lordship ever since the reign of Henry II. (and possibly before that); that is, since the middle of the twelfth century. The bell probably dates from about the middle of the fourteenth century. It is difficult—or impossible—to decide which of several John Chetwodes was the donor; but perhaps one who died about 1347 fits in best with the apparent date of the bell. The founder is unknown, but probably he was more or less a local man; that is, one working in Bucks, or one of the counties adjoining the northern end of the county, and not a Londoner (p. 16). The cross and pretty lettering (only known elsewhere at Leckhampstead) are the lower set on Plate VIII. The canons spread very wide above; crown-staple broken and keyed; iron baldrick to clapper; rough wheel keyed to stock, which latter may be older than the frame. The straps are of three different periods, being nailed, keyed, or bolted. The saunce is very roughly cast, perhaps eighteenth century; crown-staple broken and bolted; iron baldrick.

The frame is probably early eighteenth century, and is made for three bells, besides the saunce. The existing bell hangs in the middle pit; that for a treble, which has been in use, is four inches narrower (*viz.*, thirty, as against thirty-four inches). The third pit (35 $\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide) has never been in use.

The present Church was the choir of the Priory; and the former parish church having fallen into decay, the Priory was opened for divine worship in 1480.\* The agreement between the Abbot and Convent of Notley (to which Chetwode Priory had been made subordinate), and the inhabitants of Chetwode, by which this conventual church was made parochial, is given at length by Lipscomb.†

6 May, 1553, Chetwood ij [bellis w<sup>th</sup>]‡ one fanctis bell.

July, 1637, Chitwood. 9. wght|| bells. Theres never a Dore to the Church but the Bellfry.

1714, 2 bells (saunce not mentioned).

Browne Willis (MSS. xxii., 75 b.) states :—

\* *Records of Bucks*, III., 214. So also Lysons, *Mag. Brit.*, I., 540, where, however; it is stated that the old church of S. Martin, was not pulled down until Elizabeth's time.

† III., 4 *et seq.*

‡ Erased.

|| *Sc.* hundredweight. This would include the vanished treble, and the saunce.

In the Tower wch is a small Fabrick run up in the N.W.\* Angle of the church are 2 Bells & a Saints Bell wch the people tell mee were brought from the pish church wch seems probable from the Inscript<sup>n</sup> on the Biggest of y<sup>m</sup> wch is this Me Tibi, (etc. . . .) The other Bell was cast A<sup>o</sup> 1625. I was showed the place where the pish church of St. Martins stood wch was near Sr John Chetwode's house.

Lipscomb (III., 7) also states that the (surviving) bell is said to have come from the old parish church ; doubtless copying Browne Willis, without acknowledgment.

Death Knell as soon as possible after the death. Tolling for half an hour before funerals, and generally rung (?) after weddings.


On Sundays, chimed for half an hour before the Services; the saunce used for the last few minutes.

Many thanks to the Rev. E. L. Smith, Vicar.

*CHICHELEY.*

S. Lawrence.

1. A R  ++++ 1718      (31)

2. A  R 1718 ++++++ (33½)

3. S<sup>R</sup> IOHN CHESTER BART<sup>T</sup> BENEFACTOR    
A  R 1718    
~~~~~ (35)

4. PEACE & GOOD NEIGHBOVRHOOD  A  R
1718     (36½)

5. ABR: RVDHALL OF GLOVCESTER CAST VS ALL
1718               (40)

6. IN MULTIS ANNIS RESONET CAMPANA
IOHANIS   A  R 1718     
~~~~~ (44½)

All by Abraham Rudhall (p. 110). Treble : patterns, fig. 45, for 2½ inches, and fig. 46, five times. 2 : pattern fig. 45, all round ; rehung by J. Coles, with circular connection to gudgeons, round the canons. 3 : fig. 46 twice, twice over ; below is fig. 47, running all round. 4 : fig. 46 once, and then four times. 5 : fig. 48 for 1 foot 11½ inches. Tenor : lettering about 1¼ inches high ; figures as before ; patterns, fig. 48 for 3⅝ inches, and then for 9 inches ; below are two rows of fig.

\* This is the position of the tower, but the angle is expressed in the MS. by a hieroglyphic.

47, which run all round. The bell on all (except the fifth) is fig. 49. Treble, 2, 3, and 5, have ornamented canons. All the bells have modern (bolted) straps. The frame (like that at Bletchley) is fixed cross-cornered, instead of parallel to the sides of the tower. On it, opposite the door, is carved :—

John and Richard Williames Made Thees (*sic*) Frames  
Liuing in King *Sutton in the County of Northampton*  
Neare Banbuary in the yeare of our Lord 1778

The family of Chester\* was descended from John Chester, Citizen and Draper, of London, who was buried in Mercer's Chapel, 1437. In 1546 the King granted to Anthony Cave, Esq., the Manor, Rectory, and Advowson of the Vicarage of Chicheley. Having no son, they passed, on his death, 9th September, 1558, to one of his daughters, Judith, who was married to William Chester, Esq. Their son (?) Anthony Chester, was High Sheriff of the county in 1601, and being first knighted, was created a baronet, by James I., on March 23rd, 1635. Sir John, the "benefactor" recorded on this bell, was the fourth baronet; he was buried 16th February, 1725-6. Tradition says that he used to ring, using a silken rope; and that, when he had the bells recast, he threw the old family plate into the furnace containing the bell-metal.

In *Genealogical Memoirs of the extinct Family of Chester of Chicheley*, (London, 1878, 2 vols., 4to), vol. II., p. 531, Mr. R. E. Chester Waters states that Sir John Chester, the fourth baronet,—

was enthusiastically fond of the music of Church-bells, and the tower of Chicheley Church is so close to the Hall, that an amateur would be driven to distraction by bells of inferior tone. Sir John therefore sent the old bells to Abraham Rudhall, the famous bellfounder at Gloucester, to be recast, and purchased from him a new peal of six bells, which are so celebrated for their silvery tones, that it is firmly believed amongst the local traditions that Sir John threw in during the casting a cap full of silver crowns.† The new bells were put up in 1718. . . .

(The inscriptions follow, not quite accurate.)

It was Sir John's delight to ring these bells with his own hands, and the silken rope attached to a wheel, with which he used to practise ringing, is still preserved at Chicheley Hall. This exercise served him as a substitute for hunting for which he was getting too old, and for which Chicheley afforded fewer opportunities than Shenton.

Sir John Chester, the fourth baronet, was born at Chicheley Hall, 24th June, 1666; he was the second son and eighth child. He married, November, 1686, at

\* Lipscomb, IV., 94.

† *Gentleman's Magazine*, Feb., 1849, p. 158.

Shenton, in Leicestershire, Anne Woolaston, and resided there with her parents. She died October, 1704. In 1714 Sir John married Frances Lady Skrimshire (a widow), and then came to reside at Chicheley, where he died, 1726.

22 July, 1637, Chichley. 4 Bells & a S<sup>e</sup> Bell.  
1714, 4 bells.

The following entry in Browne Willis's MSS., cix., 29, is obviously incorrect :—  
Astwoode, Soulbury, Chicheley, Bechampton, Sancte Martine, Sancta Margareta.

Bells dedicated to these two saints exist at Soulbury. At Beachampton is one dedicated to S. Margaret. At Astwood, one dedicated to S. Katherine is the nearest approach; and as it would seem that no bells have been removed in the interval from those towers, one cannot feel at all sure that the statement is correct with regard to former bells at Chicheley.

Death Knell chimed (?) as fast as for Service, except when requested slower.

At Funerals one bell is tolled both before and after the Service.

On Sundays, the Sermon Bell at 7 a.m. during summer, and 8 a.m. in winter. For Services, the bells are generally chimed, infrequently rung. The treble alone for the last five minutes before the Services.

The bells are rung on Christmas and New Year's Eves, and on Easter Day. Also on the Queen's Birthday; and after Weddings if paid for. A single bell rung for Vestry Meetings.

Very many thanks to the Rev. S. B. Booker, Vicar.

### CHILTON.

B. V. Mary.

|                     |         |           |
|---------------------|---------|-----------|
| 1, 2.               | 1686    | (29½, 32) |
| 3. THOMAS SANDERS   | WILLIAM | SAN-      |
| DERS C W 1686       |         | (36)      |
| S. ( <i>Blank</i> ) |         | (16½)     |

The three "big" bells, and probably the saunce also, by Richard Keene (p. 170). Treble: cracked many years ago, but since the straps and clapper were renewed. 2: some straps keyed, others nailed; iron baldrick to clapper. Tenor: rather flat canons; some straps keyed, the others, and the wheel, renewed. Saunce: a round-shouldered bell, with high canons; straps nailed; clapper cased in wood, over iron baldrick; iron lever; on the stock is carved D P; but this is apparently recent, and may mean Daniel Perkins, the wheelwright of the village.

23 July, 1552, Chylton, Item thre belle a sancte bell.  
1714, 3 bells.

## CHOLESBURY.

S. Lawrence.

*Single.* COM AND PRAYE (19½)

The treble at Drayton Beauchamp—dated 1621—has a similar inscription, in the same lettering (very like James Keene's ordinary set, but slightly larger—being about  $1\frac{3}{16}$  inches high); as the spelling on that bell is amended, it may perhaps be considered that the present example is the earlier (p. 265). Two other bells in this lettering are at Whitchurch. Stock probably original; straps nailed; central pair keyed; clapper *hooked* on. The bell was rehung in 1873, when the church was restored.

Death Knell for half an hour, two strokes to the minute, as soon as possible after intimation of the death is received. No tellers. At funerals, tolling for half an hour previously.

On Sundays, chimed (?) for the Services: from 10.30 to 10.40, and from 10.50 to 11.0; and the same for the second Service.

Rung (?) for Vestry Meetings for about five minutes.

These usages are the same as they were when the present Rector came in 1830.

No churchwardens' accounts, and no reference to the bell in the Registers.

Many thanks to Miss Jeston, and her father, the Rev. H. P. Jeston, Rector.

July, 1552, Chollyfbury, It̄ iiij lyttell bellye of brafe.

1714, one bell. And in Browne Willis's MSS., xxxviii., 4:—A small tyled Turrit in which hangs a Little Bell.

## CLAYDON, EAST.

S. Mary.

1. PEACE & GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD A ♂ R 1752



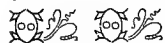
(27¼)

2. PROSPERITY TO THIS PARISH A ♂ R 1752 ++++++

+++++

(28¾)

3. ABEL RUDHALL CAST US ALL 1752  



(29¾)

4. ALEXANDER MARKHAM VICAR  A ♂ R 1752



(31¼)

5. IOHN BAILY ROBT: READ CHURCH WARDENS

A ♂ R 1752 ++++++

(36)

S.

1657

(16¼)

For Abel Rudhall, see p. 112. The letters are the same as on the Bletchley and Chicheley bells, except a narrower 7. Treble : pattern, fig. 46, once right way up and once wrong. 2 : fig. 45, for 1 foot 2 inches. 3 : fig. 46, four times. 4 : half of fig. 46, reverse way up ; and then about three and three-quarter times, as shown. About half an inch tuned off the lip of the bell, to sharpen it. Tenor : fig. 45, for 1 foot 3 inches. Saunce : almost certainly by Anthony Chaudler (p. 224) ; wooden lever. All the bells have old clappers with iron baldricks.

23 July, 1552, Estclaydon. If in the Steple iij belle and a Saunct3 bell.

11 July, 1637. 3. bells & a St<sup>s</sup> bell.

1714, 3 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

Lipscomb I., 172, states on the authority of Browne Willis's MSS., that there are "Five bells here, had been re-cast into three before the beginning of the last century : the first was inscribed, '*S'c'a Katharina, ora pro nobis :*' the second, '*Melodie nomen Magdalene campana gerit.*'" Whether he means that the original three bells were recast into the same number, previous to the recasting into their present form ; or whether "re-cast *into* three," should be "re-cast *from* three," is not obvious. But as shown just above, the immediate predecessors of the existing bells were three in number. The inscriptions as quoted are obviously inaccurate, what they doubtless were, may be seen by referring to Astwood for the treble, and to Tingewick for the second. The two Claydon bells were most likely, like those two, by John Walgrave (c. 1418-40) see p. 30.

For the following extracts from the churchwardens' accounts of the parish I have to thank the Rev. T. E. Jameson :—

|                     |                                                                                    | £  | s  | d | qrs. |
|---------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|---|------|
| 1718                |                                                                                    |    |    |   |      |
| Oct. ye             | paid to John phillips for Staves or Spokes, and Sroudbords                         |    |    |   |      |
| 23 <sup>d</sup>     | to mend the first Bell whell and one days worke to                                 |    |    |   |      |
|                     | mend ye wheele all at ... ..                                                       | 00 | 02 | 6 | 0    |
|                     | And for 1 pound of 8 <sup>d</sup> nails and half a hundred of 9 <sup>d</sup> nails |    |    |   |      |
|                     | and half a hundred of Lath nailes which was used to                                |    |    |   |      |
|                     | mend the first Bell wheele and for fasnig ye second                                | 00 | 01 | 0 | 0    |
|                     | Bell and ye other frames ... ..                                                    |    |    |   |      |
|                     | paid to Tho <sup>s</sup> Spooner for Nailes to Nail ye plates                      |    |    |   |      |
|                     | to ye Second Bell Stock to fasten ye Bell ...                                      | 00 | 00 | 2 | 0    |
| November            | [paid] for A Locke for ye Steeple doore ... ..                                     | 00 | 01 | 0 | 0    |
| ye 8 <sup>th</sup>  |                                                                                    |    |    |   |      |
| 1719                | for Naylls and spikes to fason ye Bords in ye Steeple                              |    |    |   |      |
| June                | windes... ..                                                                       | 0  | 00 | 1 | 0    |
| ye 15               |                                                                                    |    |    |   |      |
| ye 18               | paid to William Lee for 12 days work to point ye                                   |    |    |   |      |
|                     | Steeple and plaster ye Church and whitewash it } ...                               | 00 | 18 | 0 | 0    |
| Agust               | paid Thomas Spooner for Mending the Ironworke of ye                                |    |    |   |      |
| ye 14 <sup>th</sup> | third Bell ... ..                                                                  | 00 | 02 | 6 | 0    |



|                                     |                                                                                               |              |                                   |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| Octo ye 3 <sup>d</sup>              | paid Thomas Spooner for Mending y <sup>e</sup> Iornworke<br>of y <sup>e</sup> Second Bell     | ... .. } ... | 0=00=4=0                          |
| 1721<br>Sept<br>ye 8 <sup>th</sup>  | paid William Daniel for worke and Bords<br>and nailes to mend the third Bell wheele           | ... .. } ... | 0=03=0=0                          |
|                                     | paid Spooner for a plate for y <sup>e</sup> Bell wheele                                       | ... ..       | 00=00=3=0                         |
| 1722<br>March<br>ye 19              | paid Spooner for making a Stay for y <sup>e</sup> Bell                                        | ... ..       | 00=00=8=0                         |
| 1723<br>July<br>ye 15               | Paid John Bayly for 3 bellropes                                                               | ... ..       | <i>lib. s. d.</i><br>00 . 08 . 09 |
| Jan<br>ye 13                        | Pd Will Bachor for mending the bells                                                          | ... ..       | 00 . 03 . 06                      |
| 1723<br>March<br>ye 6 <sup>th</sup> | Pd Cross for Shouting y <sup>e</sup> bellropes                                                | ... ..       | 00 . 00 . 08                      |
| 1724<br>June ye 2 <sup>nd</sup>     | Paid to Tho Spooner for Iron work for y <sup>e</sup> Bells                                    | ... ..       | 00 . 14 . 0                       |
| Oct 9 <sup>th</sup>                 | Paid to Jobn Bayles for Bell Ropes waying<br>15 pounds att 7 <sup>d</sup> a pound             | ... .. } ... | 00 . 08 . 9                       |
| 26 <sup>th</sup>                    | Paid to Thomas Copper for mending the Bell Claper                                             | ... ..       | 00 . 04 . 6                       |
| Nov. 18                             | paid to William Butcher for mending the Great bell wheel                                      | ... ..       | 00 . 08 . 0                       |
| 20                                  | paid to Goody higgs for nailes to mend the great bell weele                                   | ... ..       | 00 . 01 . 7                       |
| 30 <sup>th</sup>                    | Paid to William Butchor for stufe (?)<br>& workmanship for y <sup>e</sup> Bells               | ... .. } ... | 00 . 10 . 6                       |
| 1725                                | paid to John Bayles for Bell Ropes waying<br>15 pound, at 7 <sup>d</sup> pound pd             | ... .. } ... | 00 . 8 . 9                        |
|                                     | paid to Thomas Mathews for mending of<br>a key of the Bellfary Door                           | ... .. } ... | 00 . 0 . 2                        |
| 1726<br>March<br>ye 26              | pd Tho <sup>s</sup> Mathews for mending y <sup>e</sup> great Bell                             | ... ..       | 00 . 0 . 8                        |
| 1727<br>Oct. 7 <sup>th</sup>        | To m <sup>r</sup> Raymand for 3 Bell Ropes<br>weighing 17½ <sup>l</sup> at 6 <sup>d</sup> p l | ... .. } ... | 8 . 9                             |
| 1730                                | pd to John horrod for three bell ropes weing<br>15 pound at sixpence a pound                  | ... .. } ... | 00 . 07 . 6                       |
|                                     | pd to tho crofs for washing the church<br>Lining* and a lether† for the bell                  | ... .. } ... | 00 . 02 . 6                       |
| 1731<br>Sept 16 <sup>th</sup>       | Pd to tho Sandears for mending y <sup>e</sup> bell                                            | ... ..       | 00 . 01 . 10                      |
| 1733<br>Dec. 16                     | To a rope for the Little Bell                                                                 | ... ..       | 1 . 6                             |
| 1734                                | To Thomas Crofs for a pice of Leather for the Bells                                           | ... ..       | 00 . 01 . 00                      |
|                                     | To Thomas Crofs for a days' work & a half about y <sup>e</sup> Bells                          | ... ..       | 00 . 01 . 06                      |
|                                     | To Thomas Inwood for 2 pices of Timber<br>about y <sup>e</sup> Bell frames                    | ... .. } ... | 00 . 02 . 00                      |

\* Linen.

† To make a baldrick.

|                         |                                                                                                                               |        |              |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------------|
|                         | Tho Mathews for 4 new Cotterls & a }<br>days work about ye Bells ... }                                                        | ... .. | 00 . 02 . 00 |
|                         | For 2 new plates for ye Bells & nails ...                                                                                     | ... .. | 00 . 00 . 09 |
|                         | For mending ye Bell Claper ...                                                                                                | ... .. | 00 . 02 . 06 |
|                         | Paid widow Shimney for Ale when }<br>ye workmen was about ye Bells }                                                          | ... .. | 00 . 02 . 00 |
|                         | To Tho Grace of Marsh* for three Bell ropes ...                                                                               | ... .. | 00 . 10 . 00 |
|                         | To Tho Mathews his Bill for new Staying ye Bells }<br>& Iron work about one of ye Church windows }                            | ... .. | 00 . 13 . 00 |
| 1735                    | To Tho Crofs for Leather for ye Bells ...                                                                                     | ... .. | — 2 . 6      |
|                         | Thos Mathews for mending ye Bells ...                                                                                         | ... .. | — 5 .        |
|                         | To Tho Inwood for work and Half about ye Bells ...                                                                            | ... .. | — 3 . 6      |
| 1736<br>Jan ye 7        | Tho Grace for 3 Bell ropes ...                                                                                                | ... .. | — 12 . 0     |
| 1738<br>Sept. 23        | Pd Mr. Stutchley for 3 Bellropes ...                                                                                          | ... .. | — 08 . 3     |
| 1739<br>June 2          | Pd Tho Sandrs for mending the Bell Clapar and other things                                                                    | ... .. | 00 . 06 . 6  |
| 1740<br>July 4          | Pd Joseph Bowden for taking Ann neills }<br>bed down staes & mending ye bells wells }                                         | ... .. | 00 . 03 . 3  |
| 1741<br>June            | Pd Daniel Ginkins for 3 Bell Roopes ...                                                                                       | ... .. | 00 . 09 . 7  |
| Dec. ye 1 <sup>st</sup> | Paid Tho Crofs for Leather to [ ] the Bell clapers<br>And to Jeames Matthews for keys & }<br>work to put in the Clapers ... } | ... .. | 00 . 12 . 0  |
| Dec ye 24               | Paid Jeams Matthews for mending the }<br>Ironwork of the Greatt Bell ... }                                                    | ... .. | 00 . 02 . 0  |
| 1742<br>Sept.           | For 3 wegges to fasson the Great Bell ...                                                                                     | ... .. | 0 . 0 . 2    |
| 1743                    | For laying in the Leads into the Steeple wall }<br>& pointing it again ... }                                                  | ... .. | 0 . 2 . 6    |
|                         | For a lock for the Bellfry door ...                                                                                           | ... .. | 0 . 3 . 0    |
|                         | For mending the Steeple door & geting on the lock ...                                                                         | ... .. | 0 . 0 . 4    |
|                         | For cleaning the Steeple from Loofe stones ...                                                                                | ... .. | 0 . 0 . 6    |
|                         | Pd Geames Matthews for a staple for the Porch }<br>door & mending the iron work of the Great Bell }                           | ... .. | 0 . 0 . 9    |
| 1744                    | To Tho Cross for Leather [ ] aboute the Bell clapers                                                                          | ... .. | 0 . 2 . 6    |
|                         | To Jeames Matthews for putting them in ...                                                                                    | ... .. | 0 . 1 . 6    |
|                         | To Jeames Matthews for mending the Ioran }<br>work of the first Bell ... }                                                    | ... .. | 0 . 0 . 3    |
| 1745<br>Jan. ye 28      | pd Joseph Bouden for mending the Bellwheels [&c. &c] ...                                                                      | ... .. | 5 . 6        |
|                         | To Jeames Matthews for mending the }<br>Ironwork of the second Bell ... }                                                     | ... .. | 2 . 6        |
| 1746<br>Oct. ye 16      | To Joseph Bouden for mending the Bellwheels...                                                                                | ... .. | 2 . 6        |

\* Marsh Gibbon.

|                          |                                                                   |     |     |     |            |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------------|
|                          | For a Bell Rope 6 pound                                           | ... | ... | ... | 3 .        |
|                          | To Jeames Matthews for mending the second Bell Claper...          |     |     |     | 6 . 0      |
|                          | To Cross for Leather                                              | ... | ... | ... | 3 . 0      |
|                          | to Joseph Bouden a 100 weight of wood to [                        |     |     |     |            |
|                          | ] Iorns and for work a Bout the Bells }                           | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 3 . 0  |
|                          | To two New Bellrope 11 pound                                      | ... | ... | ... | 5 . 6      |
|                          | To Jeames Matthews for Iorn work for third Bell                   | ... | ... | ... | 3 . 6      |
|                          | To mending the lock of the Steeple dore                           | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 0 . 6  |
| 1747                     | To Joseph Bouden for mending the Bellropes                        | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 0 . 2  |
| June ye 21 <sup>st</sup> | To Jeames Matthews for puting in the Clapper                      | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 0 . 4  |
| Jan ye 6 <sup>th</sup>   | To John Baker for a New wheel for the third Bell                  | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 1 . 0* |
| 1748                     | To one Bellrope 5 pound & half                                    | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 2 . 9  |
|                          | To mending the key of the steeple dore                            | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 0 . 6  |
|                          | Paid — Rood for Iornwork for the second Bell                      | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 6 . 8½ |
|                          | to Rob Edin for putting it on                                     | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 1 . 0  |
| 1749                     | to a Bellrope...                                                  | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 3 . 0  |
| July y 20.               | To Jeames Matthews for keying up the first Bell                   | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 0 . 6  |
| Sept. ye 16              | 24 <sup>th</sup> to a Bellrope                                    | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 3 . 0  |
|                          | to Edin for one day to mend the Steeple flore                     | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 1 . 4  |
|                          | ffor Boards dito                                                  | ... | ... | ... | 2 . 6      |
|                          | to a Joyfte for the Steeple fflore                                | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 0 . 8  |
|                          | to mending the key of the Steeple Dore                            | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 0 . 6  |
|                          | to Robert Eding for 1 foot of Inch Bord used                      |     |     |     |            |
|                          | at ye [                      ] ye Steeple. and nayles &           |     |     |     |            |
|                          | works and laying a sil at ye Bellfry dorer }                      | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 1 . 6  |
|                          | to lime and [                      ] and Lath and }               |     |     |     |            |
|                          | nayles to [                      ] the Bellfry }                  | ..  | ... | ... | 0 . 7 . 0  |
|                          | to Robert Eding for work to mend ye upper }                       | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 2 . 0  |
|                          | floore of ye Steeple ...                      }                   | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 2 . 0  |
| 1750                     | to Robert Eding for work and wood to }                            |     |     |     |            |
| Oct ye 17                | [                      ] the third Bell }                         | ... | ... | ... | 3 . 2      |
| Dec. 12.                 | to Jeames Matthews for Ironwork for the third Bell                | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 5 . 8  |
| 1752                     | to Reerd for the men that heped to take down the Bells            | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 2 . 0  |
|                          | For [                      ] where they Loaded the Bells to drink | ... | ... | ... | 1 . 4      |
|                          | to bringing the little Bell from Middle }                         |     |     |     |            |
|                          | Claydon & putting it up                      }                    | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 1 . 0  |
|                          | paid postage for two letters from Gloucester                      | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 1 . 8  |
|                          | to [                      ] out the Bell stocks and drying }      |     |     |     |            |
|                          | them and [                      ] }                               | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 4 . 6  |
|                          | To Benjamin Lynd for fetching the Bells }                         |     |     |     |            |
|                          | from Stratford on Avon                      }                     | ... | ... | ... | 4 . 1 . 0  |

\* This must surely be a mistake !

|                            |                                                                                                                                                               |                |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
|                            | Charges at the Swan with the man that brought<br>the Bells & agreeing with the men to hang them<br>& for ale to the men that on Loaded them                   | ... 0 . 11 . 4 |
|                            | For bringing the Bell stocks from Middle Claydon<br>to Joseph Backer at Bottle Claydon ...                                                                    | ... 0 . 1 . 0  |
|                            | for a [ ] to carry the Bellwheels & Stocks &<br>other things from Joseph Bakers to the Church                                                                 | ... 0 . 1 . 6  |
|                            | paid to Mr Clarke [ ]<br>and Joseph Baker for making 5 new wheels<br>& hanging the 5 Bells and 5 new Roles &c. &c                                             | ... 11 . 0 . 0 |
|                            | To Joseph Baker for 11 foot of oke timber to make<br>good the frames at 20 pence ff foot ...                                                                  | ... 0 . 18 . 4 |
|                            | for 35 foot of Plank to mend & brace the Bell frames                                                                                                          | ... 11 . 8     |
|                            | for 2 foot of Elm Bord to make a trunk ...                                                                                                                    | ... 1 . 6      |
|                            | Stufe for 3 new nofils ...                                                                                                                                    | ... 1 . 0      |
|                            | For work to Brafes the frames being not in the first bargain<br>paid — Swonnell for 5 Bellropes }<br>waid 21 pounds 7 pence a pound }                         | ... 0 . 12 . 0 |
|                            | paid Henery Rood for casting the Brafes }<br>wayed 37 pounds at 6 pence per pound }                                                                           | ... 0 . 18 . 6 |
| May<br>ye 17 <sup>th</sup> | Paid Harry Rood for 10 new gudgions }<br>22 pound at 6 <sup>d</sup> ff pound ... }                                                                            | ... 0 . 11 . 0 |
|                            | To Harry Rood for making the Rest of the Iorn }<br>work for 5 bells ... }                                                                                     | ... 3 . 1 . 0  |
| 1753                       | Paid for the carriage of the old Bells from<br>Stratford to Gloucester and the new Bells back }<br>from Gloucester to Stratford ... }                         | ... 1 . 6 . 9  |
|                            | For A journey of a man & a Horse to Stratford to Goe<br>after the Bells & to pay for the water carriage }                                                     | ... 0 . 12 . 6 |
|                            | To Jeames Matthews for 2 Iorns in the Steeple windows                                                                                                         | ... 0 . 0 . 6  |
|                            | Paid Joseph Bates for taking out the old Brafes & for<br>3 foot of oke plank & other pieces of wood at the<br>top of the steeple & for titing* up the Bells } | ... 0 . 3 . 11 |
|                            | To Bates again for a new joyse in the Steeple flore                                                                                                           | ... 0 . 1 . 0  |

CLAYDON, MIDDLE.

All Saints.

|    |                                             |          |      |    |       |
|----|---------------------------------------------|----------|------|----|-------|
| 1. | 1674                                        | CHANDLER | MADE | ME | (30)  |
| 2. | _____CHAUDLER_____MADE_____ME_____1664_____ |          |      |    | (31)  |
| 3. | (Blank)                                     |          |      |    | (34½) |
| S. | (Blank)                                     |          |      |    | (13¼) |

\* ? Tightening up on the stocks.

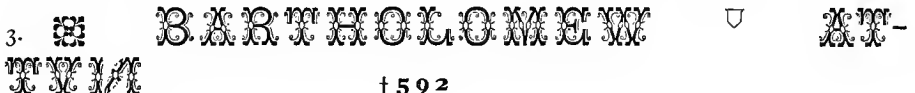

Treble : lettering very closely resembling, but not identical with, Anthony Chandler's set ; probably one of the first bells by his eldest son, Richard Chandler III., working with his father (p. 227). 2 : Anthony's letters, placed below the ordinary position, down among the rims (p. 226). Tenor : probably also by one of the Chandlers ; or Richard Keene may possibly have been the founder, and of the saunce as well. The latter has iron baldrick to clapper, which seems to mark it as not later than quite early in the eighteenth century, and its stock, etc., appears to be not later ; wooden lever. In the churchwardens' accounts of East Claydon there is an entry, in 1752, of "bringing the little bell from Middle Claydon & putting it up," but as, further on, it seems that the new bell-stocks were made here, it probably simply means that the "little bell" had come here for some restoration purposes, and not that it had belonged here. The three bells were retuned and rehung about 1867 or 1868, by a London firm (evidently Warner).

11 July, 1637, 3 Bells.  
1714, 3 bells.

By will dated 24th December, 1526, proved on "the first Monday in Lent following," "Dominus Alesander Anne, presbiter," bequeathed legacies (*inter alia*) for a great bell, and for the repairs of this church.\* Lady Verney† says he was the last Roman Catholic Vicar ; he is omitted in Lipscomb's list of Vicars. He belonged to the Giffard family, at that time tenants of the Claydon estate, and their arms (3 lions passant) are on his brass in this church.

CLAYDON, STEEPLE.

S. Michael.

1. ED HALL MADE ME I737 W RODES I BATEZ (30)
2. PHILLIP TELER GAVE ME I620 (32½)
3.  BARTHOLOMEW  1592 (35)  
(On Sound-bow : )      ○      ○      ○      ○
4. HALL MADE ME I754 (37)
5. J : INGRAM & T . ROBINS.      C : W.      TAYLOR . & SONS . FOUNDERS.  
OXFORD . MDCCCXXVIII . (41)

\* Browne Willis's MSS., Vol. xxxii. Lipscomb, I., 192.

† *Memoirs of the Verney Family*, Vol. I., p. 22.

Treble and 4 : in Richard Chandler III.'s 1.2-inch lettering (pp. 236, 237) ; the fourth (without initial) being probably by William, son of Edward Hall. W. Roades and J. Bates were presumably the churchwardens, whose names, Lady Verney informs me, are at that date unrecorded. Lady Verney has kindly supplied the following information concerning the two families. In the Steeple Claydon Register, we probably get, among the Baptisms, the names of the wife and two sons of this William Roades :—

173 $\frac{9}{16}$  Feb. 15. Will : son of Will : Rhodes & Frances his wife.

173 $\frac{3}{8}$  Feb 11. Thos : son of Will : Rhodes.

The Roades family belong to Middle Claydon, but their present representative, a retired farmer, lives in Steeple Claydon. Many entries of the name occur in the Middle Claydon Registers, where the Baptism :—

1695. May 19. William son of Wm. Roads & Eliz. his wife,

may perhaps be the individual whose name this bell records. The elder William was baptised in 1655, his father was John. Another John Roades was steward or bailiff to Sir Edmund Verney at Claydon, from 1610, and, by his wife, Anne, had a son William, who succeeded his father as bailiff. Both of these, but especially the latter, are frequently mentioned in the *Verney Memoirs* (2 vols., 1892), and much further matter of interest concerning them and their family is given in the third volume (published, end of 1894), proof-sheets from which Lady Verney most kindly allowed me to see.

The Bates family were also in Sir Ralph Verney's employ, but were at that time much less considerable people than the Roades. Lady Verney found Jane Bates, "a servant maid." In the Steeple Claydon Register is the Burial :—

1740. June 18. Mary Bates. Widow.

who is very likely to have been the wife of the J. Bates on the bell. 2 : perhaps by Richard Eldridge (p. 243) ; Lady Verney very kindly searched—but in vain—for any trace of the donor ; just possibly the bell was bought second-hand from the parish to which it was given ; much tuned from lip. 3 : lettering on Plates XXVIII. and XXIX., the ornate cross is on the latter ; the shield is fig. 66 ; the coins (1-inch diameter) appear to be reverses of sixpences (p. 198).

5 May, 1553, Steplecleydon. iiij great belle

11 July, 1637, 4 Bells. . . . The Steeple Church and Chanc<sup>l</sup> wants pgeting and fomewhat in decay in ye foundaçon.

1714, 4 bells.

1755, an Embattled Tower at the West End ; in which are four modern Bells ; to which a Treble has been added of late to make them five.

A mural brass in the church records that the Steeple was erected in 1862, to the memory of Gen. Sir Harry Calvert (who died 1826), by his son, Sir Harry Verney, Bart.

The "Pancake Bell" was at one time rung, but has been discontinued for many years.

Death Knell, as soon as notice is given. Tellers:  $3 \times 3 = a$  male;  $2 \times 3 = a$  female. Age tolled at beginning. One bell tolled at funerals.

On Sundays, one bell is rung at 8 a.m. For Services, tenor rung for five minutes, followed by chiming of all the bells for twenty-five minutes. Saunce chimed for last three minutes. These are old usages.

Ringin on Christmas and New Year's Eves, 5th November, etc., and for weddings when paid for.

No old churchwardens' accounts.

Many thanks to the Rev. C. M. Gough, Vicar.

*CLIFTON REYNES.*

B. V. Mary.

1. \* IOHN ♦ HODSON ♦ MADE ♦ ME ♦ I664 \* IG ♦ IS  
♦ CW ♦ WH (28½)

2. \* IOHN ♦ HODSON ♦ MADE ♦ ME ♦ I664 ♦ IG ♦ IS  
♦ CW ♦ WH ♦ (30)

3. \* IOHN ♦ HODSON ♦ MADE ♦ ME ♦ I664 ♦ IG ♦ IS  
♦ CW \* WH \* ♦ (32¼)

4. \* IOHN ♦ HODSON ♦ MADE ♦ ME ♦ I664 ♦ IOS-  
EPH ♦ GALE ♦ IOHN ♦ SHARPE

♦ CHVRCH ♦ WARDENS ♦ ○ WH ○ ○ \*  
○ \* ○ \* ○ (35¼)

5. ♦ I ○ L ♦ ES \* IOHN ♦ HODSON ♦ MADE ♦ ME ♦  
I664 ♦ IOSEPH ♦ GALE ♦ IOHN ♦ SHARPE

♦ CHVRCH ♦ WARDENS ♦ \* ○ WH ○  
♦ ○ ♦ ○ ♦ ○ ♦ ○ ♦ (38¼)

The initials W H on each of the bells are those of William Hull (p. 251). Treble and 2: much tuned from lip. 3: new straps by T. Paggett, of Olney (which adjoins). 4: the coins, as well as I can identify them, are as follows—No. 1, reverse of Scotch shilling of James I.? ( $1\frac{5}{8}$  inches diameter); royal arms, quarterly on shield, but instead of the normal arrangement, the arms of Scotland are here

in the first quarter; England and France quarterly in the second; Ireland in the third; and the fourth is undecipherable (but would be, no doubt, Scotland again); legend in exergue QVÆ . [DEVS . CONIVNXIT . NE]MO . SEPARET. No. 2, ditto. The remaining four are obverse of half-crown (but same size as the last) of Charles I. The king on horseback; the sword raised, pointing slightly forwards; legend, CAROLVS D : G : [MAG : BR : FR : ET :] HIB : REX.\* Tenor: the coin in the first line is 4 c.m. diameter, bearing a shield of arms, crowned; legend, [ ] ARCHID [- -] VST. DV [ ] OBVRG . BRAB+. The first in the lower line is obverse of crown (?) of Charles I., 43 m.m. diameter; king on horseback, the sword raised, pointing slightly forwards; legend, [CAROLVS D G MAG BRIT] FRAN ET HIB REX. No. 2; coin of Philip IV. of Spain, 41 m.m. diameter; legend, PHIL [ ] D G HESP ET [ ] REX 16.40. No. 3 is similar to the first two on the previous bell. Nos. 4 and 6 are similar to the coin on the upper line of this bell. No. 5 is similar to the four half-crowns on the previous bell. I L . ES stand for James Lowe, Esq., patron of the living; born 1624; grandson of Thomas Lowe, Esquire of the Body to King Henry VIII., who married Alice, eldest daughter and co-heiress of Richard Reignes, of Clifton; descended from Thomas Reignes, Lord of Stathern, Clifton, and Oakley, in right of his wife (whom he married *circa* 1272) Joanna de Borard, great granddaughter of Simon de Bosco Roardo, Lord of Stathern, co. Leicester; Clifton, co. Bucks; and Oakley, co. Beds, *temp.* William the Conqueror.

Well carved on the inner side of the tenor cage is the date:—**1631**

The bells are hung left-handed, in two tiers, the ropes do not fall in a circle.

1714, 5 bells (probably no sanctus).

In a very neatly-written MS. volume, in the possession of the Rector, entitled, *Some Account of Clifton Reynes in the County of Buckingham*, 1821, by the Rev. Edward Cooke, Rector of Haversham, it is stated that there are "five bells cast out of three about 1690." This statement was copied by Lipscomb (IV., 119); it is probably a mistake for 1664. On the other hand, the date carved on the tenor cage may indicate that there was a ring of five here at least thirty-three years previous to the existing bells.

Death Knell, as soon as the Sexton returns from work. The age is tolled, and distinction made between males and females. Tolling on the tenor at funerals.

On Sundays, bells chimed for the Services. These usages are old-established.

Many thanks to the Rev. W. Sutthery, Rector, for, in addition to the above particulars, very kindly allowing me every facility for copying the following:—

\* Of which of the numerous types of Charles's half-crowns these are impressions, it is not easy to decide, or even whether all four are from the same. So far as I can decipher them, they most resemble fig. 493, in Hawkins's *Silver Coins of England*, 3rd edition, but, *apparently*, the horse has its *near* fore-leg and *off* hind-leg raised; and if so, they are not Oxford coins, but were perhaps struck at Aberystwith (*op. cit.* p. 330)



## EXTRACTS FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS.

|                 |                                                                                    |     |     |     |                    |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------------------|
| 1663-67.        | [Spent at severall times about the Bells                                           | ... | ... | ... | 0—9—6              |
|                 | To James Gilloway                                                                  | ... | ... | ... | 0—4—0              |
|                 | Paid to the Belfounder to make up the first fūme                                   | ... | ... | ... | 0—7—10             |
|                 | [To Robert Afpray in part for Belropes                                             | ... | ... | ... | 0—18—4             |
|                 | To the Belfounder                                                                  | ... | ... | ... | 5—0—0              |
|                 | To Robert Afpray for bel-ropes when he deftrained                                  | ... | ... | ... | 0—10—8             |
|                 | For carrying the Bells paid to the Townfmen                                        | ... | ... | ... | 0—8—0              |
| March 21, 1669. | To the Smyth for mending the bell-claper & other worke                             |     |     |     | —2—0               |
| 1671.           | For 3 bell ropes                                                                   | ... | ... | ... | 0—8—6 <sup>d</sup> |
| 1673-74.        | ffor Bell Ropes                                                                    | ... | ... | ... | 0—15—00            |
| 1675-77.        | Paid for mending the great Bell Clapper                                            | ... | ... | ... | 0—06—6             |
|                 | Apr. 2 pd to William Gale for worke about the Bells                                | ... | ... | ... | 0—06—8             |
|                 | pd to Robt Aspray for nailes used about the Bells and seates                       | ... | ... | ... | 0—04—6             |
|                 | pd to Jam : Laughton for worke & boards about ye steeple                           | ... | ... | ... | 0—03—0             |
|                 | pd to W <sup>m</sup> Gale for hookes & hinges about ye Church & steple             | ... | ... | ... | 0—05—0             |
| 1678.           | To the Ringers. November 5                                                         | ... | ... | ... | 0—03—0             |
| 1679.           | Sept <sup>r</sup> 8. Pd for 3 New Bell ropes                                       | ... | ... | ... | 0—9—6              |
|                 | Octob. 6. Pd for Iron worke about ye third Bell                                    | ... | ... | ... | 0—1—0              |
|                 | Nov. 5 Gave to the Ringers                                                         | ... | ... | ... | 0—3—6              |
|                 | Paid for workmanship and expences about the Repaire of the Bells                   | ... | ... | ... | 0—5—6              |
| 1680.           | To James Laughton for mending the Bell wheeles                                     | ... | ... | ... | 0—00—8             |
| 1681.           | Paid for Repairing the Bell Wheeles                                                | ... | ... | ... | 0—1—0              |
|                 | 5. Novemb <sup>r</sup> Gave to the Ringers                                         | ... | ... | ... | 0—4—0              |
|                 | Paid to James Laughton for mending the Bell wheeles                                | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6              |
|                 | Mar: 12 Paid for three Belropes                                                    | ... | ... | ... | 0—8—8              |
| 1682.           | Nov: 5 Expended upon the Ringers                                                   | ... | ... | ... | 0—03—0             |
|                 | dec 28 To James Laughton for mending the Bell Wheeles                              | ... | ... | ... | 0—02—6             |
| 1683.           | Nov: 5 To ye Ringers                                                               | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6              |
| 1684.           | Oct 8 To William Crofse for 32 <sup>lb</sup> of Belropes at 7 <sup>d</sup> a pound | ... | ... | ... | 0—18—8             |
|                 | Nov. 5. To the Ringers                                                             | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6              |
|                 | To Richard Smith for keys and ferrills and trufsing up the Bells                   | ... | ... | ... | 0—1—6              |
|                 | To William Swaine for helping him                                                  | ... | ... | ... | 0—0—4              |
| 1685.           | Nov: 5 Gave to ye Ringers                                                          | ... | ... | ... | 0—02—6             |
|                 | ffebr 6. (Paid to ye Apparitor for 2 Books —)                                      |     |     |     |                    |
|                 | And gave then to ye Ringers                                                        | ... | ... | ... | 0—02—0             |
| 1686.           | Nov: 3 ( <i>sic</i> ) Gave to ye Ringers                                           | ... | ... | ... | 0—3—0              |
| 1687.           | oct 10 Paid W <sup>m</sup> Crosse for a set of new Bellropes                       | }   | ... | ... | 0—19—10            |
|                 | and repairing ye old ones at sundry times                                          |     |     |     |                    |
|                 | Nov. 5 Gave to ye Ringers                                                          | ... | ... | ... | 0—02—6             |
| 1688.           | Nov 5 Spent on ye Ringers                                                          | ... | ... | ... | 0—02—8             |
| (=1689)         | ffebr 11 To ye Smith for worke about ye Bells                                      | ... | ... | ... | 0—04—4             |
|                 | 14 Spent upon ye Ringers*                                                          | ... | ... | ... | 0—05—0             |

\* William and Mary proclaimed King and Queen the day before.

|                |                                                                                         |                                                                                          |        |     |     |     |    |     |   |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|---|
|                | April 13                                                                                | Belropes                                                                                 | ...    | ... | ... | ... | —  | 1—  | 0 |
| 1689.          | Nov 5                                                                                   | To ye Ringers                                                                            | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 04— | 0 |
|                |                                                                                         | To W <sup>m</sup> Crosse for mending Ropes and 2 new Belropes                            | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 07— | 1 |
|                |                                                                                         | To James Laughton for 2 dayes work & an halfe<br>done about ye Bells and Materialls      | } ...  | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 04— | 8 |
| 1689           | (after April 26, 1690).                                                                 | To Richard Smith keyes and ferrills and<br>halfe a days worke about ye Bells             | ... .. | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 02— | 0 |
| 1690.          |                                                                                         | To ye Ringers on ye day of Thanksgiving*                                                 | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 02— | 6 |
|                |                                                                                         | To ye Ringers November the 5th                                                           | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 02— | 6 |
|                | [Nov 25                                                                                 | Paid to M <sup>r</sup> Smith ye Brasier in exchange for a<br>Brasse for one of the Bells | ... .. | ... | ... | ... | ℥  | s   | d |
|                |                                                                                         | To Henry Wilby for 2 . dayes worke in fastning<br>the fframes and other Walling worke    | } ...  | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 02— | 6 |
|                |                                                                                         | To W <sup>m</sup> Crofse for 3 . new Bell Ropes                                          | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 10— | 6 |
|                |                                                                                         | And for mending old Bell-Ropes                                                           | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 01— | 0 |
|                |                                                                                         | To Rich <sup>d</sup> Smith for 6 fferills and 6 keyes used about the Bells               | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 01— | 0 |
|                | [And for a Plate and nailes                                                             | ...                                                                                      | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 00— | 2 |
| 1691.          | Nov 5                                                                                   | To the Ringers                                                                           | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 02— | 6 |
|                | 26                                                                                      | Gave to ye Ringers being a day of Thanksgiving†                                          | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 01— | 0 |
| 1692.          | Apr. 27.                                                                                | To the Ringers upon the News of a Victory obtain'd over<br>the ffrench at Sea            | ... .. | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 2—  | 6 |
|                | Nov 5.                                                                                  | To the Ringers                                                                           | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 2—  | 6 |
| 1692.          |                                                                                         | To the Ringers on the Thanksgiving day in November                                       | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 1—  | 6 |
|                | Apr 15. (= 1693)                                                                        | To William Crosse for 5 Bell-Ropes                                                       | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 19— | 0 |
| 1693.          | Nov. 5 <sup>th</sup>                                                                    | Gave to the Ringers                                                                      | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 2—  | 6 |
| 1694.          | Oct                                                                                     | To Rich <sup>d</sup> Smith for keying up ye 4 <sup>th</sup> Bell & keyes. & Ferrills     | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 0—  | 6 |
|                |                                                                                         | To ye Ringers Nov: 5 <sup>th</sup>                                                       | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 2—  | 6 |
| Mar. 26, 1695. |                                                                                         | To the Clarke for tolling the Bell for ye Queens Buriall‡<br>ffor Shooting a Belrope     | ... .. | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 1—  | 0 |
|                |                                                                                         | ffor Shooting a Belrope                                                                  | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 0—  | 6 |
| 1695.          | Nov. 5.                                                                                 | To the Ringers                                                                           | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 2—  | 6 |
| 1696.          | Aprill 16.                                                                              | Gave to ye Ringers on acct <sup>y</sup> of ye Thanksgiving\|\| | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 1—  | 6 |
|                | Nov. 5                                                                                  | Gave to the Ringers                                                                      | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 2—  | 6 |
| 1697.          | [To ye Ringers upon the Newes of Peace§                                                 | ...                                                                                      | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 2—  | 6 |
|                | More to them upon the 5 <sup>th</sup> of November                                       | ...                                                                                      | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 2—  | 6 |
|                | More to them on the day of Thanksgiving                                                 | ...                                                                                      | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 2—  | 6 |
|                | [Paid for Leather for ye Bell Clappers                                                  | ...                                                                                      | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 2—  | 2 |
|                | To Rich <sup>d</sup> Smith for putting in ye Bell Clappers & other work                 | ...                                                                                      | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 5—  | 0 |
|                | To James Laughton for work done at the Bells                                            | ...                                                                                      | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 0—  | 6 |
|                | To Rich <sup>d</sup> Smith for wood to make Rolls for ye Bells                          | ...                                                                                      | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 2—  | 0 |
|                | To Thomas Herbert for making the Rolls and Repairing the<br>3 <sup>d</sup> Belle Wheele | ... ..                                                                                   | ...    | ... | ... | ... | 0— | 3—  | 6 |

\* Probably for the Battle of the Boyne. † Probably for the Pacification of Limerick.

‡ Queen Mary died 28th December, 1694.

|| Probably for the discovery of the conspiracy of Sir George Barclay and others.

§ The treaty of Ryswick was signed on the 29th October, 1697.

|         |                                                                                                                                                          |     |     |     |        |
|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
|         | ffor nailes ufed about the fame                                                                                                                          | ... | ... | ... | 0—0—4  |
| 1698.   | Nov. 5. To the Ringers                                                                                                                                   | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6  |
|         | To William Crosse for an Arreare for Bell-ropes                                                                                                          | ... | ... | ... | 1—0—0  |
| 1699.   | To ye Ringers on the 5 <sup>th</sup> of November                                                                                                         | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6  |
|         | Paid for 3 Bell-Ropes                                                                                                                                    | ... | ... | ... | 0—10—0 |
| 1700.   | Nov. 5 <sup>th</sup> Gave to the Ringers                                                                                                                 | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6  |
|         | To Rich <sup>d</sup> Smith for Ironwork about the Bells                                                                                                  | ... | ... | ... | 0—4—2  |
|         | To John Phillips and Edw <sup>d</sup> Bradford for work and Materialls<br>about the Bell fframes and Wheeles as appears by their<br>Bill and Acquittance | ... | ... | ... | 1—3—2  |
|         | To Rich <sup>d</sup> Smith for 3. plates and nailes for ye Belfree door                                                                                  | ... | ... | ... | 0—0—4  |
| 1701.   | ffor 2. Plates for the Steeple doore                                                                                                                     | ... | ... | ... | 0—0—4  |
|         | To the Ringers the 5 <sup>th</sup> of November                                                                                                           | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6  |
|         | New keys ferrills and workmanship at the Great Bell                                                                                                      | ... | ... | ... | 0—01—1 |
| 1702.   | To the Ringers at the Queens Coronation*                                                                                                                 | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6  |
|         | Oct. 7 <sup>th</sup> To the Ringers at Newes comeing from Sea†                                                                                           | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6  |
|         | Nov 5 To the Ringers                                                                                                                                     | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6  |
| 1703.   | Nov. 5. Gave to the Ringers                                                                                                                              | ... | ... | ... | 0—02—6 |
| (=1704) | 8 March To the Ringers then in memory of ye Queens Proclaimeing                                                                                          | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6  |
|         | Apr. 5 <sup>th</sup> ffor nailes to amend the Bell wheeles                                                                                               | ... | ... | ... | 0—1—0  |
| 1704.   | [(=1705) Jan 29 To the Ringers on the 5 <sup>th</sup> of November                                                                                        | ... | ... | ... | 0—02—6 |
|         | [ffor mending a Bell Stock                                                                                                                               | ... | ... | ... | 0—00—6 |
|         | Mar 17 To Thomas Herbert for Boards Nailes and other<br>Materialls & for workmanship in Repairing the Bell Wheeles                                       | ... | ... | ... | 0—09—7 |
| 1705.   | July 7 To the Ringers upon account of good News from Sea                                                                                                 | ... | ... | ... | 0—02—6 |
|         | Aug. 30 To the Ringers on the Thanksgiving day‡                                                                                                          | ... | ... | ... | 0—02—6 |
|         | Nov. 5. Gave to the Ringers...                                                                                                                           | ... | ... | ... | 0—02—6 |
|         | 20 To Samuel Aspray for shooting and lineing a Bell-Rope                                                                                                 | ... | ... | ... | 0—01—6 |
| (=1706) | Mar. 9. ffor a Bell Stock mending                                                                                                                        | ... | ... | ... | 0—01—0 |
| 1706.   | [ffor Nailes and mending the Bell wheeles                                                                                                                | ... | ... | ... | 0—00—6 |
|         | [ffor mending a Bell Stock and fframe                                                                                                                    | ... | ... | ... | 0—01—0 |
|         | To the Ringers upon good Newes from fflanders                                                                                                            | ... | ... | ... | 0—02—6 |
|         | ffor keys and keying up the great Bell                                                                                                                   | ... | ... | ... | 0—01—6 |
|         | Nov. 5 Gave to the Ringers                                                                                                                               | ... | ... | ... | 0—02—6 |
| 1707.   | ffor 2 Hinges and Nailes for the Steeple door                                                                                                            | ... | ... | ... | 0—0—8  |
|         | [ffor making 10. keyes & 8 ferrills and a Plate 3. pound                                                                                                 | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6  |
|         | ffor mending 6. Stayes and Wood for Sealing and Seats                                                                                                    | ... | ... | ... | 0—1—6  |
|         | ffor Nailes for the Bell Wheeles                                                                                                                         | ... | ... | ... | 0—1—0  |
|         | ffor Ale gave to the men that helped up with the Bell                                                                                                    | ... | ... | ... | 0—1—2  |
|         | [To the Ringers on the 5 <sup>th</sup> of November                                                                                                       | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6  |
|         | ffor 2. Spykes and mending the Bell-Roll...                                                                                                              | ... | ... | ... | 0—0—2  |

\* Queen Anne was crowned April 23rd.

† Admiral Benbow engaged a French squadron of superior force, for five days, in August, dying subsequently from his wounds.

‡ Probably for the treaty of union between England and Scotland, signed July 22nd.

|       |                                                                                                            |     |     |     |           |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
|       | To Samuel Aspray for Belropes                                                                              | ... | ... | ... | 0—9—0     |
| 1708. | Paid to Samuel Aspray for shooting a Bell-Rope                                                             | ... | ... | ... | 0—0—8     |
|       | Gave to the Ringers on a Thanksgiveing day                                                                 | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6     |
|       | To the Smith for 2. hinges for the Steeple door                                                            | ... | ... | ... | 0—0—6     |
|       | To the Ringers on the 5 <sup>th</sup> of November                                                          | ... | ... | ... | 0—3—0     |
|       | [To Jeremiah Chandflower for Board to mend the Bell wheeles                                                | ... | ... | ... | 0—0—9     |
|       | [ffor Naailes and Smiths work about them...                                                                | ... | ... | ... | 0—0—11½   |
|       | ffor naileing downe Boards in the Steeple                                                                  | ... | ... | ... | 0—0—2     |
| 1709. | To the Ringers the 5 <sup>th</sup> of November                                                             | ... | ... | ... | 0—3—0     |
|       | to the Ringers on the Thanksgiving day                                                                     | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6     |
|       | Paid to Samuel Aspray for shooting a new Piece to the                                                      | }   | ... | ... | 0—1—6     |
|       | Great Bell Rope                                                                                            |     |     |     |           |
|       | To Rich <sup>d</sup> Smith for a key and fixing a Bell Clapper                                             | ... | ... | ... | 0—0—2     |
| 1710. | Nov. 5. Spent on the Ringers                                                                               | ... | ... | ... | 0—3—0     |
|       | On the day of Thanksgiveing Spent on the Ringers                                                           | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6     |
|       | ffor Repairing the Bell Wheeles                                                                            | ... | ... | ... | 0—1—0     |
|       | To 2 men for their Afsistance in drawing up the Bells                                                      | ... | ... | ... | 0—1—0     |
|       | To Widow Aspray on her Bill for 3 new Bell-Ropes                                                           | }   | ... | ... | 0—8—6     |
|       | weighed 17 pounds at 6 <sup>d</sup> per Pound                                                              |     |     |     |           |
|       | And for 6. Shootes on Bel-Ropes                                                                            | ... | ... | ... | 0—1—0     |
| 1711. | Paid to Richard Smith for takeing off, Repaireing and                                                      | }   | ... | ... | 0—3—0     |
|       | putting on the Church door Lock 1 <sup>s</sup> and keying up the 4 <sup>th</sup>                           |     |     |     |           |
|       | Bell 1 <sup>s</sup> and afsistance and Ale about the same 1 <sup>s</sup> in all.                           |     |     |     |           |
|       | Nov. 5 <sup>th</sup> Gave to the Ringers                                                                   | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6     |
| 1712. | [Oct 23 <sup>th</sup> ffor Wood and Workmanship in Repairing the                                           | }   | ... | ... | 0—08—0    |
|       | Church Gates and Bell Loft                                                                                 |     |     |     |           |
|       | ffor Ironwork and keying up the Least Bell                                                                 | ... | ... | ... | 0—01—6    |
|       | [Nov. 5 Gave to the Ringers                                                                                | ... | ... | ... | 0—02—6    |
|       | Apr 7 <sup>th</sup> , 1713 ffor shooting Bell Ropes & new staying y <sup>e</sup> Great Bell                | ... | ... | ... | 0—00—9    |
| 1713. | Repairing the Great Bell Wheele                                                                            | ... | ... | ... | 0—10—1    |
|       | [Gave to the Ringers at the Peace proclaiming                                                              | ... | ... | ... | 0—3—6     |
|       | [More to them on the Thanksgiving Day                                                                      | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6     |
|       | Gave more to the Ringers November 5 <sup>th</sup>                                                          | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6     |
|       | To Richard Smith for . 3. Plates . 2 . fferills 2 Keyes & 3 Spikes.                                        | }   | ... | ... | 0—2—0     |
|       | 1 <sup>s</sup> , 2 <sup>d</sup> . and 2 Joynts and Naailes for y <sup>e</sup> steeple door 10 <sup>d</sup> |     |     |     |           |
|       | [To Samuel Aspray for a Belrope 6½ pounds                                                                  | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 3 . 3 |
|       | [ffor naailes used in mending a Bellwheele                                                                 | ... | ... | ... | 0—1—0     |
| 1714. | [To the Ringers at Proclaimeing the King                                                                   | ... | ... | ... | 0—4—0     |
|       | [To the Ringers at his Maties Coronation                                                                   | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6     |
|       | To the Ringers the 5 <sup>th</sup> of November                                                             | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6     |
| 1715. | (Richard Smith Clark ½ a years wages)                                                                      |     |     |     |           |
|       | And for mending the Belfree door                                                                           | ... | ... | ... | 0—00—2    |
|       | Paid to the Ringers y <sup>e</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup> of November omitted                                     | }   | ... | ... | 0—02—6    |
|       | to be before set downe                                                                                     |     |     |     |           |
| 1716. | To the Ringers at the same Thansgiveing [mentioned in the                                                  | ... | ... | ... | 0—2 . 6   |
|       | preceding entry in this account]                                                                           | ... | ... | ... |           |

|        |                      |                                                                                                                                                                   |     |     |     |            |
|--------|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------------|
|        | Nov. 5 <sup>th</sup> | To the Ringers                                                                                                                                                    | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—9      |
|        |                      | Expences at ffastening a Gudgeon of the Great Bell                                                                                                                | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—0      |
|        |                      | To W <sup>m</sup> Aspray for . 3 . new Belropes and Shooting one                                                                                                  | ... | ... | ... | 0—9—0      |
| 1717.  | [Oct. 20.            | Kings Coronation Gave to the Ringers                                                                                                                              | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6      |
|        | [Nov. 5.             | Gave to the Ringers                                                                                                                                               | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6      |
|        |                      | At Christmas Gave to the Ringers                                                                                                                                  | ... | ... | ... | 0—3—0      |
|        |                      | At the Princes Birth Gave to the Ringers                                                                                                                          | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6      |
| 1718.  |                      | To W <sup>m</sup> Coles Repaireing the Bells and Expences                                                                                                         | ... | ... | ... | 0—1—8      |
|        |                      | To Rich <sup>d</sup> Smith for Work at the Church-yard Gate & Bells                                                                                               | ... | ... | ... | 0—1—6      |
|        | Nov. 5.              | To the Ringers                                                                                                                                                    | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6      |
| 1719.  |                      | ffor Keyes and fferills used about the Bells                                                                                                                      | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 1 . 6  |
|        |                      | ffor a new Bell-rope                                                                                                                                              | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 2 . 8  |
|        |                      | ffor fetching home the 4 <sup>th</sup> Bell wheele & Great Bell stock                                                                                             | ... | ... | ... | 0—2 . 0    |
|        | [Nov. 5              | Gave to the Ringers                                                                                                                                               | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6      |
| 1720.  |                      | Paid for Shooting a Belrope                                                                                                                                       | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 0—2    |
|        | Nov. 5.              | To the Ringers                                                                                                                                                    | ... | ... | ... | 0—2 . 6    |
|        |                      | To Rich <sup>d</sup> Smith for materialls and work about a Bell                                                                                                   | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 1—2    |
| 1721.  |                      | To the Ringers 5 <sup>th</sup> November                                                                                                                           | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6      |
|        |                      | To Rich <sup>d</sup> Herbert for a Roll for a Bell                                                                                                                | ... | ... | ... | 0—0—6      |
|        |                      | To the Smith on his Bill for work and materialls about the Bells                                                                                                  | ... | ... | ... | 0—3—6      |
| 1722.  | Nov. 5.              | To the Ringers                                                                                                                                                    | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6      |
| (=1723 | [Jan : 14            | Paid to John Baily upon his Bill for Work about the Bells                                                                                                         | ... | ... | ... | 1 . 8 . 10 |
|        |                      | To Newton Wheelwright for his help at the same work                                                                                                               | ... | ... | ... | 0—4—6      |
|        |                      | To John Sam for advice touching Timber for the same                                                                                                               | ... | ... | ... | 0—1—6      |
|        |                      | Expences in Bread Cheese & Ale for the said Workmen at<br>doeing ye Bells                                                                                         | ... | ... | ... | 0—5—1      |
|        |                      | To Goodman Aspray for 3. new Bell-Ropes weight 19 pound }<br>[ at 6 <sup>d</sup> per pound. 9 <sup>s</sup> . 6 <sup>d</sup> and for 2 Shoots 4 <sup>d</sup> ... } | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 9 . 10 |
|        | Aprill 25            | Gave to the Ringers being a Thansgiving day                                                                                                                       | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 2 . 6  |
| 1723.  | May 25 <sup>th</sup> | for a piece of Benleather and Keying the Bell Claper                                                                                                              | ... | ... | ... | 0 = 1 = 0  |
|        |                      | Gave to the Ringers at Gunpowder Treason                                                                                                                          | ... | ... | ... | . 2 = 8    |
|        |                      | to W <sup>m</sup> Aspray for a new Bell Rope wt 5 pound                                                                                                           | ... | ... | ... | 2 = 6      |

(End of Book, Lady Day, 1724. No more accounts until 1829.)

*COLD BRAFIELD.*

S. Mary.

1. ★ IOHN ► CLARKE ► MADE ►  
ME 1 607 (21)

2. (22)  
† : ALEX : RIGBE : MADE : ME : J 6 9 9 : E : BODINGTON : CH : W

3. ROBT<sup>r</sup> WHITWORTH. C : WARDEN . MDCCCXXXVIII . (26½)

Treble: only eleven other bells are known by this founder (p. 241). Crown-staple broken. It is not so good a bell as the second. 2: for Alexander Rigby, see p. 246. Edward Bodington was apparently the son of John Bodington, Rector of Newton Blossomville, who bought this Manor *circa* 1669, from Henry, Lord Mordaunt, second Earl of Peterborough. There are several memorials to members of the family in the church. One of the canons broken. Tenor: evidently by Taylor.

1714, 3 bells.

### COLNBROOK.

S. Thomas.

*Single.*

C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1842

The bell (a very small one) hangs in a little open turret over the west end, and is decidedly troublesome of access. Two bells were sold for one in 1842, when a very extensive repair of the chapel was carried out. The present church, in a new position, was begun in 1848, and consecrated by the Bishop of Oxford, 18th June, 1852. In the *History of Wraysbury . . . and Colnbrook* (by G. W. J. Gyll, Esq., London, 1862, p. 286 *and seq.*), it is stated that a chapel, dedicated to S. Mary, is supposed to have been originally built in 1344, and subsequently twice re-built on the same site, in the parish of Langley Marish. It was consecrated, after the last re-building, on 7th December, 1794.

Some portion of the clock is supposed to be of the fourteenth century.

Besides ordinary use for Services, the bell has been used, since about 1886, at the *consecration* in the Holy Communion.

No old churchwardens' accounts.

Thanks to the Rev. F. P. Burnett, Vicar.

8 Aug: 1637, Colbrooke Capella 2 Bells & a clock. The Chappell stands in Langley parish. The Chappell & all things about it are repaired And maintained by the p̄fits of markets & fairs.

1714. Colebrooke capella, 2 bells.

### CRESLOW.

Though at present containing only one dwelling-house, Creslow is a distinct parish.\* Browne Willis (MSS.) says of the church: "It was desecrated in Queen Elizabeth's time; or more probably Anno 1645, . . ." † About 1710, "the foundations of a small tower at the West end were dug up . . . I could not learn what

\* *Records of Bucks*, I. 262.

† The last Incumbent was presented in 1554.

number of bells there had been." The portion of the church still standing, forms a coach-house, to the door of which parish notices are fixed.

Mr. W. R. Rowland informed me that the little bell now hanging over the principal entrance-gate of the ancient Manor House, is said to have been the old town-crier's bell of Woodstock; it was purchased some years ago by his father.

(*With Whitchurch.*)

### CUBLINGTON.

S. Nicholas.

|                |          |      |    |      |                     |
|----------------|----------|------|----|------|---------------------|
| <i>Single.</i> | CHAUDLER | MADE | ME | 1667 | (32 $\frac{3}{4}$ ) |
| <b>S.</b>      |          | 1811 |    |      | (19 $\frac{3}{4}$ ) |

The "big bell" is by Anthony Chandler (p. 226); crown-staple broken; bell loose on stock, which is in bad condition. Saunce: no doubt from the Whitechapel Foundry; half-wheel.

23 July, 1552, Cublyngton, Iġm ij grete belle in the steple / And the sanctus bell / Iġm ij handbell for gangtyde / Iġm A lytill facrynge bell / Iġm A clocke

The expression "for gangtyde" is explained by the Inventory which follows this one—that of Linslade—in which are mentioned, after the great bells, and sanctus bell, two procession bells.

1714, 2 bells (sanctus not mentioned). In another place in Browne Willis's MSS. (xxxviii., 8):—2 modern Bells.

I was informed—though I sincerely hope, incorrectly—that all the old parish documents contained in the ancient chest, had been burnt a few months before my visit.

### CUDDINGTON.

S. Nicholas (*erroneously*, S. Margaret).

|          |                                                   |                                            |
|----------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 1, 2, 3. | CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON                 | (26 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 29) |
|          | 1884                                              | ∴                                          |
| 4.       | RECAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON               | (30 $\frac{1}{2}$ )                        |
|          | 1884                                              | ∴                                          |
| 5.       | CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON                 | 1884 ∴                                     |
|          | REV <sup>d</sup> JAMES MANSEL PRICE M. A — VICAR. |                                            |
|          | THOMAS BISHOP } CHURCHWARDENS.                    |                                            |
|          | JOHN GUY DOVER }                                  |                                            |
|          | H. D. 1884 ∴                                      | (33)                                       |
| 6.       | CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON                 | 1884 ∴                                     |
|          | FOR THE HONOUR OF GOD                             |                                            |
|          | AND THE USE OF THIS CHURCH                        |                                            |





and fourth bells were almost obviously from the still older Wokingham Foundry, during the fifteenth century, either by Roger Landen, or his successor, John Michell (p. 53, &c.) In all probability these two bells formed the treble and tenor of the ancient ring of three; and when the middle bell was recast in 1610, the number was increased by the addition of a new tenor; and two years later again an extra treble brought the number up to five. One cannot but regret the loss of these bells.

On Sunday, 13th July, 1879, a youth named Ward, seventeen or eighteen years old, went up to the bell-chamber to mend a rope; the tenor, which was set, came over on to him, and he died the same day, before he could be taken to the County Infirmary.

Death Knell as soon as intimation of the death is received by the sexton. Tellers:  $5 \times 3 =$  a male,  $3 \times 5 =$  a female; the tenor used for adults, the third for children. The bells have been chimed on one occasion at a funeral.

Many thanks to the Rev. J. Mansel Price, Vicar.

*DATCHET.*

S. Mary.

1. THOS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1795  T HURST  
& W HURLEY CHURCH WARDENS  (29 $\frac{3}{8}$ )

2.  HENRI KNIGHT MADE  
MEE ANO 1615 (31 $\frac{1}{4}$ )

3.  THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1804  (34 $\frac{1}{4}$ )

4. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON  
(*On Waist:*) RECAST. A.D. 1845 REV<sup>d</sup> ISAAC GOSSETT VICAR (38 $\frac{3}{8}$ )

5.  Sancta Iohannis   
ra Pro Nobis 1607

 H K

(42)

Treble and 3: by Thomas Mears I. (p. 104); the pattern on 3 is a larger size than that on treble. 2 and tenor: by Henry Knight I. (p. 124); cross on second,  $1\frac{1}{8}$ ; on tenor,  $1\frac{5}{8}$  inches high; the capitals on this latter bell average  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inches high; the H K about  $1\frac{7}{8}$  inches; the crowned rose is on Plate XXII. These two bells have high canons, and the stock of the second is evidently, and of the tenor probably, original; modified iron baldricks to the two clappers, and wooden busk-boards, or splints, with an ordinary modern key. The clapper of the second has no flight; its wheel broken. 4 (p. 116); the Rev. Isaac Gosset, A.M., was inducted 6th April, 1814, on the presentation of the Dean and Canons of Windsor.

22 July, 1552. dockett, If iij grett belle & one fance bell. If one hande bell.

7 Aug: 1637, Datchett 5 Bells . . . A store howfe annexed to the steeple. The butterices of the steeple & Church in decay . . . And the wall of the steeple & Church wants targeting & mending.

1714, 5 bells.

The church was rebuilt 1857-60; the bells were hung by *the builder* (? a London man, named Dove), in a deal frame! Not unnaturally the oscillation proved so great, that they could not be rung, and the clerk (a blacksmith) made a chiming apparatus, by which alone they are now sounded.

Death Knell tolled on intimation of the death being received by the sexton. Tellers:  $3 \times 3 =$  a male,  $2 \times 3 =$  a female; the tenor for adults, the treble for children. No bell used for funerals (?).

On Sundays, for Services, bells chimed fifteen minutes, pause five; chimed five; a single bell for the last five minutes.

Chiming on New Year's Eve from shortly before midnight, until shortly after.

No old churchwardens' accounts.

Many thanks to the Rev. J. H. Thompson, Vicar.

### DENHAM.

S. Mary.

1, 2. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON

(On Waist:) EDWARD NASH } CHURCH WARDENS 1846 (30 $\frac{1}{4}$ , 31)  
RICHARD CAIN }

3. JN<sup>O</sup> FOUNTAIN FRAN<sup>S</sup> BOWRY CH. WARDENS  $\text{m}$  PACK  
& CHAPMAN OF LONDON F<sup>E</sup>CIT 1772  $\text{m}$  (33 $\frac{1}{4}$ )

4, 5, 6, 7. (34 $\frac{3}{4}$ , 38 $\frac{3}{4}$ , 41 $\frac{1}{4}$ , 46 $\frac{3}{4}$ )  
IAMES BARTLET MADE ME 1683



8. (51 $\frac{1}{4}$ )  
RECAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1875

4, 5, 6, 7: these four fine bells are the only examples by any of the Bartletts now existing in Bucks (p. 96); they are the remains of a ring of eight by him, the first of that number ever erected in the county; all four have been turned, and have their single canons broken off; the medallion on the second line is fig. 43, which, on the fourth, is stamped the wrong way up. The ring rehung by Warner. It was a pity that if it became necessary to replace the tenor, the work was not entrusted to the Whitechapel Foundry, the birthplace of all the other bells. The old tenor was inscribed\*: "Richard Nicholas, Daniel—Winchester, Chvrch Wardens,

\* *Fide* Mr. Henry Wilson, of Windsor, communicated by Mr. A. D. Tyssen.

James Bartlet, made me, 1683." It was probably in the same lettering as the remaining bells, with the medallion, and without most or all of the commas. Diameter 52 inches, sound-bow  $3\frac{5}{8}$  inches.

The Peckham family were established here before the close of the fifteenth century (according to monumental inscriptions in the church, quoted by Lipscomb, IV., 452); and at the reformation, Sir Edmund Peckham, Knight, became seized of the manor, and was buried here 18th April, 1564.\* His eldest son, Sir Robert Peckham, Knight, very shortly after the surrender of Biddlesden Abbey, namely, in 1540, bought that estate for two hundred marks,† and soon afterwards demolished the church there. He sold, or gave, the five very large bells belonging to it, to Denham. These "continued at *Denham* 'till 1683, 35 *Car.* II, when they were run into 8, as they now remain."‡

Aug: 1637, 5 Bells S<sup>ts</sup> bell. & a clock.

1714, 8 bells (probably no sanctus).

A board, formerly in the ringing chamber (the disappearance of which is regrettable) recorded what was perhaps the first peal ever rung in the county; it was copied by Mr. Henry Wilson, before the tenor was exchanged:—

May 9<sup>th</sup> 1773.

The Society of College Youths rang at  
the Parish Church of Denham, a Compleat  
Peal of 5040, Bob Major, with the Sixth at home  
12 times right and 12 times wrong, in 3 Hours  
and 16 Minutes by the following Persons, (viz.)

|                                             |                                           |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| W <sup>m</sup> Scott, Treble.               | Ja <sup>s</sup> Darquitt, 5 <sup>th</sup> |
| Tho <sup>s</sup> Bennett, 2 <sup>d</sup>    | E <sup>d</sup> Sylvester, 6 <sup>th</sup> |
| Win <sup>y</sup> Richards, 3 <sup>d</sup>   | Rob <sup>t</sup> Bly, 7 <sup>th</sup>     |
| Tho <sup>s</sup> Sylvester, 4 <sup>th</sup> | Jo <sup>h</sup> Monk, Tenor.              |

Winstanley Richardson (London), Thos. Sylvester (London), James Darquitt (S. Anne's Lane, London), Edmund Sylvester (King Street, Golden Square, London), and Joseph Monk (Camberwell), were among the subscribers to *Clavis Campanalogia*, in 1788.

Death Knell about twelve hours after the death.

On Sundays, for Services, the bells are simply chimed with a chiming apparatus, and one bell tolled for the last five minutes. Ringing practice during the winter

\* He was one of the Commissioners for the Visitation of the Churches in this county in 1552, see p. 323 *foot-note*.

† Browne Willis, *Hist. Hund. Bucks.*, p. 59.

‡ *Ib.*, p. 152.

only: ringing at midnight on Christmas and New Year's Eves. No other uses of the bells. There is an endowment of about £1 10s. per annum for ringing.

Thanks to the Rev. R. H. Lathbury, Rector.

*DINTON.*

S. Peter.

- 1, 2, 3. **I 6 5 6** (32, 34½, 37)  
 4. RICHARD CHANDLER MADE ME I 6 8 2 (40½)  
 5. • **HENRY SVMMAR ROGAR LVCAS**  
**CHVRCH ARDNS I 6 5 8** (45½)

The fourth is by Richard Chandler III.; lettering  $\frac{1}{16}$  inch high (p. 230). The other four bells by Ellis, Francis, and Henry, Knight (p. 129). Re-hung (probably by Bond of Burford) in the old, left-handed frame; all turned except second.

23 July, 1552, Denton, If in the Steple iijj bells.

July, 1637, 4 Bells and a Sts Bell.

1714, 5 (saunce not mentioned).

(*DITTON*—see Stoke Poges).

*DORNEY.*

S. James.

1. **WILLIAM ELDRIDGE MADE MEE ♦**  
**I 6 9 8 ♦ ♦ ♦** (29)  
 2. **PRAYES THE LORD # 6 3 #** (30½)  
 3. (34½)  
**Blecced be the name of the lorde 1582 ⊕**  
**Joseph ∪ carter**  
 4. **RICHARD : SIDDING : THO<sup>s</sup> MARTIN : CHURCH :**  
**WARDENS :** ○ ○ J 7 7 J ○ (36)  
 TH<sup>OS</sup> Swain Fecit. TH<sup>OS</sup> Swain Fecit. TH<sup>OS</sup> Swain Fecit.

Treble: (p. 245). 2: by Ellis Knight (p. 127). 3: (p. 85) the shield is fig. 36, the trade stamp of Roger Landen, of Wokingham, a predecessor (some 130 years before) of Carter's; the coin appears to be a copy of the original Wokingham stamp. 4: (p. 141) the medallion is fig. 51. The bells are hung with horizontal iron stays, and perpendicular iron sliders, but are not rung.

9 Aug : 1637, 4. Bells.

1714, 4 bells.

Death Knell : minute tolling at nine the following morning ; tenor for adults ; treble for infants ; tellers,  $3 \times 3 = a$  male ;  $(3 + 2) \times 2 = a$  female.

On Sundays, the tenor chimed for five minutes about half an hour before the Services ; all the bells then chimed ; the treble alone during the last five minutes.

Ringing (?) on New Year's Eve only.

Thanks to the Rev. J. Archer, Vicar.

*DORTON.*

S. John Baptist.

- |    |                           |                             |               |       |
|----|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|-------|
| 1. | M <sup>B</sup> J : REEVES | C : WARDEN.                 | MDCCCXXXVIII. | (30)  |
| 2. | R                         | A                           | +626          | (31½) |
| 3. | GOO                       | SAVE                        | KING          |       |
|    | KINGS                     | +604                        |               |       |
|    |                           | (4 sixpences on sound-bow.) |               | (34)  |
| S. | (Blank)                   |                             |               | (10½) |

Treble : by Taylor (p. 260). 2 : by Robert Atton, in the smallest set of letters (Plate XXX.). Tenor : by Bartholomew Atton, or possibly one of Robert's first bells. Letters, Plates XXVIII. and XXIX., the K being the plain letter there shown ; the figures are the same set on both bells (pp. 199 and 205). The two Atton bells have iron baldricks and wooden splints ; some straps nailed, the rest renewed. Saunce : has a round, sloping shoulder ;  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch between the rims ; straps nailed ; crown-staple broken ; wooden lever. Not unlikely to be by Richard Keene (p. 171), or it may be from Drayton Parslow. Frame, seventeenth century.

23 July, 1552, Daorton Item iij greate Belles Item one sawce bell Item iij hande beles

14 July, 1638, Doreton 3 bells S<sup>ts</sup> bell

1714, 3 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

The Rev. R. J. Rowton, formerly curate in charge, kindly copied the following from the churchwardens' accounts (which begin 1777) :—

|           |                                           |                  |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1829      |                                           | £                |
| March 28. | Paid Taylor, as per bill for the New Bell | ... 17 ,, 9 ,, 7 |
|           | Anstiss repairing the other bell-wheel    | ... 1 ,, 7 ,, 6  |

*DRAYTON BEAUCHAMP.*

S. Mary.

- |    |      |     |      |            |
|----|------|-----|------|------------|
| 1. | COME | AND | PRAY | 1621 (32½) |
|----|------|-----|------|------------|

2.  PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1773   
(36½)
3. CHANDLER MADE ME 1704 (40½)

Treble: the founder not identified (p. 265); letters  $1\frac{3}{16}$  inches high; figures under 1 inch. 2: (p. 101). Tenor: a long-waisted bell by the "firm" (p. 234); the lettering is George Chandler's large set,  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches high. Cage wedged to walls, pit for a smaller (treble) bell, but has never been filled. Cleaner than the average.



23 July, 1552, Drayton Bewchamp. Itm iij belles & A Sanct3 bell in the Steple Iſm ij hande belles & A lytle Sacryng bell.

July 31<sup>th</sup>, 1637, Drayghton Beach: 3. Bells S<sup>ts</sup> Bell. . . . The frame of the bells in decay.

1714, 3 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

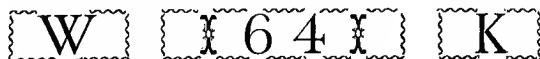
*DRAYTON PARSLOW.*

Holy Trinity.

1. J: TAYLOR FECIT LOBR<sup>o</sup> 1842. (29¼)
2. J TAYLOR FOUNDER LOBRO 1842 (31¼)
3.   
 † 5 9 † (37)
- S. 1609 (15¾)

Treble and 2: angular canons, which on the latter are broken. Tenor: by Bartholomew Atton (p. 198): lettering on Plates XXVIII. and XXIX; initial cross on the latter; the shield is fig. 66; iron baldrick to clapper. Saunce: doubtless by Anthony Chandler of this village, though his figures vary in nearly every example; James Keene's figures, which are very like some of his, are a trifle larger, and were never used, so far as I know, after their owner's death in 1654. A round-shouldered bell; straps nailed; crown-staple broken; iron baldrick; iron lever.

Carved on the frame, in lettering  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches high, the ground sunk, so that the lettering appears raised, is:—



23 July, 1552, Drayton paflow (*also* Drayton paffelo).

Iſm iij belles & the fawnfe bell Iſm one hande bell.

(*On the back:*) fo (= *solid*) a hanbell

18 July, 1638. Drayton Pafsløe. 3 bells S<sup>ts</sup> bell . . . . . the Church Steeple & Chancell wants pgeting

1714, Drayton Passlow, 3 (sanctus not mentioned). Further on in Browne Willis's MSS. (xxxviii., 13) is, Drayton Paffelew—3 modern Bells.

Death Knell rung on the tenor : not before 8 a.m., or after 6 p.m. Tellers,  $3 \times 3 =$  a male ;  $2 \times 3 =$  a female. One bell tolled at funerals.

On Sundays, a bell rung at 8 a.m. The bells are chimed for half an hour before the Services ; the tenor being rung for the last five minutes, and the saunce used just as the Service is about to begin. Formerly the Sermon Bell was rung before the chiming began, and a bell was also rung after Morning Service, "to show churching was over," or in reality, no doubt, to give notice that there would be an Afternoon Service.

Formerly there was ringing once or twice a week from 5th November, until New Year's Eve, and including Christmas Eve ; but as the ringers refused to ring on the day of her Majesty's Jubilee,\* there are now no regular ringers.

The churchwarden tolls the second bell for Easter Vestry.

No churchwardens' accounts here unfortunately, earlier than about 1837.

Many thanks to the Rev. R. M. Perkes, late Rector.

### *DROPMORE.*

S. Anne.

*Single. (On Waist:)* J. WARNER & SONS, LONDON. 1865. (16)

Modern parish, and modern church. Thanks to the Rev. F. S. Sclater, late Vicar, for this inscription.

### *DUNTON.*

S. Martin.

|    |                |          |             |           |                                 |           |
|----|----------------|----------|-------------|-----------|---------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. | <b>R</b>       | <b>C</b> | <b>MADE</b> | <b>ME</b> | <b>I720</b> (28 $\frac{3}{4}$ ) |           |
| 2. | ✠              | GOD      | SAVE        | OVR       | KING                            | 1689 (30) |
| 3. | <i>(Blank)</i> |          |             |           | (31 $\frac{1}{2}$ )             |           |

Treble : by Richard Chandler III. ; letters, 1.2 inches high (p. 235). 2 : by James Keene (p. 165) ; the initial cross is No. 2 on Plate XXVI. ; crown-staple broken. Tenor : is one of the round-shouldered, thick-looking bells, like several of the blank saunce bells, which I am inclined to suppose may be late productions of Richard Keene (p. 191). The hangings of all three original, except that the wheels have been repaired and renewed at various times.

\* No doubt this was merely a question of "loaves and fishes," and that no disloyalty was intended.

Death Knell rung, nominally one hour after the death. Tellers, 3 strokes = a man; 2 strokes = a woman, before the bell is raised. No bell used at funerals.

On Sundays, a bell is rung at 8 a.m. Bells chimed for half an hour before Services, one bell alone the last five minutes. One bell rung as "Sermon Bell" after Morning Service.


Many thanks to the Rev C. G. Hutchins, Rector.

23 July, 1552, Donygton other wyffe callyd Donton, Ifm iij belle in the steple & a sancta/bell

1714, 3 bells. Further on in B. Willis's MSS. (xxxviii., 14) is: 3 modern Bells.

### EDLESBOROUGH.

B. V. Mary.

1, 2.  T. MEARS OF LONDON F<sup>E</sup>CT 1828.  (30, 32½)

3. (*Ditto; and on Waist:*)

THE COMMITTEE (*sic*) WHO SUPERINTENDED  
THE REPAIRS AFTER THE FIRE 1828 WERE  
THE REV<sup>D</sup> W. B. WROTH. ROBERT CLARKE ESQ.  
MESS<sup>RS</sup> SMITH. TWIDELL. B. GRAY. T. GINGER & MEAD  
(33½)

4. (*Ditto on Shoulder; and on Waist:*)

EDLESBRO' CHURCH AND TOWER REPAIRED  
AND BEAUTIFIED AFTER THE FIRE 1828  
WILLIAM BRUTON WROTH. M.A. VICAR.  
MESS<sup>RS</sup> JOHN SMITH & } CHURCH WARDENS.  
BENJAMIN GRAY }  
J ADSETTS ARCHITECT. (36½)

5. (*Ditto on Shoulder; and on Waist:*)

THE FIVE BELLS WHICH HAD BEEN BROKEN  
DURING THE FIRE (MARCH 1828) WERE  
RECAST INTO SIX THE SAME YEAR (39½)

6. (*Ditto on Shoulder; and on Waist:*)

THE SPIRE OF EDLESBRO' CHURCH SET ON FIRE BY  
LIGHTNING; AND TOGETHER WITH THE INTERIOR OF  
THE TOWER DESTROYED. MARCH. 1828. (44)

S. 1828 (15)

23 July, 1552, Edelysborowgh (*also edlysborrow*) . . . in the steple v greate belle  
wh a sanctus bell a facryng bell.

28 July, 1637, Edgborough, 5 Bells & a clock. The butterices of the Steeple and  
Church and Isles and also in the battlem<sup>ts</sup> in decay in the stone worke and pgeting  
1714, Edgeborough, 5 bells.



Lipscomb, III., 349 :—

In the tower were originally five bells, of unusually large dimensions, the tenor having weighed 2900 lbs ; but in 1740, it was reduced about one cwt. on being re-cast. It formerly was inscribed, *Sancta Trinitas, Unus Deus Miserere nobis. . . . .*

The spire was set on fire by lightning, on Friday 21 March 1828, and the wood-work within the tower being consumed, the lead covering the roof was melted, and running down, the bells became red-hot, when they fell with a tremendous crash to the ground ; the tenor was broken, and all the rest (excepting the Saints' Bell) cracked by the water from the engines, then playing on the building ; by means of which, however, plentifully supplied from a copious well in the vicinity, the rest of the edifice escaped destruction, only one of the rafters of the roof of the nave being scorched by the heat of the lead.

The Rev. William Bruton Wroth, A.M., J.P., was presented by John William, Earl of Bridgewater, June, 1816. The old metal from the five bells destroyed by the fire, was said to have been used for the present bells.

In Messrs. C. and G. Mears's List, published 1852, the present tenor is by mistake stated to weigh 9 cwt. ; its real weight is probably rather over 15 cwt. The error was continued in subsequent editions of the Foundry List, down to that published 1891, when this ring was altogether omitted.

The bell-chamber is in good order, in spite of the windows not being protected by netting.

Lipscomb, III., 351, mentions that the Rev. George Burghope, B.A. (Vicar of this parish, 1667-91), bequeathed to the Minister and Parishioners certain lands, the rents of which (amounting at that time to £4 6s. 8d., clear of all Taxes), should be devoted towards the expenses of certain Lenten Services, etc., and for an Annual Sermon on May 26th, the day of his own funeral, and "3s. 4d. to the Clerk that tolls the Bell."

Death Knell on the day of the death, only if notice is given early ; otherwise at 10 a.m. on the following day. Tenor for persons upwards of thirteen years ; second for under that age. Tellers : 3 × 3 = a male ; 2 × 3 = a female.

On Sundays, the third is rung at 8 a.m., except when there is a Celebration at 8.30 ; then the saunce only is used. Bells chimed for twenty-five minutes before Matins and Evensong ; saunce for last five minutes. Old usage.

Ringin' early on Christmas Day. On New Year's Eve, the tenor tolled for last quarter of an hour before midnight, followed by ringin' for the New Year. Ringin' for weddings when required. Also on Queen's Birthday, Accession, and Coronation. Tenor used for Vestry Meetings.

No information concerning the bells in the churchwardens' accounts, which do not go far back.

Very many thanks to the Ven. Archdeacon Brooks, Vicar.

Dagnall, a hamlet in the parish, had formerly a Chapel-of-Ease, dedicated to All

Hallows. In 1550, the Chapel, "with the stone walls, bells, lead, and waste land to the said Chapel belonging," were granted to Thomas Reeves and others, "their heirs and assigns, for ever."\* No remains of the Chapel are now existing.

## EDGCOTT.

S. Michael.

1. (31½)  
 ✠ Sancta Katerina Ora Pro Nobis ▽ †
2. M<sup>R</sup> W: HOLT C. WARDEN. R: TAYLOR & SONS. FOUNDERS. MDCCCXXXIX. (33½)
3. JAMES ✠ KEENE ✠ MADE ✠ ME  
 †+†+† † 1626 † (34½)
- S. EDWARD HEM+NS B+STER FEC+T J730. .  
 +✠✠✠+ +✠✠✠+ +✠✠✠+ +✠✠✠+ (12)

Treble: by John Danyell, before 1460 (p. 33); the initial cross and capitals are on Plate XII., the shield and last cross are figs. 23 and 22; the stock is quite decayed, and I believe it to be the original one, of the fifteenth century; it has a mortise, cut horizontally through the centre, apparently for a lever, before the wheel was introduced; iron baldrick and splints to clapper. 2: has very small canons. Tenor (p. 163): the *fleur-de-lis* and pattern are Nos. 5 and 8 (the latter the reverse way up) on Plate XXVI.; crown-staple broken, probably not later than early in eighteenth century. Saunce: the ornament is fig. 85: cast with only four canons (besides the argent); lever instead of wheel.

Some slight repairs were probably effected by Taylor in 1829, otherwise frame and hangings are apparently seventeenth century, and are in the last stage of neglect, which is not surprising, as there is no way up the tower from inside, but a long ladder has to be carried from a farm, and an entrance made by one of the bell-chamber windows.

5 May, 1553, Edgcott, ij Great belle on fantis bell hanginge in the steeple.

In the 1637 visitation, Edgcott was inspected on 7 July, but the bells are not mentioned.

1714, 3 bells; as also in 1755.

## ELLESBOROUGH.

SS. Peter and Paul.

1. (26¾)  
 Mears & Stainbank, Founders, London. 1870.

\* Browne Willis's MSS.; and *Records of Bucks*, I., 189.

(On Waist:) “**O** ye **M**ountains, and **H**ills,  
 bless ye the **L**ord: praise him,  
 and magnify him for ever.”

2, 3, 4.

(29, 31, 32½)

∞ T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1823. ∞∞∞∞∞∞

5. G. MEARS &amp; CO. FOUNDERS LONDON 1863. (34½)

6. T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT. ∞∞∞∞∞ ROBERT  
 GREENHILL RUSSELL ESQ<sup>R</sup> PATRON. ∞∞∞

(On Waist:) REV<sup>D</sup> JOHN LEVISON HAMILTON RECTOR  
 JOSEPH ALLEN } CHURCH WARDENS 1823. (38)  
 THOS GURNEY }

Treble: an addition (not a re-cast) at the restoration of the Church. The “Whitechapel pattern” on 3 and 4, is a size larger than on 2. 5: evidently a re-cast from one of the 1823 ring. Tenor: weight given in Messrs. C. and G. Mears’s List as 9 cwt.; it would weigh at least a half-cwt. in excess. Robert Greenhill-Russell,\* son of John Russell Greenhill, who died 1813, was owner of Checquers, with the manors of Ellesborough, Grove, Seyton’s, and Mordaunts, etc.; he took the additional name of Russell by Royal Sign Manual, and became lord and proprietor of Ellesborough, and patron of the rectory; M.A., Ch. Ch., Oxford, 1787; M.P. for Thirsk; created Bart., 1832; died 1836. The Rev. John Leveson Hamilton, M.A., was inducted May, 1823, on the presentation of R. Greenhill-Russell, Esq., just mentioned; he died April, 1825, æt. 37.

23 July, 1552, Ellifboroughe, ij handbelle iij great belle.

17 July, 1637, Elfborough, 3 Bells. The butterices in decay and want pgeting both of Chur: &amp; Chanc &amp; steeple

1714, 3 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

Lipscomb, II., 183, says:—

Five modern bells (re-cast out of three), and a saints’ bell.

The new treble possibly swallowed up this latter, but there is no record or recollection of it.

In the churchwardens’ accounts, is:—

1825

April To M<sup>rs</sup> Mears for the Bells ... .. £141 ,, 18 ,, 2

\* Lipscomb, II., 195.

The hanging of the five bells, in place of older ones, about that year, is still recollected.

Death Knell tolled for an hour. For a man over 20, the tenor is used; for a woman over 20, the fifth; for a young person of either sex, between the ages of 10 and 20, the fourth; for a child between 5 and 10 years, the third; and for a child under 5, the second bell. At funerals, age and sex are distinguished as in the Death Knell.

On Sundays, the second bell is chimed at 9 a.m. The fourth is rung at 10 a.m. For the Services (11 and 3), all the bells chimed for half an hour previously.

Practice for Christmas ringing begins on S. Catherine's Day (25th November): midnight ringing on Christmas Eve, and New Year's Eve, and until a few years ago, on the Eve of Old Christmas Day (6th January) also: this last is now rung earlier in the evening. Ringing in the evening on the Queen's Birthday, Coronation Day, and 5th November. For Weddings when desired, or occasionally for someone connected with the belfry.

There is a legend that Queen Catherine was once lost in a fog, and found again on the 25th November (S. Catherine's Day); the event was announced by ringing on all the church bells in the country, and general rejoicing made.

The legend does not go on to explain which of the five Queen Catherines of England it refers to, but Catherine of Aragon was intimately connected with the county, for, as Lady Verney tells us in *Memoirs of the Verney Family* (I., 11), her dowry was derived from the revenues of Steeple Claydon: she was visiting in Buckingham when she received the news of Flodden Field; and "St. Katern's day" was held as a festival in her honour until not long ago, by the makers of pillow-lace in the county.

The churchwardens pay annually, 5s., formerly from the rates, and now from the church subscriptions, for the ringing on the three secular anniversaries.

Many thanks to the Rev. J. H. R. Sumner, Rector.

## EMBERTON.

All Saints.

- REV<sup>D</sup> THOS FRY, MINISTER,  
 1. JOHN LEETE, CHURCH-WARDEN'S: 1839. GOD SAVE  
 JAMES PAGE, THE QUEEN. (28)
- 2, 3. TAYLOR'S FOUNDER'S OXFORD. 1839. (29, 30½)
4. W: & J: TAYLOR BELL FOUNDER'S OXFORD  
 : 1839. (35¼)
5. "HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD." ALLELU-  
 IA. A: & J: TAYLOR BELL FOUNDER'S OXFORD. 1839.  
 (39)
- S. (*Blank*) (13)

Angular canons to all five; the crown-staple of the third does not lie in the same line as the canons, consequently the bell is hung "on the cross." Saunce: probably an eighteenth century bell. It used to hang outside the tower until a few years ago, when it was rehung, in the centre of the tower, out of reach, high above the other bells; and it was only by some exertion on my own part, aided by the energetic assistance of Mr. H. Booth, the sexton, a keen ringer, that I managed (in the absence of a ladder) to get within reach of it.

1714, 4 bells.

Lipscomb (IV., 140) mentions the former ring here: 1, *Ave Maria*; 2, a modern bell; 3, *In multis annis resonet campana Johannis*; 4, *Johes Andrewe, Rector de Emberton, me fieri fecit*. The treble was probably a fourteenth century bell, possibly by John Rofford (see p. 10); the second may very well have been at least as old as the seventeenth century; the inscription on the third was a common one during the fifteenth century. John Mordan, *alias* Andrew, who gave the old tenor, was presented to the Rectory of Emberton, 11th September, 1390, by Sir John Tyringham, Knt.; he exchanged to this living from Gothurst, now Gayhurst. He not only gave the great bell, but completed, as is supposed, the building of the church. He died 1410; a fine brass to him, is in the church, and is figured by Lipscomb (*ibid.* 141).

The Rev. Thomas Fry, of Lincoln Coll., Oxon. (M.A., December, 1798), who destroyed this interesting ring, was admitted on his own presentation, 27th November, 1804.

On Sundays, the bells are rung for Morning and Evening Service, and for at least a quarter of an hour (generally longer, especially on Festivals) after the Evening Service.

The Dinner Bell is rung on the second bell, every week-day at 1 p.m., for three minutes.


### The Clock Tower.

*Single.* ∴ IOHN RUDHALL GLOCESTER J806 (15)

The Clock Tower was erected by the Rev. Thomas Fry, to the memory of Margaret, his wife; the clock and bell were the gift of Miss Hughes, of Emberton. Sheahan, *Hist. of Bucks.*, p. 528, states that the clock tower "was erected by subscription in 1845." Possibly it was re-built, or restored at that date.

*ETON.* College Chapel—Our Lady Mary the Virgin.

*Service Bell.* PRAYES YE THE  
LORD 1637 (43½)

*Knell Bell.* H : VI : J440 : GAUDE : QUOD : POST : IPSUM  
 : SCANDIS : ET : EST : HONOR : TIBI : GRANDIS : IN  
 COELI : PALATIO  J777 : (49)  
THOS Swain Fecit

The Service Bell by Ellis Knight (p. 127). It hangs in the turret at the S.W. angle of the chapel. A staircase (in need of repairs) leads up to within 12 or 15 feet of the bell, but there is no means of ascending the remaining distance. Fortunately, at the time of my visit, several of Mr. Willis (the organ builder)'s men were at work in the Chapel, who kindly lent me a short ladder, and in spite of considerable opposition on the part of the chapel-keeper, I got it up the very narrow newel stairs, and reached the mouth of the bell; the inscription band, however, was even then only reached by standing on a trap-door (which, by another piece of luck, was off its hinges), propped up on end. So closely does the bell fit the turret, that it was with some difficulty that one's body could be forced between the lip of the bell and the wall, in corner after corner. The bell is fitted with an iron lever for chiming, but is only clappered, and was so misused as long ago, at any rate, as 1864, when it first summoned me to chapel.

The Knell Bell (p. 141) hangs on the roof of the Chapel, in a place like a larder, with a decayed door of corrugated iron. As long as the Chapel was the Parish Church, it was tolled for all funerals, but since the parochial functions of the Chapel ceased in 1875, it is only used when some College dignitary dies. It is hung for ringing, with an iron stay and slider. The medallion is fig. 51.

In *The Architectural History of the University of Cambridge*, by the late Robert Willis, and J. W. Clark (Cambridge, 1886, Vol. I.), the history is given of the foundation and building of Eton College, gathered from the old account books, which are freely quoted. Among these, is the wage book, kept by William Lynde, Clerk of the Works, marked *Jornale Anno primo*, covering from Monday, 3rd July, 1441, to Monday, 5th February, following. The first seven pages are missing, but on the next one, under the heading *Necessarie empte*, is recorded the purchase of twelve elm trees for *le clocher*, no doubt the bell-tower of the old Church, which stood just to one side of its successor, the College Chapel, and is frequently mentioned later on. The carriage of the bells from London is also recorded, and the provision of sundry irons and clappers for them.

The original entry is :—

Johani Profit de Wyndesore pro xij vlmis ab eo apud le Wyke emptis pro le clocher . . . xvjs. Johanni Hampton pro cariagio campanarum in london vsque aquam Thames xixd. : et pro cariagio earundem xijd. : . . . Et fabro london pro ijs, j quart' et xijlb ferri operati ad ponderand' dictas campanas precium libre ij*d.* Et eidem pro C, j quart' et xxjlb operat' in clapers pro eisdem campanis (&c.).

In the accounts for 1443, under the heading *Reparacio veteris ecclesie ibidem*, is

mentioned the carriage of two Bells from London, and the placing of them in the Belfry. It is also mentioned that on Sunday, 13th October, 1443, the "old collegiate church of Blessed Mary of Eton" was in use, and that the new church of S. Mary was not yet half finished. Between 1445 and 1447, the Belfry was repaired: *Remocione* [? *Renõcione*] *veteris campanilis ibidem*.

The next extract,\* from the accounts of Roger Keys (Clerk of the Works from Lady Day, 1448, to Michaelmas, 1450), dated 1448-49, is of special interest to campanologists, for though it does not itself refer to bells, it nevertheless supplies a long-sought name,—that of the owner of the well-known stamp, commonly called the "R.L. shield" (fig. 36, p. 53), with his approximate date:—

Et solut' xxij die marcij [1448] Rogero landen de Wokyngham loc' ad fundendum xvijlb metalli enei pro fumivectoriis de metallo regis . . . et eidem pro metallo et fusione xijlb. metalli enei de metallo suo proprio vijs.

Which may be rendered:—

And paid on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March to Roger Landen of the town of Wokingham, for casting 18 lbs. of bronze for flues, the metal found by His Majesty, . . . and to the same for 12 lbs. of bronze and the casting of it, the metal found by himself, 7s.

Edward IV. on coming to the throne (1461), proposed to annex Eton to S. George's, Windsor; and actually procured a papal Bull (13th November, 1463), sanctioning the union (see Lyte's *Eton*, ch. IV.); and, among other acts detrimental to the College, appears to have taken away two of its bells, and hung them up at S. George's Chapel† at Windsor Castle. It was not until the ninth or tenth year of his reign that he abandoned the annexation scheme, and made restitution of a part at least of the College property. The bells were then restored to their ancient Belfry, which was repaired to receive them. In the Audit Roll, 1470-71, under the heading *Reparaciones*, is:—

Et in denariis solutis . . . pro reparacione campanilis, et cariagio et translacione campanarum a Collegio Sancti Georgii ad nostrum Collegium lxxiij. s. . . Et in denariis solutis per Magistrum Ricardum Hopton Johanni Siluester, diuersis carpentariis et serratoribus ad reparacionem eiusdem campanilis lijs. xjd. ob. Et Johanni Lane, Johanni Whight, et Ricardo Reve per xvj dies circa le dawbyng eiusdem v. s. x. d.

These extracts show that the Belfry was of wood, plastered.

\* *Op. cit.* p. 405, *foot-note*.

† S. George's Chapel has actually no tower, and the bells belonging to it, hang in the Curfew or Clure tower, which is quite distinct from the chapel. The present bells there are eight in number: treble, cast 1741, and fifth, 1745, by Thos. Lester, of Whitechapel; 2 and 3, by W. Whitmore, 1650; the fourth, sixth, and seventh cast 1612, and the tenor in 1614, by I. W., who was without much doubt, John Wallis, of Salisbury.

In that year five Bellropes are paid for, whereas in previous years, as in 1468-69, only three are mentioned. The old church was probably demolished soon after 1475, although the vestry was not pulled down until 1516-17.

In *A History of Eton College*, by H. C. Maxwell Lyte, M.A., London, 1875, the substance of the statutes issued in Latin, by Henry VI., soon after founding the college, are given in English; these provide that besides a Chaplain, Clerks, Organist, Parish Clerk, and Choristers (p. 494), "There shall be thirteen poor lads or servitors between fifteen and twenty years of age, who shall assist in ringing the bells, cleaning the Church and Hall, and waiting on the first table at meals; two of them shall be assigned to wait on the Provost, and one on each of the Fellows and on the Head Master in their rooms. They shall receive no salary, and at the age of twenty-five they must either take holy orders or leave, unless they stay on as transcribers of books and manuscripts."

In 1714: At Eaton Colledge a very Large Bell, 2 other small in different Turrirts.

The inscription on the Knell bell is evidently copied from one of the original bells, from which the present bell is a re-cast.

In *Rawlinson's Collections for Eton College*, among the MSS. in the Bodleian Library, fo. 270b, date probably about 1715-16, and not later than 1734, is:—

Eaton Cap.

.....

ad fin. orient. 2 ang. Turres cum campanis 2

.....

max. campan. pend. 38<sup>q</sup> quæ traditur cœva esse cum Collegio, et a fundatore ipso efse donatam, circa coronam hæc datur inscriptio.

Gaude quod post ipsum scandis, et est honor tibi grandis in cœli palatio.

In an account in the *Records of Bucks.*, I., 226 (1856), of a visit to Eton chapel, is as follows:—

. . . it should be mentioned that one of the old bells, long used as a "passing-bell," being recently unhung, the following curious inscription was found on it, supposed to be addressed to the passing soul—" *Gaude, magnus honos erit tibi, quod post ipsum scandas in cœli palatiâ* "

I give this garbled version of the inscription as a good instance of how little reliance can be placed in records of bell inscriptions, even when they appear "in print" in the pages of so high-class a publication as the transactions of the County Architectural and Archæological Society.\* The existing bell, then apparently lately rehung, is obviously referred to, not its fifteenth century predecessor.

\* All copies of inscriptions, to be authentic, should be taken from rubbings; and casts made in all cases of the slightest difficulty.






S. John's was consecrated as a Chapel-of-Ease (succeeding an older building, erected 1769) in 1854, but was only constituted Parish Church, in 1875. The former bell was inscribed *Amici. Xopi. Johes.*, according to a note by Mr. Henry Wilson, of Windsor (1864), for which I am indebted to Mr. A. D. Tyssen. Diameter, 16 inches.

Chapel-of-Ease at Eton Wick (S. John the Baptist), consecrated 1869, one bell. Also the Cemetery Chapel, and the new "Lower School" Chapel.

*FARNHAM ROYAL.*

S. Mary.

1. **THO<sup>S</sup> LESTER & T<sup>‡</sup> PACK OF LONDON MADE US ALL J752**  
(*Underneath, incised:*)  $5 = J = J8$  (29)
2. **THO<sup>S</sup> LESTER & T<sup>‡</sup> PACK MADE ME J752**  
(*Underneath, incised:*)  $5 = J = 26$  (30)
- 3, 4. **MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON, 1876.**
5. **THOMAS LESTER & T<sup>‡</sup> PACK OF LONDON FECIT J752**  
  
(*Underneath, incised:*)  $8 = 3 = J8$
6. **THOMAS LESTER & THO<sup>S</sup> PACK<sup>‡</sup> OF LONDON FECIT J752**  
(*Underneath, incised:*)  $J2 = J = J6$  (41 $\frac{3}{4}$ )

Treble: cracked, and canons broken (p. 100). The former third and fourth were inscribed like the second, except that the weights were: third,  $6 = 0 = 8$ ; and fourth,  $7 = J = 0$ ; diameters, 32 and 34 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; both were cracked in the crown by 1864. For these I am indebted to the notes of Mr. Henry Wilson, kindly lent me by Mr. A. D. Tyssen. 5: canons broken. Tenor: weight given in the Foundry Catalogues as 12 cwt. The older bells turned. The tower was built in 1876, and the bells hung in it by Mears and Stainbank.

9 Aug: 1637. Farnam Roiall 4 Bells The Steeple wants repair & pargeting.

The same number in 1714, and until 1752.

Death Knell: tellers,  $3 \times 3 =$  a male;  $2 \times 3 =$  a female.

On Sundays, Sermon Bell at 9 a.m., the tenor for five minutes, followed by the treble for five minutes. For the Services, bells rung, or chimed if insufficient ringers present. Midnight ringing on Christmas Eve, and S. Sylvester's Eve (S. Sylvester's Day is December 31st; the Eve would therefore be the 30th; but probably ordinary New Year's Eve ringing is intended). Ringing on Queen's Accession and Birthday, and on the Prince of Wales's Birthday. Also for weddings when requested.

Many thanks to the late Rev. S. F. Marshall, formerly Rector.

*FAWLEY.*


S. Mary.

1. CAST BY JOHN WARNER &amp; SONS LONDON 1866 ❖ ❖



PATENT

2. § sanc ta mar gri ta ora pro no bis

3.   Sancte  Iohannes  Ora  Pro
 Nobis    □    ▽    ⊕    (36 $\frac{3}{4}$ )

2 : probably by John Saunders, of Reading, 1539-59 (p. 69) ; the rope-pattern stop is on Plate XIX. Tenor : from the Wokingham foundry (removed eventually thence to Reading) ; probably by Roger Landen, about the middle of the fifteenth century (p. 53) : initial cross, and capitals, Plates XV. and XVI. : the square stop is fig. 32, the older lion's head ; the shield is fig. 36, and the last is a groat stamp.

July, 1552, falley. If in the stepell iij belle.

12 Aug: 1637. 3 Bells. . . . A small timber building in the bellfry wherein is kept the Chest, one window in the bellfry dambd up. . . . The Steeple Church and steeple (*sic*) wants pgeting & the butterices of the steeple in decay.

1714, 3 bells.

A bell tolled for an hour before funerals.

On Sundays, the bells are chimed for half an hour before Services, a single bell for last five minutes.

No entries referring to the bells in the Register.

Thanks to the Rev. W. A. Tanner, Rector.

*FINGEST.*

S. Bartholomew.

Single. (*Incised:*)    J. HOBBS    LANE    END    1830.    (31 $\frac{1}{2}$ )

By a local iron founder (p. 264) ; a poor bell : hung with a wheel and stay, but no slider. On the stock is cut :—

(*On one end:*)    C W    C W  
                   T M    T × T    E × S  
                   May 29  
                   18                    30

Death Knell tolled on the day of death, if there is time before sunset, otherwise on the following day; nothing to distinguish age or sex. Tolling at funerals. Also used for weddings, and for vestry meetings.

Many thanks to the Rev. H. Joscelyne, Rector.

There exists a widely-known tradition, that the bells which this tower formerly contained, were removed to Hambleden; the most generally received version (at least here, but *vide* Hambleden) is, that Fingest parish was involved in debt, and that Hambleden parish paid off the debt on condition that the bells should be transferred to that tower.

All round the bell-chamber of this fine, early Norman tower are to be seen\* marks in the walls which seem clearly to indicate where the frame of a ring of bells was fixed. The existing frame is older than the bell, and consists of two cages, and the empty one has been in use. Unfortunately, in the indenture made in 1552, concerning Thingest, the list is gone.

14 Aug : 1637, Fingest, 1 Bell.

1714, Fingherst, 1 Bell.

The most likely explanation of the tradition—pure conjecture, however—seems to be, that Fingest had at one time a ring of bells (three or four, larger numbers being rare anciently), which disappeared previous to 1637—perhaps sacrilegiously sold at the time of the reformation—leaving only a single bell; that this bell, shortly after 1714, gave place to two, hung in a new frame; and that, within the next ten years, one (or both) of these went to Hambleden.

In the Bodleian Library, is an MS. *Account of Fingherst*, by Thomas Delafield, Curate there (Lipscomb gives the date as 1740). At p. 18, he wrote :—

I must not omit one thing, that the Three principal sides of the Hills that enclose Fingherst, according to the Scituation of the wind, and weather, give a double, and sometimes a treble Echo to the sound of the Church Bell: As I have often observed behind the Rectory House.

He evidently knew nothing of a second bell.

*FOSCOT.*

S. Leonard.

*Single. (Blank)*

(19½)

Flat crown, string pattern moulding on canons; long waist; probably early fourteenth century. Crown-staple broken and keyed; iron baldrick; old stock;

\* Or at least were to be seen before the tower underwent restoration in 1885; I have not seen the interior since.

straps nailed, but some are bolted as well; half-wheel, keyed, but probably not older than beginning of the present century.

The bell now hangs in the W. window; the glass is about nine inches inside the church, in a kind of oriel, facing *inwards*, and constructed of varnished deal, while flush with the outside of the wall is a wire grating, the bell being between.

The oldest inhabitant, James Bryant, told me there was formerly a "steeple" (a turret, I believe), and a second, larger, bell. This was sold *about* 1830, when some restoration was carried out in the church. John Bryant, the Parish Clerk, says the bell went to Akeley. It is said to have been sold to provide new seats, which were taken away again in the last restoration in 1888.

1553, ffofcot—two great belle [one fance bell]\*

July, 1637, Foxcot. Bells 2 . . . one window neere y<sup>e</sup> bellfry boarded in pt . . . boards of steeple torne.

1714, 2 bells.

At another place in B. Willis's MSS. (xxii., 84), is:—

Foxscotte . . . At the west end is a small wooden Turrit rough cast supported by the walls and Roof of the church covered w<sup>th</sup> Lead at Top slooping in which hang 2 small Bells.

And in his *Hist. Buck. Hund.*, are nearly the same words.

The bell is chimed for funerals.

On Sundays, it is chimed for fifteen minutes before Morning and Afternoon Service; also chimed on Christmas Eve at midnight; for this latter use, a charge of two shillings has been regularly made in the churchwardens' accounts.

Thanks to the Rev. A. J. F. Adams, Rector.

### FRIETH.

S. John.

Modern parish, taken out of Hambleden. Church consecrated 5th June, 1849. One small bell.

### FULMER.

S. James.

1. (24½)  
 s a n c t a            m a r i a            o r a            p r o            n o b i s            W  
i s

2. MR ESKRIGGE CH:WARDEN J74J THOMAS LESTER OF LONDON  
 MADE ME ○○○○○○○○○○ (25½)

\* Erased.

3. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1884 ∴

CHARLES JOYCE—RECTOR.

W. P. GASKELL } CHURCHWARDENS.  
JOHN SPROSEN }

25<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 1875 ∴

(27 $\frac{3}{4}$ )

4. Lord ♡ plead ♡ my ♡ cause  
♡ 1617 ♡

(On Waist:)

R ♡ E

(28 $\frac{1}{2}$ )

5. Our ♡ hope ♡ is ♡ in ♡ the ♡  
lord ♡ 1617

(On Waist:)

R ♡ E

(30 $\frac{1}{4}$ )

6. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1884 ∴

(On Waist:)

IN MEMORIAM

HENRY BUTTERFIELD—RECTOR.

C. T. GASKELL } CHURCHWARDENS.  
JOHN SPROSEN }

15 APRIL 1855 ∴

(On Sound-bow:) I WILL SING OF MERCY AND JUDGMENT ∴ (34)

Treble: from the Reading Foundry; probably by John Saunders, very shortly after he succeeded John White in the business, in 1539 (p. 67); the initials *is* are below the rims; turned, the single canons were broken previously. 2: Richard Eskrigge, Esq., High Sheriff, 1741, rebuilt Fulmer Place about 1742; turned, all canons broken (p. 99). 4 and 5: by Richard Eldridge (p. 243); both turned; their single canons broken. 3 and tenor: were given by Major William P. Gaskell, J.P., late churchwarden, formerly of Fulmer House. C. T. Gaskell, commemorated on the tenor was, if I mistake not, his father. These two bells are not recasts, but additions to the old ring of four. The Rev. Charles Joyce, M.A., of Exeter College, Oxford, was presented by the Dean and Canons of Windsor, in 1875. His predecessor, the Rev. Henry Butterfield, M.A., was presented in 1842; he was also a Minor Canon of Windsor. Mr. John Sprosen, churchwarden both in 1855 and 1875, is a baker of Fulmer. The augmented ring was hung by Warner, and was opened by a side of the Royal Cumberlands on September 20th, 1884, at a dedication Service, which was attended by a number of the neighbouring clergy. A short touch was rung during the Service, and at the conclusion, courses of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, and a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor.\*

\* *Bell News*, III. 308.

The present church was consecrated (by Bishop Barlow, of Lincoln)\* on All Saints' Day (1st November), 1610; the treble, therefore, comes from the older church.

18 July, 1552, fulfil, frist (*sic*) iij belles in the stypell & leade that the tope of the stypell is coverid wythe on handbell  
 8 Aug: 1637, ffulmer, 4 Bells. Sts bell.  
 1714, 4 (sanctus not mentioned).

*GAWCOTT.* S. Catherine? (*anciently* S. Andrew).

*Single.* T. MEARS OF LONDON F'ECIT 1827. (22½)

By Thomas Mears II. All canons broken off.

The ancient chapel here had long been demolished, when Mr. John West, a native of the village, built a chapel in 1806; the Rev. Thomas Scott (father of the late Sir G. G. Scott, R.A., who was born here) becoming the first Vicar. It was found to be so badly built, that it became necessary, in 1828, to rebuild the whole fabric.

*GAYHURST.* S. Peter.

*Single.* ANTHONY CHANDLER MADE ME 1672 (33)

(P. 227) Iron stay, bent to catch perpendicular wooden slider hung on side of cage. The church rebuilt 1728.

26 July, 1552 . . . hurfet. . . Inpmus in the steple iij bele a fanfe bele a hande bele & a facren bele.  
 1714, 3 bells.

Death Knell generally tolled on morning after death.

Chimed for Services, and no other uses.

No churchwardens' accounts.

Thanks to the Rev. C. Jerdein, Rector.

*GERRARD'S CROSS.* S. James.

1. BEHOLD I COME QUICKLY. (Note B. Weight, 2 cwt., 2 qrs., 0 lbs.)
2. WATCH & PRAY (Note A. Weight, 2 cwt., 2 qrs., 18 lbs.)

\* *Records of Bucks*, II. 85.

† Beginning perished; but conjectured in MS. index at the Record Office, to be *Gayhurst* (the old name was, however, *Gozhurst*).

3. OCCUPY TILL I COME (Note G. Weight, 3 cwt., 0 qrs., 6 lbs.)
4. THY KINGDOM COME (Note D. Weight, 4 cwt., 2 qrs., 21 lbs.)
5. MY HOUSE SHALL BE CALLED THE HOUSE OF PRAYER  
(Note G. Weight, 10 cwt., 0 qrs., 0 lbs.)

Each bell, no doubt, has in addition, **CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS, 1888.** They are hung rigid (without gudgeons), and form the Cambridge chimes for the clock. Chimed for Services by a chiming apparatus, as follows; the four upper bells for five minutes, at the half hour before; and for ten minutes, at the quarter before, the Service; the tenor for the last five minutes.

For the above I have to thank the Rev. A. Kennion, Vicar.

These bells take the place of a single bell, which was inscribed:—

CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1857  
(On Waist, Royal Arms, and underneath:) PATENT (25½)

This was hung in the ordinary way with gudgeons, but without stay, as it was never rung.

The five bells were presented at Easter, 1888 (together with a clock with three dials), by the Rev. W. Bramley Moore and Arthur John Bramley Moore, Esq., in memory of their father and mother, late of Langley Lodge, in this parish.

Modern parish; the church was consecrated in 1859.

*GRANBOROUGH.*

S. John Baptist.

1. **FEARE GOD** **1637** (26½)

2. MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON.

(On Waist:) THIS BELL WAS RECAST 1887

REV: A NEWCOMBE, VICAR

EDWARD DICKINS

HENRY BRAZIER } CHURCHWARDENS.

(29)

3. PRAYSE  YE  THE  LORDE 1623 

4.               

 ROBERT  ATTON  NATHANIEL  BOLT-  
TER 1608     (32½)

5.   **IN**  **Multis**  **Annis**  **Resonet**  **Cam-**

**pana**  **Mohannis**    (35½)



S. (*Blank*)(11 $\frac{3}{4}$ )

Treble: by Ellis Knight (p. 127); iron baldrick to clapper. 2: hung by some local practitioner on the old stock, etc., in January, 1888. Until its arrival, the entire ring was by Bucks and Berks founders; its predecessor was one of the few examples by the first of the Drayton Parslow founders, which have come down to our day; it was inscribed:—

✻RICHARD✻ CHANDELER      ✻      ✻ I 636 ✻      ✻  
(28 $\frac{3}{4}$ )

The stops were figs. 77, 78, and 79; two of each (p. 221). The bell was cracked through the incapacity of the sexton, or whoever officiated as steeplekeeper; it was re-stocked in 1804 (the date is cut on it), and quarter turned; since then the straps were allowed to slacken, and as this happened to a greater extent on one side than on the other, the lip of the bell, on the tighter side, was thrown against the frame; and the lip was actually worn away through the friction; so that the bell can hardly be blamed for, at last, giving up in disgust! 3: by Robert Atton, of Buckingham (p. 204), in the medium-sized lettering, samples of which (A, T,) are on Plate XXXI. The rose is No. 10, on Plate XXX.; iron baldrick to clapper. 4: is of special interest, having been apparently cast after Robert Atton's death, by his assistant; and also on account of the running *fleur-de-lis* pattern, fig. 69, showing some connection between this foundry and the Bagleys (with whom this pattern has been hitherto associated, p. 206). Lettering and rose as before, but the figures belong to the lettering, and are not the small original set used on the third. The three-bells stop is No. 11, on Plate XXX.; and the other one is the arabesque, fig. 68. Tenor: from the Wokingham foundry, probably by Roger Landen, about the middle of the fifteenth century (p. 54). Initial cross and capitals, on Plates XV. and XVI.; the square stop is the original lion's head, fig. 32, the shield is fig. 36, and the coin is a groat stamp; iron baldrick to clapper. Saunce: perhaps by one of the Chandlers, of Drayton Parslow; crown much honey-combed; one canon broken; iron baldrick; wooden lever. The stocks of all, except second, appear to be seventeenth century. 3 has a peculiar seventeenth century wheel; that of the treble is probably a little later; those of 2, 4, and 5, are perhaps of the same date as the stock of the second (*viz.* 1804).

The Pancake Bell was formerly rung here on Shrove Tuesday by women, who were paid a halfpenny each.

The Gleaning Bell is said to have been formerly rung in harvest time.

Death Knell, directly after the death, according to the "usual course," and the age of the deceased is tolled.

On Sundays, the bells were formerly rung for each Service, but the present vicar (instituted 1887) has altered this to chiming; a bell was also rung, as "Dinner

Bell," but the present vicar has caused this to be discontinued. The saunce is used for last five minutes before each Service.

Ringin on various Festivals ; among which is December 21st (S. Thomas's Day), when there is ringin at 5 a.m., for an hour. Also ringin on 5th November.

Thanks to the Rev. S. Phillips, Vicar ; they are also due to the late Rev. A. Newcombe, former Vicar.

23 July, 1552 Grenboroughe. iij great belle j Sancts bell  
1714, 5 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

*GRENDON UNDERWOOD.*

S. Leonard.

1. (34)  
 ✠ ✠ ✠ R O B E R T ✠ ✠ ✠ A T T O N ✠ ✠ ✠ 1621
2. RICHARD CHANDLER MADE ME †677 (37½)
3. CHANDLER MADE ME 1664 (41)
- S. ✠ THOMAS TUE THOMAS BUTLER C : = W :  
 J740. +✠✠✠+ +✠✠✠+ E : M : FECIT +✠✠✠+ (15¾)

Treble (p. 204) : the lettering is a mixture of the two smallest sets, on Plates XXX. and XXXI. ; the ornaments are Nos. 1 and 5 on the former. 2 : an early example by Richard Chandler III. ; letters 1 inch high, but very like the set (the smallest on Plate XXXIII.) used by his father Anthony, by whom the tenor was cast (pp. 226 and 227). Crown-staple of second broken, probably this century. Saunce : by Edward Hemins, of Bicester, Oxon (barely seven miles distant) ; the ornament is fig. 85 ; half-wheel, keyed, evidently same date as bell ; iron baldrick. Other clappers renewed. Seventeenth century frame, fixed to the walls. Stocks probably same dates as bells ; straps of all nailed and keyed. Tenor wheel keyed, the other two renewed.

No rule for Death Knell ; bells not used at funerals.

On Sundays, bells chimed for Services ; sanctus for last five minutes. Rung once a day on the last five or six Sundays before Christmas.

Ringin after all weddings.

There is a tradition that a silver bell is buried in the field near the church, where there is a trace of a moat.

Many thanks to the Rev. R. H. Pigott, Rector.

23 July, 1552, Grendon vnd<sup>r</sup>wood Itm iij great bellis Itm one Santtes bell

Among the items wanting at "Grendon 7 July 1637" are "lettices for steeple windowes." Bells not mentioned.

1714, 3 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

## GROVE.

*(Dedication unknown.)*

Single.                    ANTHONY CHAUDLER MADE ME 1676                    (22½)

(P. 227.) Straps nailed; central pair keyed; tiny new wheel, the church having been lately restored. Hangs outside in an open cot; and I had some trouble carrying a ladder to and from the church, and getting up by the roof—there being no way up inside.

July, 1637, Grove pva. 2 Bells.  
1714, one bell.

## HADDENHAM.

S. Mary.

1. J: BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1809. THO IM ALLOWD TO BE BUT SMALL, MY TONE IS HEARD ABOVE THEM AL (30½)
2. JOHN BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1809 \* (30¼)
3. † JOHN BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1809 (32¼)
4. † JOHN BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1809 † (34)
5. JOHN BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1809 † (35½)
6. † JOHN BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1809 † (38½)
7. † JOHN BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1809 JOSEPH FRANCKLIN ESQ<sup>R</sup> BENEFACTOR W RICHMOND SOLICITOR (41½)
8. † J TO THE CHURCH THE LIVING CALL † AND TO THE GRAVE DO SUMMON ALL † \* † † \* † \* JOHN BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1809 † EDWARD HEDGES & JOHN FRANCKLING CHURCH WARDENS (48¾)

\* = a double triangle, or six-point star; † = a Calvary cross; † = a cross *fichée*.  
(P. 106.) 7: Joseph Francklin, Esq., only son and heir of George Francklin, Esq, and Mary, his wife, was born 7th March, 1774. The rectorial estate of Haddenham was granted to him on lease, in succession to his father, by the Dean and Chapter of Rochester, in 1798, and renewed in 1805; High Sheriff of Bucks in 1803; died 30th November, 1814. After his decease, a lease was granted to George Francklin, and after him to John Francklin, who was born in 1803; the John Franckling whose name appears on the tenor, was probably of a different family. W. Richmond was not a lawyer, but "solicitor" simply intimates that he took the hat round, and was largely instrumental in getting the old ring of five, recast into the present eight. He was a ringer; and was grandfather of the present sexton; and in 1806 was churchwarden with Edward Hedges, whose name appears

on the tenor. The latter was of Scotsgrove Hill, in this parish; he died 5th May, 1833, aged sixty-one, and was buried here.\*

23 July, 1552, Haddenham

Impmis iij belle & a litle bell hanginge in the steple & a clocke If ij handbelle

July, 1637, 5: Bells & S<sup>s</sup> Bell A Clock A feat at the Bellfry dore incroching into the Isle.

1714, 5 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

### HALTON.

S. Michael.

- |       |   |                                                                        |                                        |
|-------|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 1.    | ‡ | J: BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1815.                                         | ‡ (29 $\frac{3}{4}$ )                  |
| 2, 3. |   |                                                                        | (30 $\frac{3}{4}$ , 32 $\frac{1}{4}$ ) |
|       | ‡ | J: BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1814.                                         | ‡ *                                    |
| 4.    | ‡ | SIR JOHN DASHWOOD KING BENEFACTOR. ‡ J:<br>BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1814. | (35 $\frac{1}{2}$ )                    |

23 July, 1552, Haulton If iij bells yn y<sup>e</sup> steple & one sanct<sup>3</sup> bell & a farcrnge bell.  
1714, 4 bells.

Lipscomb, II., 224: The Church "was entirely rebuilt in a very elegant manner in 1813, at the expense of Sir John Dashwood King, Bart. Patron and Lord of the Manor." . . . "In the tower are four bells, recast from three in the old church."

The treble was perhaps added as an after-thought, and may not be a portion of the old bells. Sir J. D. King, born 1754, Lord of the Manors of West Wycombe and Halton, M.P. for Bishop's Castle, Salop, succeeded to the properties on the death of his father (of the same name) in December, 1793. The advowson and Manor of Halton were purchased by the elder Sir John's father, Sir Francis Dashwood, Bart., from the Fermors, about 1720.† The ornaments on the bells are the same as the first two at Haddenham. All rehung by Warner (?) about 1883, or 1884.



### HAMBLEDEN.

S. Mary.

- |    |                                                                                                    |          |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. | GEORGIUS REX A † D † 1724 D † IONES R † LANE CH † W †<br>R † PHELPS MADE ME † † †                  |          |
| 2. | FEARE                                                                                              | GOD 1634 |
| 3. | GEORGE DEANE GAVE THIS BELL                                                                        | 1634     |
| 4. | JOHN WARNER & SONS CRESCENT FOUNDRY LONDON 1857<br>(On Waist, Royal Arms, and underneath :) PATENT |          |

\* Pedigree of the family of Hedges, in *History of Thame Church* (p. 651), by the Rev. F. G. Lee, D.D., F.S.A.

† Lipscomb, II., 221, 222.

5.  PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1778   
 (Same pattern all round underneath.)

6.        
      
**Virgo** **Maria** ⊕ □ (41½)

A smaller size of the two ornaments on the treble (p. 98), is shown at the top of Plate XXI. 2 and 3: by Ellis Knight (p. 127). Tenor: from the Wokingham Foundry, early in the fifteenth century (p. 51). The initial cross and capital letters are on Plates XV. and XVI.; the square stamp is the older Lion's Head, fig. 32; the circular one is a groat. The five oldest bells are turned; the first three have lost their single canons; the tenor has lost them all; 4: has square canons.

Death Knell: sometimes tolled on the day of the death, but generally on the morning following. Tellers: 3 × 3 = a male; 2 × 3 = a female; one of the smaller bells used for a child. Ringing at funerals occasionally, if requested.

On Sundays, the bells are usually chimed for a quarter of an hour before the Services; rung on first Sunday in the month, and occasionally on one of the other Sundays. Tenor generally alone for last three minutes.

Ringling generally twice a week during winter months. Ringing on Christmas and New Year's Eves; on November 5th; on the Queen's Birthday; and on the great Church Festivals. Also for weddings when desired.

Many thanks to the Rev. C. M. Wetherall, Rector; and especially, both to him and to Mr. Jas. Lailey, of Colstrop, churchwarden, for the facilities afforded me for making extracts from the churchwardens' accounts.

18 July, 1552, hañmulden Iñm iij belle

Thes pcelle folde for the reperacions of the churche & for the releffe of the pore wt the hole confent of the paryfhe [in lent-wife twelmonyth]\*

Inp̄mis a bell.

(From a second Indenture dated that year, the greater part of the inventory is torn off.)

14 Aug: 1637, 5 Bells . . . the steeple is crackt in the stone worke & wants p̄geting . . . & the foundacons of the Church & steeple.

1714, 5 bells.

Langley (*Hist. Hund. Desborough*, published 1797, p. 247) records that:—

The tower, which stood formerly between the church and chancel, was taken down in 1703, and in 1721 the present tower was built at the west end. There is a ring of bells, and on the fifth [*i.e.*, the tenor] this inscription: **Ora mente pia pro nobis, Sancta Maria.**

\* Added in a different handwriting.

That tower, as shown by the the churchwardens' accounts, must have been begun about 1719, and been in a forward state, if not finished, by the autumn of 1720. The bulk of the bill for it was paid in 1721. It was pulled down and rebuilt, and the bells rehung, in 1884, as a memorial of the late Rector, Canon W. H. Ridley.

There is a tradition that some of these bells came from Fingest; the most generally accepted version, here, being that, "once upon a time," in "the good old days," the Rectors of the two parishes played cards together for high stakes. Eventually, the Rector of Fingest, having lost all his available cash, staked the bells of his parish church, and again losing, the bells were transferred to Hambleden tower. Fingest (p. 387) at the present time only possesses one modern bell, the successor of two (according to the evidence of the frame), while marks in the tower walls seem to show that a larger number hung there at some previous time.\*

The present Rector of Hambleden, the Rev. C. M. Wetherall, believes it to be true that some of the bells here, originally belonged to Fingest, but does not credit the manner in which they are alleged to have been acquired.

It seems obvious, from the documentary evidence above and below, that none of the five lower bells came from Fingest; but we have no such evidence concerning the treble, dated 1724. It is quite within the bounds of possibility that this represents a bell from Fingest, recast, to be in tune with the ring of five, already here. As no charge appears in the churchwardens' accounts for casting, recasting, carriage, hanging, etc., it is further possible that *two* bells came from Fingest, and that the over-plus of metal paid all expenses.

Moreover, in the accounts, under date April, 1747, is a charge "for a set of Bell rops and tinker." The latter word means "tinkler," one of the commonest names to this day for a saunce bell. The word recurs in the accounts until 1793. In 1637, neither parish possessed one. This might represent the change out of the second Fingest bell, after the payment of all expenses with the rest of the metal.

All this is, however, the merest conjecture, and merely put forward as a possible explanation of the tradition, which, in more than one form, is so widely known, as to make it likely that it has *some* foundation in truth.

It would seem from the following quotations from the churchwardens' accounts, that the number of bells here, until 1634, was three; of which bells the tenor (with the same dedication as the church), still remains. In that year the old treble and second were recast by Ellis Knight, of Reading, and a new treble and second added in front of them; the treble paid for partly by rate, and partly by voluntary subscriptions, and the second, the gift of Mr. George Deane. The present treble (augmenting the ring to six), was, as already stated, an *addition* (not a recast) in 1724.

\* There was only one bell there in 1637, and also in 1714.

EXTRACTS FROM THE OLD CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNT BOOK,  
*which was only finished at Easter, 1888, having been "bought and brought into the church  
 on Easter munday beeing the 30 of march, 1635."*

Robert Sheepwashe\* his Acconmpt for monies  
 by him Receiued and difburfed for Reparations  
 done in an about The Tower fframe and bells  
 ther in Anno i634 as ffolloweth

|                                                |                 |     |        |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----|--------|
| Dame Elizabeth dowager Counties of Sunderland† | ...             | ... | 5—0—0  |
| Greenland*                                     | ...             | ... | 4—18—8 |
| M <sup>r</sup> Huntlye                         | ...             | ... | 1—18—8 |
| M <sup>r</sup> Timothe Doylee*                 | ...             | ... | 2—10—8 |
| Robert Dinham                                  | ...             | ... | 1—4—0  |
| George Deane                                   | ...             | ... | 1—10—8 |
| (and others) The whole fum of<br>this Rate is  | } — 49 — 14 — 4 |     |        |

**George Deane** youngest Sunn to his father John  
 This bell Deane of Collmantrop‡ in his Life time gave the Second }  
 Coft *£* Bell at his owne Coft and Charge to the Church of = } 32 —  
 Hambleden This Bell was brought into the Church  
 by the fayde George Deane in July 1634:

(The following account is at the other end of the book:—)

\* There are monuments in the church to members of the Shipwash family, dating from 1457. Langley (*Hist. Hund. Desborough*) records that a Robert Shipwash bought the manor of Greenland or Ewden, in this parish (now the property of the Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P.) from George Chowne. He does not mention the date, but that Robert Shipwash must have been an ancestor of the churchwarden of 1635; for Greenland had passed before this date into the possession of Sir Robert D'Oyley in right of his wife. Sir Robert D'Oyley predeceased her, and she married again twice (to Sir Henry Neville, and to Sir William Periam). After her death, in May, 1621, the estate passed to Sir Robert D'Oyley's brother John, and descended to the latter's son, Sir Cope D'Oyley (buried here). His eldest son, Sir John D'Oyley, succeeded, and owned Greenland when it was garrisoned for King Charles, and stood a siege for *six months*, finally surrendering in July, 1644. The Mansion being destroyed, Sir John sold the estate in 1651, to Bulstrode Whitlock, Esq. Others of the D'Oyley family lived for many years at Parmoor in this parish, and Mr. Timothy D'Oyley was probably one of them.

† Widow of Emanuel, Lord Scrope; he was lord president of the north, and created Earl of Sunderland, June 19th, 1627. He married Elizabeth, sister to John, Earl of Rutland; but as they had no son, the title became extinct at his decease, and her description here as the *Dowager* Countess, though perfectly correct, is not in accordance with its usual modern sense.

‡ Now Colstrop.

Monies Received by William: Hillyar towards the Little Bell: Anno: 1634

|                                                     | <i>£</i> | <i>s</i> | <i>d</i> |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Receiued of the Rate towards the Little bell ... .. | 15       | 0        | 2        |

The names of those that Did freeleye giue towards the fayde bell

(A list of subscriptions follows, amounting to £12 8s. 10d., beginning :—)

Inprimis: the Coutice of funderlands houfeholde

William Hillear his Accompt for monies Difburfed by the Apoyntment of Mr Robert Sheepwafhe as followeth

|                                                                                                                      | <i>li</i> | <i>s</i> | <i>d</i> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Item for the Casting of the third an fowrth bells ... ..                                                             | 7         | 0        | 0        |
| Iff for two an thirtye pound of mettelle that was added ... ..                                                       | 1         | 12       | 0        |
| Iff for the Casting of the olde braffes ... ..                                                                       | 0         | 4        | 0        |
| Iff for the new braffes ... ..                                                                                       | 0         | 7        | 6        |
| Iff or Expences at Reading ... ..                                                                                    | 1         | 9        | 3        |
| Iff for the Carrage of timber from milend* ... ..                                                                    | 0         | 1        | 0        |
| Iff to Robert Rockhall for the like timber Carrage ... ..                                                            | 0         | 2        | 0        |
| Iff for timber for the wheeles 17 foote ... ..                                                                       | 0         | 8        | 0        |
| Iff for wichhazell boards for the bells ... ..                                                                       | 0         | 5        | 0        |
| Iff for fawing of the fame timber ... ..                                                                             | 0         | 1        | 8        |
| Iff for fower foules of Ashe for the wheeles ... ..                                                                  | 0         | 9        | 0        |
| Iff to Mr Robert Sheepwafhe for one lode & 22 foote<br>of timber at six pence the foote ... ..                       | 1         | 16       | 0        |
| Iff for 0120 foote of plancks ... ..                                                                                 | 0         | 17       | 4        |
| Iff for eighteene foote an a halfe of boards ... ..                                                                  | 0         | 1        | 6        |
| Iff for three an twentye foote of timber at 6 <sup>d</sup> the foote ... ..                                          | 0         | 11       | 6        |
| Iff for 56 faddam of Line for the belles at 3 <sup>d</sup> a fadam ... ..                                            | 0         | 14       | 0        |
| Iff to olde Richard Phillips for woorke ... ..                                                                       | 0         | 14       | 0        |
| Iff to olde Richard Phillips an his boye for one dayes worke ... ..                                                  | 0         | 2        | 6        |
| Iff to olde Richard Phillips for one dayes woorke ... ..                                                             | 0         | 1        | 6        |
| Iff to younge Richard Phillips for 28 dayes woorke<br>at 17 <sup>d</sup> the daye Cometh to ... ..                   | 1         | 19       | 6        |
| Iff payde to hugh thorne for himselfe and his<br>boye for 9 Dayes worke at 2 <sup>s</sup> & fixpence a daye } ... .. | 1         | 2        | 6        |
| And for his Rabnets ... ..                                                                                           | 0         | 1        | 0        |
| Iff to Ralfe Warden for halfe an hundred of Eight pennie nailes ... ..                                               | 0         | 0        | 4        |
| Iff to goodman kible for yron worke and for<br>mending of the greate bell Clapper } ... ..                           | 3         | 5        | 8        |
| Iff to george Deane for monies he Layed out ... ..                                                                   | 1         | 16       | 7        |
| Iff for the bonds for or securytie ... ..                                                                            | 0         | 2        | 0        |

\* The old manor house of Ewden, or Yewden, is situated at Mill End, on the high road to Henley; the village, with the Church, lies half a mile off the high road.



|                                                                                                     |     |     |         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|---------|
| Item to Richard Barloe for one loade & 42<br>foote of timber at 27 <sup>s</sup> the loade Cometh to | ... | ... | 2—9—8   |
| l̄ to the sayers for owne dayes worke                                                               | ... | ... | 0—3—0   |
| l̄ to John mundaye for Carrage of timber<br>and fand an other Lumber                                | ... | ... | 0—5—0   |
| To Richard Longe for Carrying of sum boards                                                         | ... | ... | 0—1—6   |
| Total Sum is                                                                                        |     |     | 28—10—6 |

## Monies Difburshed by Robert Dinham Churchwarden in 1634

|                                                     |     |     |              |             |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|--------------|-------------|------------|
| Imprymis to the workemen                            | ... | ... | ...          | 3—1—8       |            |
| payde to hugh thorne                                | ... | ... | ...          | 1—2—6       |            |
| l̄ for the carriage of three Loade of timber        | ... | ... | ...          | 0—12—0      |            |
| l̄ to William ffennell                              | ... | ... | ...          | 0—1—3       |            |
| l̄ to John Deane towards the carriage of the belles | ... | ... | ...          | 0—10—0      |            |
| l̄ for timber                                       | ... | ... | ...          | 0—15—0      |            |
| l̄ to Richard Bush for one dayes woorke             | ... | ... | ...          | 0—1—3       |            |
| Total Sum is                                        |     |     | <i>li</i> 6— | <i>s</i> 3— | <i>d</i> 8 |

The Total Sum is ... *li* 34—*s* 14—*d* 2

## William Hillear his Acompt for the f Chardge of the Little Bell 1634:

|                                                 |     |     |     |               |              |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|---------------|--------------|
| Inprimis the New Bell Coft                      | ... | ... | ... | <i>li</i> 26— | <i>s</i> 16— |
| The Brasses Coft me                             | ... | ... | ... | 0—            | 7—           |
| or Expences at Reading                          | ... | ... | ... | 0—            | 17—          |
| To goodman Stroode for hanging of the Bell      | ... | ... | ... | 0—            | 8—0          |
| Item for ale for the workemen                   | ... | ... | ... | 0—            | 2—2          |
| To goodman Kible for yron wooke                 | ... | ... | ... | 1—            | 7—6          |
| Item for the bonds for o <sup>r</sup> securitie | ... | ... | ... | 0—            | 2—0          |

(A Rate was made "for the Reparations of the Church" in 1636.)

1636 giue to the Ringers the fift of november ... 0—1—0

(Account) for the yeares 1638 and 1639. (After) the 4 of october 1639

|                                                                                        |     |     |                |                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|----------------|----------------|
| pd hughe thorne for mending the frame of the bells                                     | ... | ... | <i>s</i> 2     | <i>d</i> 8     |
| pd for bellrops                                                                        | ... | ... | 13             | 4              |
| pd to wiffm kibble for mending the bell clapper & making feate<br>henges               | ... | ... | 7              | 8              |
| pd for drinke for the ringers on the Kings holy Day                                    | ... | ... | 1              | 6              |
| (After) the 17 <sup>th</sup> of Aprill 1640. laid out to ringers on the kings holy Day | ... | ... | 3              | 4              |
| 1641 paid for ringing the 5 of nouember                                                | ... | ... | 0—             | 2—6            |
| for bellropes                                                                          | ... | ... | 0—             | 4—6            |
| 1651 To Thorne for mendinge y <sup>e</sup> Bells                                       | ... | ... | 5 <sup>s</sup> |                |
| To Rackestraw for leather for y <sup>e</sup> Bells                                     | ... | ... | 2 <sup>s</sup> | 4 <sup>d</sup> |

|                                                                                            |                             |                                     |      |        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|------|--------|
| To Hugh Wiggons for ye Ringers                                                             | ...                         | ...                                 | ...  | 1—0    |
| To Kible for mendinge ye Bells                                                             | ...                         | ...                                 | ...  | 6—     |
|                                                                                            |                             |                                     | paid | 14—4   |
| <hr/>                                                                                      |                             |                                     |      |        |
| * 13 <sup>th</sup> of Aprill 1653                                                          | Laid out . . . 1652         | For Bell Ropes                      | ...  | 7—0    |
|                                                                                            | The account . . . .         | 24 <sup>th</sup> daie of March 1667 |      |        |
|                                                                                            | more to ffoft for Bellropes | ...                                 | ...  | 0—13—6 |
| (No more detailed accounts until) the halfe yeare ending this 11 <sup>th</sup> Aprill 1710 |                             |                                     |      |        |

|               |                                                                           |                                       |     |     |          |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|----------|
| 1709          | Novr .5:                                                                  | For ringing ye bells                  | ... | ... | —: .5 :— |
| 1710          | for 4 belropes                                                            | ...                                   | ... | ... | 0—0—4*   |
| 1716          | May 2 <sup>d</sup>                                                        | To ye Ringers of ye thanksgiving day† | ... | ... | —: 5 :—  |
| 1717          | pd at a meting about the Tower                                            | ...                                   | ... | ... | 00—15—00 |
|               | pd the Ringers the Kings Crowneticon day‡                                 | ...                                   | ... | ... | 00—02—06 |
|               | pd the Ringers the :5: of Nouember                                        | ...                                   | ... | ... | 00—05—00 |
| 1718\|\| | Oct <sup>b</sup> : 24 day                                                 | Giuen to the Ringerf Kings Crown      | ... | ... | 0— 2—6   |
|               | Nouem <sup>b</sup> : 5 day                                                | Giuen to the Ringers                  | ... | ... | 0— 5—0   |
| 1719 (Aprill) | ffrances Sharpe                                                           | } Churchwardens                       |     |     |          |
|               | John Turrell —                                                            |                                       |     |     |          |
|               | Continues Churchwardens —                                                 |                                       |     |     |          |
|               | and to stay out of Ofes for 10 year if the stepell be bilt in there time. |                                       |     |     |          |

|             |                |                      |     |     |       |
|-------------|----------------|----------------------|-----|-----|-------|
| (1719) 1720 | October 20 day | giuen to the Ringers | ... | ... | 0 2 6 |
|             | Nouem 5 day    | giuen to the Ringers | ... | ... | 0 5 0 |

(Entries for "fcafol pooles," "Deales," &c., were probably for the Tower.)

It is agreed by a Vestery of thes p<sup>1</sup>/<sub>v</sub>s this 19<sup>th</sup> day of Aprill 1720 that the present Church wardenes shall haue the rates Alowed them to goe forward with the Tower: witnes our hande

(10 signatures)

|             |                       |                                        |     |     |          |
|-------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------------|-----|-----|----------|
| (1720) 1721 | Sept <sup>o</sup> . 8 | To Henry Coles for casting ye brafses  | ... | ... | 2 13 : 6 |
|             | 28                    | To W <sup>m</sup> Smith for Bell ropes | ... | ... | —14 :—   |
|             | Oct <sup>o</sup> : 30 | Gave ye Ringers on ye Prince birthday  | ... | ... | — .5 :—  |
|             | Novr 5                | Gave ye Ringers                        | ... | ... | — .5 :—  |

\* Marvellously cheap bellropes ! probably a mistake of the churchwarden's, for the figures are quite unmistakable.

† Doubtless after the trial of the Preston prisoners, in connection with the rebellion headed by the Pretender.

‡ October 20th.

|| The accounts do not run successively. A churchwarden occasionally wrote his account several pages ahead of the last, and succeeding C.W.'s used up these empty pages. I am not positive that I have sorted them without a mistake, between this date and 1722.

|                  |                                                     |     |     |     |            |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------------|
| March 29 (=1721) | Pd for Bell ropes                                   | ... | ... | ... | — : 15 : 6 |
| April 7          | To Richd Rance for Leathers for ye bells            | ... | ... | ... | — 7 —      |
| Augt 17          | To W <sup>m</sup> Plommer for helping abt. ye bells | ... | ... | ... | — : 2 —    |

(Various entries for "Timber," "scaffoll boards," &c., raise the year's expenditure to the abnormal amount of £281, odd; and are no doubt accounted for by the building of the Tower.)

The difbustementes . . . in the yeare 1721

(contain numerous entries of payments for a few "dayes work," and probably imply the building of the tower; but in no instance is the nature of the work specified except :—)

paid the smith for smalirnes ... .. 00 1 0

(which does not prove that the work was for the tower. The bells could, at any rate, be rung during the latter part of the year.)

|      |                              |                                                                                    |     |     |     |             |
|------|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------------|
|      | october 20                   | guiuen to the Rineres                                                              | ... | ... | ... | 0 2 6       |
|      | nouember 5                   | giuen to the Ringres                                                               | ... | ... | ... | 0 5 0       |
| 1722 | Jan ye : 29 <sup>th</sup> :  | Paid to ye : Ringers upon ye : Kings Coronation                                    | ... | ... | ... | £— : 5 : —  |
|      | Novr ye : 5 <sup>th</sup> :  | Given to ye. Ringers                                                               | ... | ... | ... | £— : 5 : —  |
| 1723 | Novr ye 20 <sup>th</sup> :   | Gave ye Ringers at ye Kings Birth Day.                                             | ... | ... | ... | £— „ 5 „ —  |
|      |                              | Gave Ditto at ye Kings Coronation Day                                              | ... | ... | ... | £— „ 5 „ —  |
|      |                              | Gave more ye 5 <sup>th</sup> Novr :                                                | ... | ... | ... | £— „ 5 „ —  |
|      | Feb 24 <sup>th</sup> (=1724) | p <sup>d</sup> for Bell Ropes                                                      | ... | ... | ... | £— „ 15 „ 6 |
|      | April 2 <sup>d</sup>         | P <sup>d</sup> M <sup>r</sup> Denhams Bill for work don on M <sup>r</sup> Doyley's | }   | ... | ... | 2 „ 5 „ 7   |
|      |                              | Isle & hanging ye Bells                                                            |     |     |     |             |
| 1724 | May 29                       | Gave ye Ringers on ye Kings Birth Day and King                                     | }   | ... | ... | £— „ 5 „ —  |
|      |                              | Char <sup>t</sup> Restoration                                                      |     |     |     |             |
|      | Augst 22                     | p <sup>d</sup> John Houfe & In <sup>o</sup> Arthur for turning ye Claper of        | }   | ... | ... | £— „ 13 „ 9 |
|      |                              | ye Bell                                                                            |     |     |     |             |
|      | Novr 5                       | Gave ye Ringers                                                                    | ... | ... | ... | £— „ 5 „ —  |
|      |                              | Gave ye Ringers at ye Kings Coronation                                             | ... | ... | ... | £— „ 5 „ —  |
|      | Mar 4 (=1725)                | p <sup>d</sup> for Bell Ropes                                                      | ... | ... | ... | £— „ 17 „ — |

No mention is made of the addition of the treble bell in this year, nor does its cost appear in any succeeding year (beyond some very trifling charges recorded in place). David Jones was one of the churchwardens in 1724, and Green Raynolds was the other one; but Richard Lane's\* signature appears constantly at this date, and in two instances, it immediately succeeds that of David Jones, so he may possibly have taken G. Raynolds's place in the churchwardenship.

Any way, these two names on the bell prove that it was cast for this parish;

\* Richard Lane, Esq., owned Mill End (separated from Greenland) in right of his mother. He was High Sheriff of Bucks in 1756. His widow (who married again) was still alive when Langley published his *History of Desborough Hundred*, in 1797.

but as there is no allusion to its cost in the accounts, it seems possible that the tradition concerning Fingest, may be true of this bell, and that it was recast on removal here, to be in tune with the ring.

|      |                                        |                                                                                    |     |     |         |
|------|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|---------|
| 1725 | May 29.                                | Paid for Ringing on the K <sup>gs</sup> Birth=Day                                  | ... | ... | 0=5=00  |
|      | Sept: <sup>br</sup> 30.                | Pd for a Bell=Rope                                                                 | ... | ... | 0=3=4   |
|      | October 20                             | Pd y <sup>e</sup> Ringers on y <sup>e</sup> Kings Coronation Day                   | ... | ... | —:5:—   |
|      | Novr: 5                                | pd. for Ringing                                                                    | ... | ... | —:5:—   |
|      | Feb. 15 (=1726)                        | pd. for 6* Bell Ropes                                                              | ... | ... | —:19:6½ |
| 1726 | (May y <sup>e</sup> 27 <sup>th</sup> ) | pd for Ringing twice                                                               | ... | ... | £—:15:— |
|      |                                        | pd for fitting y <sup>e</sup> little Bell†                                         | ... | ... | £—:5:—  |
|      |                                        | pd for a new Bell Rope                                                             | ... | ... | £—:3:—  |
|      |                                        | pd to Plummer for fastening y <sup>e</sup> Bells                                   | ... | ... | £—:2:6  |
| 1727 | May y <sup>e</sup> 28                  | for Ringing                                                                        | ... | ... | 0 5 0   |
|      | (June y <sup>e</sup> 29)               | pd for Ringing on y <sup>e</sup> Crownation Day                                    | ... | ... | 0 7 6   |
|      |                                        | pd for Ringing on his majestys berthday<br>and on y <sup>e</sup> fifth of November | } . | ... | 0—7 6   |
|      | april (=1728)                          | pd for Bell ropes                                                                  | ... | ... | 0 7 2   |
|      |                                        | . . . Disburstments . . . for y <sup>e</sup> year 1730                             |     |     |         |
|      | (May 30)                               | pd for Ringing                                                                     | ... | ... | 0—5—0   |
|      | Novr: y <sup>e</sup> 9                 | pd for Ringing                                                                     | ... | ... | 0—15—0  |
| 1731 | Apri 8                                 | pd for Bell Ropes                                                                  | ... | ... | 1—2 0   |
|      |                                        | pd John Williams for mending y <sup>e</sup> Bell Claper                            | ... | ... | — 8—6   |
|      |                                        | pd for oyle for y <sup>e</sup> Bells...                                            | ... | ... | 0—8—6   |
|      |                                        | (ditto)                                                                            |     |     | (ditto) |
| 1731 | Octobr                                 | pd for Ringing                                                                     | ... | ... | 1—0—0   |
|      | Ian (=1732)                            | pd Mr Cox for oyle                                                                 | ... | ... | 0—1—0   |
|      | Aprill y <sup>e</sup> 10 1732          | pd for Bell Ropes                                                                  | ... | ... | 1—1—4   |
| 1733 | Octobr: y <sup>e</sup> 28              | pd Iohn Plumer for Ringing mony                                                    | ... | ... | 1—0—0   |
|      | Aprill y <sup>e</sup> 3 (=1734)        | pd for oyle...                                                                     | ... | ... | 0—1—0   |
|      |                                        | pd for y <sup>e</sup> Bell Ropes                                                   | ... | ... | 1—1—0   |
| 1734 | Octobr                                 | pd for Ringing                                                                     | ... | ... | 1—0—0   |
|      | (Iany: y <sup>e</sup> 15)              | pd for a Sett of Bell Ropes                                                        | ... | ... | 1—1—0   |
|      |                                        | pd Iohn Cox for oyle for y <sup>e</sup> Bells                                      | ... | ... | 0 1—0   |
| 1735 | May y <sup>e</sup> 29                  | paid for Ringing                                                                   | ... | ... | 0—5—0   |
|      | Octobr: y <sup>e</sup> 15              | pd for Ringing                                                                     | ... | ... | 0—5—0   |
|      |                                        | (ditto, on Oct. 30, and "Nov <sup>br</sup> : y <sup>e</sup> 5")                    |     |     |         |
|      | Aprill y <sup>e</sup> 22               | pd M <sup>rs</sup> Cox for oyle for y <sup>e</sup> Bells                           | ... | ... | 0—1—6   |
|      | 24                                     | pd for Six bell ropes                                                              | ... | ... | 1—1—0   |

\* Implies the addition of the present treble.

† This may refer to the treble, but more probably refers to the saunce, which is first actually mentioned in 1746/7; its presence, however, before that date, may be conjectured by a careful study of the prices paid for ropes. Perhaps it came from Fingest.

|      |                     |                                                                      |     |     |     |          |
|------|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| 1736 | Nov : 8             | Pd for Ringing                                                       | ... | ... | ... | 1—00—00  |
| 1737 | Apr : 8             | Paid Mrs Cox for Oyl                                                 | ... | ... | ... | 00—00—6  |
| 1737 | ffeb: ye 24 (=1738) | paid for Bell Ropes                                                  | ... | ... | ... | 1— 1—0   |
|      | 26                  | pd for Ringing                                                       | ... | ... | ... | 1— 0—0   |
|      | April ye 2          | pd Mrs Cox for oyle for ye Bells                                     | ... | ... | ... | 0— 1—6   |
|      |                     | pd Iohn Williams for mending the Bells                               | ... | ... | ... | 2— 0—6   |
| 1738 | jun : 13            | pd for Ringing on the 29 <sup>th</sup> of May                        | ... | ... | ... | 00— 5—00 |
|      | Oct : 30.           | pd for Ringing on the 11 <sup>th</sup> & 30 <sup>th</sup> of Octobr. | ... | ... | ... | 00—10—00 |
|      | Nov : 5.            | pd for Ringing on this Day                                           | ... | ... | ... | 00— 5—00 |
|      | Apr : 23. (=1739)   | pd for Oyl for the Bells                                             | ... | ... | ... | 00— 1—00 |
|      |                     | pd Benj : Mason for Bell=Ropes & clock=Line                          | ... | ... | ... | 1— 6—00  |
| 1739 |                     | pd for Ringing (May 29, Oct. 11 and 30, and Nov. 5, @ 5s.)           |     |     |     |          |
|      | Apr : 5 (=1740)     | pd for oyl for the Bells                                             | ... | ..  | ... | 00—00—6  |
| 1740 | June ye 14          | pd for Ringing on ye 29 of may                                       | ... | ... | ... | 0— 5—0   |
|      | July ye 29          | pd for tol the Bell                                                  | ... | ... | ... | 0— 1—0   |
|      | 30                  | pd for Mending ye Bell                                               | ... | ... | ... | 1—15—0   |
|      | Octo : ye 9         | pd for Ringing                                                       | ... | ... | ... | 0— 5—0   |
|      | Novbr ye 6          | pd for Ringing                                                       | ... | ... | ... | 0—10—0   |
|      | March ye 19 (=1741) | pd for Bell Ropes                                                    | ... | ... | ... | 1— 1—0   |
| 1741 |                     | pd for Ringing (twice @ 5s., once @ 10s.)                            |     |     |     |          |
|      |                     | pd for oyle for ye Bells                                             | ... | ... | ... | 0— 1—0   |
|      |                     | pd for ye Bell Ropes                                                 | ... | ... | ... | 1— 1—0   |

At a Vestry held at ye Parish of Hambledon in ye County of Bucks it is agreed ye no Churchwarden for ye year shall allow above one shilling for Oyle for ye Bells. . . . . agreed on ye 5<sup>h</sup> Aprill 1743 (11 signatures.)

|        |                           |                                                                                     |     |     |     |           |
|--------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| 1742/3 |                           | pd for Ringing (" May ye 29," " octobr : ye 11 " and 30, and " Novbr: ye 5," @ 5s.) |     |     |     |           |
|        | Aprill ye 2               | pd Iephyery Hackshaw for Bellropes                                                  | ... | ... | ... | 1— 3—0    |
|        | 4                         | pd Mrs Cox for oyle for ye Bells                                                    | ... | ... | ... | 0— 5—0    |
| 1743/4 | Nov : ye 8                | pd for Ringing for ye Kings birth day ye Coronation day and powder plott            | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 15—0  |
|        | March ye 11               | pd Iephyery Hacshaw for ye Bell Ropes...                                            | ... | ... | ... | 1— 1—0    |
|        |                           | pd for oyle for ye Bells                                                            | ... | ... | ... | 0— 2—0    |
| 1744/5 |                           | pd for Ringing (" May ye 29," " Octobr : ye 11 " and 30, and " Novbr: ye 5," @ 5s.) |     |     |     |           |
|        | Aprill ye 16              | pd Iephyery Hackshaw for ye Bell Ropes...                                           | ... | ... | ... | 1— 1—0    |
|        |                           | pd for oyle for ye Bells                                                            | ... | ... | ... | 0— 0—6    |
| 1745/6 | Novbr ye 6                | Ditto (=pd) for four times Ringing                                                  | ... | ... | ... | 1 . 0 . 0 |
|        | March ye 31 <sup>st</sup> | pd Jeffery Hackshaw for a sett of Bell Roaps                                        | ... | ... | ... | 1 . 1 . 0 |
|        | April 1746                | pd Mrs Denham for oil for ye Bells                                                  | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 1 3   |
| 1746/7 | Nov : ye 28 <sup>th</sup> | Pd for Ringing four Times as Usall                                                  | ... | ... | ... | 1 . 0 . 0 |
|        |                           | Pd for Ringing of a thanksgiving day                                                | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 5 . 0 |
|        | Decem <sup>b</sup>        | Pd for Oyle for ye Bells and Clock                                                  | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 1 . 0 |
|        | April ye 11 <sup>th</sup> | pd for a set of Bell rops and tinker*                                               | ... | ... | ... | 1 . 3 . 0 |

\* *I.E.*, the "tinkler," or saunce bell, showing that such existed at this time, see foot-note under the year 1726. The "tinker" occurs down to March, 1793; it was apparently still there in 1796; and how much longer it remained, there seems nothing to show.

|         |                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |     |     |           |
|---------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----------|
| 1747/8  | June ye 5 <sup>th</sup>             | p <sup>d</sup> for Oyl for ye Clock and Bells                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | ... | ... | 0 . 0 . 9 |
|         | April ye 7                          | p <sup>d</sup> a set of Bellroaps                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | ... | ... | 1 . 1 . 0 |
| 1748    | Oct <sup>r</sup>                    | p <sup>d</sup> for Ringing                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | ... | ... | 1 . 0 . 0 |
|         |                                     | p <sup>d</sup> ye Plummer for work upon ye Tower                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | ... | ... | 1 . 6 . 0 |
| 1749/50 | April ye 25 <sup>th</sup>           | Paid for ringing                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | ... | ... | 0 . 5 . 0 |
|         | June ye 11 <sup>th</sup>            | p <sup>d</sup> Oyl for ye Bells                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | ... | ... | 0 . 0 . 9 |
|         | Oct. ye 19.                         | p <sup>d</sup> for a set of bell roaps                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | ... | ... | 1 . 1 . 0 |
|         |                                     | p <sup>d</sup> for four times ringing                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | ... | ... | 1 . 0 . 0 |
|         | April                               | p <sup>d</sup> Clark Webbs bill for mending ye Bells                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | ... | ... | 0 . 5 . 0 |
| 1750/1  | May ye 29 <sup>th</sup>             | p <sup>d</sup> for Ringing                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | ... | ... | 0 . 5 . 0 |
| 1751/2  | Nov <sup>br</sup> 5                 | P <sup>d</sup> for four Ringing Days                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | ... | ... | 1 . 0 . 0 |
|         |                                     | P <sup>d</sup> for a lock for ye Tower Door                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | ... | ... | 0 0 9     |
|         | Febru. 28                           | P <sup>d</sup> for a set of Bell roapes Tincker                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | ... | ... | 1 3 0     |
|         | March ye 26                         | P <sup>d</sup> for Oyl for ye Bells                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | ... | ... | 0 0 6     |
| 1752/3  | May ye 30                           | p <sup>d</sup> W <sup>m</sup> Plummer Ringing                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | ... | ... | 0 . 5 . 0 |
|         | Nov <sup>r</sup> ye 16              | p <sup>d</sup> W <sup>m</sup> Plummer for Ringing                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | ... | ... | 0 . 5 . 0 |
|         | April                               | p <sup>d</sup> for a set of Roaps                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | ... | ... | 1 . 1 . 0 |
|         |                                     | p <sup>d</sup> for Oyl                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | ... | ... | 0 . 0 . 7 |
| 1753/4  |                                     | p <sup>d</sup> for Ringing, (" May 29 <sup>th</sup> ," " Octo <sup>r</sup> 22 <sup>nd</sup> ," " Nov : 5 " and 10, @ 5s.)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |     |     |           |
|         | April 4                             | p <sup>d</sup> for a set of Bell Roops and Tinker                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | ... | ... | 1 . 4 . 4 |
|         | 5                                   | p <sup>d</sup> for Oyl                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | ... | ... | 0 . 1 . 0 |
|         |                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This Side was Lined out by George Afstin Clarke of ye parish to a placed ye account of Steuen Swaine Church warden in ye year 1754 one of ye Bells was new Run that year which was more Expence then orney but George Afstin Died by haven the Small Pox and the account of Steuen Swaine was not found any more</li> </ul> |     |     |           |
| 1755/6  | April ye 19                         | p <sup>d</sup> for Oyl for ye Bells                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | ... | ... | 0 . 0 . 6 |
|         | Do ye 20                            | p <sup>d</sup> Jeffery Harkshaws bil*                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | ... | ... | 1 . 1 . 0 |
|         | Do                                  | p <sup>d</sup> W <sup>m</sup> Plummer for Beer†                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | ... | ... | 1 . 0 . 0 |
| 1756/7  | Ap: ye 8                            | paid William Plummer for Bear for ye Ringing                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | ... | ... | 1 . 0 . 0 |
|         |                                     | paid for Bell Ropes...                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | ... | ... | 1 . 1 . 0 |
| 1757    | Oct <sup>r</sup> 7                  | Paid Jeffrey Hackshaw for the Bell Ropes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | ... | ... | 1,, 1,, 0 |
|         | Nov <sup>r</sup> 12                 | Paid William Plummer for Beer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | ... | ... | 1,, 0,, 0 |
| 1758/9  | Oct ye 14                           | p <sup>d</sup> for a fett of Bell Ropes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | ... | ... | 1— 1—0    |
|         | Nou <sup>br</sup> : ye 10           | p <sup>d</sup> for Bear for ye Ringers four Times as Usual                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | ... | ... | 0— 1—0    |
|         | March ye 20                         | p <sup>d</sup> for oyl for ye Bells                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | ... | ... | 0— 1—0    |
| 1759    | May ye 29                           | Paid William Plummer for Ringing                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | ... | ... | 0 5 0     |
|         | Nov:                                | P <sup>d</sup> William Plummer for 3 Ringing days                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | ... | ... | 0 15 0    |
|         | Decem <sup>r</sup> 20 <sup>th</sup> | P <sup>d</sup> Ieffery Hackshaw for 6 Bellropes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | ... | ... | 1 1 0     |

\* *I.E.*, for bell ropes.

† This item represents the payment for the four usual ringing days.

|          |                         |                                                                     |     |     |     |   |    |   |
|----------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|---|----|---|
|          | April                   | P <sup>d</sup> for Oyl for the Bells...                             | ... | ... | ... | 0 | I  | 0 |
| 1760/1   | Decr: 29                | p <sup>d</sup> M <sup>r</sup> Hackshaw for 6 Bell Ropes             | ... | ... | ... | I | 1  | 0 |
|          | March 24                | p <sup>d</sup> for Ringing three several times                      | ... | ... | ... | 0 | 15 | 0 |
|          |                         | p <sup>d</sup> for Oyl for y <sup>e</sup> Bells                     | ... | ... | ... | 0 | 1  | 0 |
| 1761/2   | Novr: y <sup>e</sup> 17 | P <sup>d</sup> W <sup>m</sup> Plummer for 4 Ringing Days            | ... | ... | ... | I | 0  | 0 |
|          | March 19                | P <sup>d</sup> John Fafnidge for a set of Bell Ropes & a Clock Line | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 5  | 8 |
| (1761-2) |                         | P <sup>d</sup> for Oyl for y <sup>e</sup> Bells                     | ... | ... | ... | 0 | 1  | 0 |
| 1762/3   | Novr 7                  | P <sup>d</sup> : for y <sup>e</sup> Annual Ringing                  | ... | ... | ... | I | 0  | 0 |
|          | March 10                | P <sup>d</sup> : Jn <sup>o</sup> Steevens for a set of Bell Ropes   | ... | ... | ... | I | 1  | 0 |
| 1763/4   | Novr: 5                 | p <sup>d</sup> : for y <sup>e</sup> Annual Ringing                  | ... | ... | ... | I | 0  | 0 |
|          | Decr: 27                | p <sup>d</sup> : for a set of Bell Ropes                            | ... | ... | ... | I | 1  | 0 |
|          | April 20                | p <sup>d</sup> : for Oyl for y <sup>e</sup> Bells                   | ... | ... | ... | 0 | 1  | 0 |
| 1764/5   | Jan:ry 8                | p <sup>d</sup> : for y <sup>e</sup> Annual Ringing                  | ... | ... | ... | I | 0  | 0 |
|          | March 28                | p <sup>d</sup> : for a set of Bell Ropes                            | ... | ... | ... | I | 1  | 0 |
|          | April 5 <sup>th</sup> ; | p <sup>d</sup> : for Oyl for y <sup>e</sup> Bells & Clock           | ... | ... | ... | 0 | 1  | 0 |
| 1765/6   | May 31                  | p <sup>d</sup> John Fasnidge for six Bell Ropes                     | ... | ... | ... | I | 1  | 0 |
|          | June 31 ( <i>sic</i> )  | p <sup>d</sup> y <sup>e</sup> Annual Ringing                        | ... | ... | ... | I | 0  | 0 |
|          | April 1 <sup>st</sup>   | p <sup>d</sup> : for Oyl for y <sup>e</sup> Bells                   | ... | ... | ... | 0 | 1  | 0 |
| 1766/7   | Octr: 25                | p <sup>d</sup> : Jef: Hackshaw for 7 Bell Ropes                     | ... | ... | ... | I | 3  | 0 |
|          | Novr: 8                 | p <sup>d</sup> : y <sup>e</sup> Annual Ringing                      | ... | ... | ... | I | 0  | 0 |
| (1766-7) | April 20                | p <sup>d</sup> : for Oyl for the Bells                              | ... | ... | ... | 0 | 1  | 0 |
| 1767/8   | June 15                 | p <sup>d</sup> for the Annual Ringing                               | ... | ... | ... | 0 | 10 | 0 |
|          | Augst 29                | p <sup>d</sup> Jef: Hackshaw for 6 Bell-Ropes                       | ... | ... | ... | I | 1  | 0 |
|          | Novr: 10                | p <sup>d</sup> for the Annual Ringing                               | ... | ... | ... | 0 | 10 | 0 |
|          | March 31                | p <sup>d</sup> John Williams for a Job to the Bells                 | ... | ... | ... | 0 | 0  | 2 |
|          |                         | p <sup>d</sup> for Oyl for the Bells                                | ... | ... | ... | 0 | 1  | 0 |
| 1768/9   | July 28                 | p <sup>d</sup> Jeff: Hackshaw for a set of Bell Ropes               | ... | ... | ... | I | 1  | 0 |
|          | Novr: 12                | p <sup>d</sup> for the Annual Ringing                               | ... | ... | ... | I | 0  | 0 |
|          | March 25                | p <sup>d</sup> for Oyl for the Bells                                | ... | ... | ... | 0 | 1  | 0 |
| 1769/70  | May 16                  | p <sup>d</sup> Jeff: Hackshaw for a Sett of Bell Ropes              | ... | ... | ... | I | 1  | 0 |
|          | June 5                  | p <sup>d</sup> for 2 Ringing Days...                                | ... | ... | ... |   | 10 |   |
|          | Novr: 6                 | p <sup>d</sup> for 2 Ringing Days                                   | ... | ... | ... |   | 10 |   |
|          | Aprl: 14                | p <sup>d</sup> for Oyl for the Bells                                | ... | ... | ... |   | 1  |   |
| 1770/1   | July 2                  | p <sup>d</sup> for two Ringing Days                                 | ... | ... | ... |   | 10 |   |
|          | Decr: 28                | p <sup>d</sup> for two Ringing Days                                 | ... | ... | ... |   | 10 |   |
|          | March 9                 | p <sup>d</sup> Jeff: Hackshaw for a Set of Bell Ropes...            | ... | ... | ... | I | I  |   |
|          | Aprl: 2                 | p <sup>d</sup> for Oyl for the Bells...                             | ... | ... | ... |   | 1  |   |
| 1771/2   | May 21                  | p <sup>d</sup> for Seven Bell Ropes                                 | ... | ... | ... | I | 3  | 6 |
|          | Novr: 10                | p <sup>d</sup> W <sup>m</sup> Plummer for the Annual Ringing        | ... | ... | ... | I |    |   |
|          | April 17                | p <sup>d</sup> for Oil for the Bells                                | ... | ... | ... |   | I  |   |
| 1772/3   | Novr: 16                | p <sup>d</sup> the Annual Ringing                                   | ... | ... | ... | I |    |   |
|          | April 12                | p <sup>d</sup> for a Sett of Bell Ropes                             | ... | ... | ... | I | I  |   |
|          |                         | p <sup>d</sup> for Oil for the Bells                                | ... | ... | ... |   | I  |   |
| 1773/4   | Octb: 19                | p <sup>d</sup> for a Sett of Bell Ropes                             | ... | ... | ... | I | I  |   |
|          | Novr: 16                | p <sup>d</sup> the Annual Ringing                                   | ... | ... | ... | I |    |   |

|         |                         |                                                                           |      |      |     |
|---------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|------|-----|
|         | April 5                 | pd Thō. East for Repairing the Cupola on the Tower ...                    | 18   | 6    |     |
|         |                         | pd for Oil for the Bells ...                                              |      | 1    |     |
| 1774/5  | June 4                  | pd for a Sett of Bell Ropes ...                                           | 1,,  | 1,,  |     |
|         | Novr 11                 | pd: the Annual Ringing ...                                                | 1    |      |     |
|         | April 18                | pd: for Oil for the Bells ...                                             |      | 1    |     |
| 1775/6  | July 20                 | For 2 Ringing Days ...                                                    |      | 10   |     |
|         | Octr 18                 | pd: for a sett of Bell ropes ...                                          | 1    | 1    |     |
|         | Novr 6                  | for 2 Ringing Days ...                                                    |      | 10   |     |
|         | April 9                 | For Oil for the Bells ...                                                 |      | 1    |     |
| 1776/7  | Novr 9                  | the Annual Ringing ...                                                    | 1    |      |     |
| 1777/8  | Novr 18                 | Wm Plummer for Beer for 4 Days Ringing ...                                | 1    | 0    | 0   |
| 1778    | March 16                | Pd Wm Plummer for Beer for Men taken Down a Bell                          |      | 5    |     |
|         |                         | Pd Element ( <i>sic</i> ) Keene for mending the Clapper of A Bell ...     | 1    | 2    |     |
|         |                         | Pd Hackshaw for Bell Ropes ...                                            | 1    | 2    |     |
|         |                         | To Rivers for the Carriage of the Fifth Bell to London to be new Cast     |      | 4    |     |
|         |                         | To Warfage of D <sup>o</sup> . and Cartage of D <sup>o</sup> . ...        |      | 4    |     |
|         |                         | Warfage and bringing up D <sup>o</sup> . ...                              |      | 7    |     |
|         |                         | To Mefsr <sup>s</sup> Chapman & Peck for new Carting ( <i>sic</i> ) } ... | 13   | 12   | 1   |
|         |                         | the above Bell as by Bill ...                                             |      |      |     |
|         |                         | To Saml. Turner for taken down the old Bell & a new } ...                 | 5    | 0    | 0   |
|         |                         | Wheel & new Brases & Stocking ye Bell }                                   |      |      |     |
| 1778/9  | Novr 13                 | Pd D <sup>o</sup> . (viz: Wm Plummer) Bear for Ringing ...                | 1    | 0    | 0   |
| 1779/80 | Novr 6                  | pd Wm Plummer for 4 Ringing Days ...                                      | 1    |      |     |
|         | Janry 20                | pd John Stevens for a Set of Bell Ropes ...                               | 1    | 1    |     |
| 1780-1  | March 4                 | Pd 4 Days Ringing Money ...                                               | 1,,  | 0,,  | 0   |
| 1781-2  | Novr 20 <sup>th</sup>   | pd Wm Plummer the Annual Ringing ...                                      | 1,,  | 0,,  | 0   |
|         | Febry 8 <sup>th</sup>   | pd for a Set of Bell Ropes ...                                            | 1    | 1    |     |
| 1782-3  | Decr 31 <sup>st</sup>   | Paid Wm Plummer the Annual Ringing ...                                    | 1,,  | 0,,  | 0   |
| 1783-4  | Decr 18                 | pd Wm Plummers Bill ...                                                   | 1    | 0    | 0   |
|         | 30                      | pd Tho <sup>s</sup> Hackshaw for Bell Ropes ...                           | 1    | 1    | 0   |
| 1784-5  |                         | pd Annual Ringing ...                                                     |      | 1    |     |
|         |                         | pd Geo <sup>e</sup> Wyatt for Repairs to the Bells ...                    |      | 8    | 9   |
|         |                         | pd for a Sett of Ropes & Tinker Rope ...                                  | 1    | 3    | 6   |
| 1785-6  | May 2 <sup>nd</sup>     | pd Tho <sup>s</sup> Hackshaw for Sett Ropes ...                           | 1—   | 1—   | 0   |
|         | May 12 <sup>th</sup>    | pd ye Annual Ringing ...                                                  | 1,,  | 0,,  | 0   |
| 1786/7  | Novr 6                  | paid for 4 ringing days ...                                               | 1=   | 0=   | 0   |
|         | April 7                 | paid Wm Gilmans bill for mend. the clapper of bell ...                    | 0=   | 0=   | 8   |
| 1787-8  | March 1 <sup>y</sup> 24 | Paid Tho <sup>s</sup> Hackshaw for 1 sett of bell ropes ...               | 1=   | 1=   | 0   |
|         | 1 <sup>y</sup> 25       | Paid Wm Gilman for a crown staple an                                      |      |      |     |
|         |                         | mend. the Clapper of the bell ...                                         |      | 0=   | 14= |
| 1788-9  | Aprl 10                 | George Wyats Bill for a Bell Wheel & mending the stars                    | 1—   | 3—   | 0   |
|         | 14                      | Pd John Williams for work at the Bells ...                                |      | 0=   | 2—  |
| 1789-90 | March 27                | for A Sett of Bell Ropes ...                                              | 1,,  | 1,,  | 0   |
|         |                         | for A Rope for the Little Bell ...                                        | 0,,  | 2,,  | 6   |
| 1790-1  | April 16                | D <sup>o</sup> (i.e. Paid) Mr Lovegroves Bill for new Leading the } ...   | 25,, | 10,, | 4   |
|         |                         | Steeple ...                                                               |      |      |     |



|        |                                          |                                                         |     |                                    |     |     |           |
|--------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----------|
|        | 28                                       | Annual Ringing                                          | ... | ...                                | ... | ... | 1 0 0     |
| 1791-2 | Janv 23                                  | Tho <sup>s</sup> Hackshaw for a Set of Bell Ropes       | ... | ...                                | ... | ... | 1— 1—     |
|        | March 26                                 | Annual Ringing Pd W <sup>m</sup> Plummer                | ... | ...                                | ... | ... | 1— 0—0    |
| 1792-3 | March 16                                 | Ringling the Bells                                      | ... | ...                                | ... | ... | 1— —      |
|        |                                          | Io <sup>n</sup> Stevens set of Bell Ropes Tinker        | ... | ...                                | ... | ... | 1— 3—6    |
| 1794-5 | April 6 <sup>th</sup>                    | Pd for A Sett of Bell Ropes                             | ... | ...                                | ... | ... | 1,, 1,,0  |
| 1796   | March                                    | Yearly Ringing                                          | ... | ...                                | ... | ... | 1— 0—0    |
|        |                                          | Mr Hackshaws, d <sup>e</sup> (i.e. Bill) for Bell Ropes | ... | ...                                | ... | ... | 1— 2—8    |
|        |                                          | Mr Newell Omitted in his Account Money                  | }   | paid for Ringing (i.e. 1794-5) ... | }   | ... | 1— 0—0    |
| 1797   | April 13 <sup>th</sup>                   | Mr Hackshaw for A Set of Bell Ropes                     |     |                                    |     | ... | ...       |
|        |                                          | Mr Bradshaw for A Lader Pole to Go Upp To the Bells     | ... | ...                                | ... | ... | 8,,0      |
|        |                                          | Richard Barlow for Makeing the Lader                    | ... | ...                                | ... | ... | 14,,10    |
|        |                                          | Yearly Ringing                                          | ... | ...                                | ... | ... | 1,, 0,,0  |
| 1798   | Aprill 5 <sup>th</sup>                   | William Plumers Bill*                                   | ... | ...                                | ... | ... | 1,, 13—8  |
| 1799   | March 10                                 | Mr Hackshaw for Bell Ropes &c                           | ... | ...                                | ... | ... | 1,, 7,,6  |
|        |                                          | the Blacksmith for Repair to the Bell &c &c             | ... | ...                                | ... | ... | 0— 4—8    |
| 1800   | Tho <sup>s</sup> Hackshaw for Bell Ropes | ...                                                     | ... | ...                                | ... | ... | 1,, 17,,0 |

Between 1803 and 1839, Hackshaw (of Great Marlow) supplied ropes thirteen times, at an average cost of £2 12s. 4d. the set. Gibbons (of Marlow) supplied them in 1843, 1846, and 1849, at £3, and in 1851, a single rope at 10s. 6d. In 1852, "Birch's Bill for Bell ropes and reparing" came to £3 2s. 0d. In 1854, "a new Bell rope & Padlock" cost 9s. 6d. In 1856, "Paid Mr. Young's bill for Bell Ropes," £2 12s. 6d. In 1860-61, Birch supplied Ropes at £3 12s. 0d. W. Cook supplied them in 1864-5, 1868-9, and 1878-9, at prices varying from £1 16s. 0d. to £2 14s. 0d. (the lowest price is expressly stated to be for "6 New" ropes). In 1887-8 there are two entries of 15s. 6d. for Bell ropes. In 1826, 1831, and 1838, there was ringing for the Archdeacon's Visitation. From 1838-9, are payments to the ringers each year on 5th November, at Christmas, and at Easter. In 1839 were added payments for ringing on the Queen's Birthday (May 24th), and Accession (June 20th), which seem to have been kept up until 1887-8 (which is the end of the book). In 1840 (February 10th), there was ringing for Her Majesty's Marriage. 1841 (November 9th), "for the Burth of the Prince of Wales," and in 1842, for his christening. On 25th May, 1846, "for the Birth of A Prnccefs" (=Princess Christian). On 10th March, 1863, for the Prince of Wales's Marriage. Other payments are: 1811, "W. Gillman Rep<sup>r</sup>. Bells, £0 17s. 2d." ? 1838, "Trendell for Bell Wheel, &c., £3 1s. 0d." 1840, "Paid Trendell for a New Bell Wheel," £2 10s. 0d., and "Gillman's Bill for Reparing Bells and feats," £1 8s. 8d. 1842,

\* This additional payment may be for extra Ringing, or for some Repairs, or for an unusually successful crusade against the unfortunate Hedgehogs, Polecats, Badgers, etc., against which, churchwardens, throughout the eighteenth century, made a "dead set."

do., "for mending the Bells," 9s. 8d. 1843, Locks (10s.) and hinges (1s. 6d.) for Belfry Doors. "Paid Street Bill for Repairing the Bells and Ladder," 6s. 7d. "Gillmans Bill for Repairing the Bells," £1 0s. 8d. 1844, "Hunts Bill for Repairing A Bell," 5s. "Paid Street Bill for Repairing Sound Boords\* in the tower," 5s. 6d. 1846, "Paid Cowrtneys Bill for Repairing Bellweels," 8s. 6d. Hunt's bill for do., 5s. 2d. "Paid Trufst† Bill for Repairing Bells," £1. 1847, "Hunts Bill for Repairing Bells," 5s. 10d. "Courtneys Bill for Repairing Bell and Glazin windows," 19s. 5½d. 1848, "Paid Gray for Clening out the Tower," 1s. 1854, "Paid Mr Hobbs bill for repairing Church Bells," &c., £10 10s.; "deducted from Hobbs' bill," 8s. 1856, "Mr. Hobbs for repairing a Bell," 14s. 1865-6, "Jno Williams Repairs to Bells & Door," &c., 13s. 1d. 1868-9, "Mr. Courtney for Repairs to Belfry," £2 18s. 9d. For repairing bell-ropes, 1s. 1871, John Williams for Repairs to Bells, 3s. 6d. 1871-2, Do., £1. 1879-80, Do., £1 9s. 2d. 1882-3, For repairing bellropes, 3s. 6d. 1884, Mr Jo<sup>s</sup> Mason "for Extra Work at Tower," £6 19s. 1d.

## HAMPDEN, GREAT.

S. Mary Magdalen.

1. **OVR HOPE IS IN THE LORD** 1625 <sup>(29½)</sup>
2. **PRAYES YE THE LORD** 1625 <sup>(32½)</sup>
3. **LET YOVR HOPE BE IN THE LORD** 1625 <sup>(36)</sup>

A well-cast, maiden ring, by Ellis Knight (p. 127). Being contemporary with John Hampden, the bells may very probably have been recast at his expense. The "E's" and "Y's" at the ends of the inscriptions appear to be impressions of the "matrices" or moulds from which the letter-stamps were cast (Plate XXII.). Wooden "copses" to the clappers. Incised in the frame, in large, bold characters, is: I: W. 1817. The same initials are on the Wotton Underwood frame (1828).

Lipscomb (II., 294) mentions that Robert Hyll, by his will dated 20th October, 1518, bequeathed (*inter alia*)—"for the reparation of the Bells 2s. 2d.;" and "to the three Ringers 2s. 2d."

23 July, 1552, Hampden magna.

Ifm iij bellē hangyng in the Steple / Ifm one hand . . (torn)

1714, 3 bells.

\* Probably *Louvers* are meant.

† No doubt the Gt. Marlow Sexton.

*HAMPDEN, LITTLE.**(Dedication unknown.)**Single.*(23 $\frac{3}{8}$ )

➤ THOS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1791 

An early bell by Thomas Mears I., in the year in which he came into sole management of the foundry. There is no turret of any description to this curious, tiny church. The bell hangs in a chamber over the porch; which appears, however, to be a modern arrangement, and not the ancient parvise.

23 July, 1552, Hampden pua (*also* litle Hampden),  
 In p̄mis ij<sup>o</sup> bellē hangyng in the steple / Ifm ij<sup>o</sup> hand belle  
 1714, L. Hampden capella, one bell

Lipscomb (II. 298) states that the bell was "formerly contained in a wooden turret."

Death Knell as soon as possible after the death. Tellers, 3 × 3 = a male; 2 × 3 = a female.

Tolling at funerals.

No churchwardens' accounts.

Thanks to the late Rev. C. Lowndes, Rector.



*HANSLOPE.*

S. James the Great.

1. \*   R TAYLOR S<sup>t</sup> NEOTS FECIT 1815. \* \*   R:  
 ROGERS C WARDEN \* \* \* \*    \* (36)

2. HALL MADE ME 1752 (36 $\frac{1}{2}$ )

3. GOD SAVE K Y N G  
 CHARLS 1625 (38 $\frac{1}{2}$ )

4. GOD  SAVE  K Y N G  
 CHARLS 1626 (43)

5. JOHN KITEL C : W \* \* JOHN  
 BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1814. \* (50)

Treble: the earliest Taylor bell in the county (p. 260); small canons. 2: perhaps cast by William Hall, for his father, Edward (p. 236); the lettering is Richard Chandler III.'s 1.2 inch set; reduced by tuning. 3 and 4: by Robert Atton (p. 205); the lettering is the large set on Plate XXXI.; the stop on 4 is No.

7, on Plate XXX. 3 : much reduced by tuning. Tenor (p. 106) : small canons ; weight supposed to be a ton, and is probably a little over. It is said to have been sunk in the canal at Castlethorpe on its way from Hertford, and to have lain in the water for a week. The \*'s on treble and tenor = double triangles, but from different stamps.

In 1714, there were 5 bells.

Lipscomb (IV., 177) gives the inscription on the previous tenor :—

*Jesus Nazarinus Rex Judeorum. Johannes Goorme me fieri fecit.*

Weight : 18½ cwt. I have failed to ascertain anything about the donor, but should expect that he “flourished” about the middle of the fifteenth century. One always feels grateful to Lipscomb for each ancient bell inscription which he has rescued from oblivion ; but at the same time one cannot rely on the accuracy of any of them, and it is quite likely that the name is mis-quoted.

Thomas Knight, LL.D., who was Rector from 1395 to 1414, “built a famous *spire steeple* here, which is the noted land-mark in all these parts.”\* It was destroyed by lightning in June, 1804 ; and the present spire is about twenty feet lower than the original one. The frame is a solid piece of seventeenth century work, probably coeval with the third and fourth bells ; the four lower bells are round the outside, with the treble hung cross-cornered in the centre ; this being probably an addition made during the same century. Most of the stocks are old ; wheels and straps new.

The “Pancake Bell” was formerly rung on Shrove Tuesday, but has been discontinued for some years.

Death Knell usually on the day of death. Tenor used for adults ; the third for children. Tellers, 3 strokes = a male ; 2 = a female.

Single bell tolled for funerals.

On Sundays, the bells are chimed for Services. The treble rung (?) for last few minutes before Service, as Sermon Bell. These are old usages.

Ringling on Queen’s Birthday, Harvest Thanksgiving, 5th November, S. Andrew’s Day, Christmas Eve and Day, and New Year’s Eve. Ringling for weddings occasionally ; the fourth bell rung for Vestry Meetings. £5 is allowed annually from the Feoffee Charity, for ringling.

Many thanks to the Rev. M. A. Nicholson, Vicar.

### HARDMEAD.

S. Mary.

|      |     |           |       |          |
|------|-----|-----------|-------|----------|
| I. U | Uox | Augustini | Sonet | In Au-   |
| re * | Dei | U         |       | (c. 29½) |

\* Cole’s MSS., quoted by Lipscomb II. 176.



likely that either the saunce or the former treble were cast in London, the tradition is probably wrong, at least as to the locality of the foundry. In the Inventory of Church Goods, taken at Crawley in 1552, there were four steeple bells, and a saunce bell.

There is a tradition at Ridgmount, in Beds, the next parish to Crawley, that three bells were sold from the old church there, to Crawley, about the year 1820; and it is reported, and very currently believed at Woburn, in Beds, another adjoining parish, that the Crawley bells were intended for that place. But Mr. North adds (*op. cit.*), there is clearly no truth in this fancy.

*HARDWICK.*

S. Mary.

1. (28)  
**J : BRIANT      HERTFORD      FECIT      ISIL.      W: FLOWERS      C: W**
2. ANTHONY CHAUDLER MADE ME 1675  
 ○ ○ (30)
3. (32½)  
**✠ PRAVIS      VE      UVE      HORE** 1622
4. (36)  
**GOD      SHVE      OVR      KING      1625      IK**
5. **⚔ ROBERT      ♃      MENDOOME**  
**⚔ MADIE      ♃      ME      1590** (41)
- S. ISAAC HURST WILLIAM BATSON.  
 CHURCH WARDENS.  
 1850.  
 (*On Sound-bow :*) S. SEYMOUR. AYLESBURY. (18½)

Treble (p. 106): has iron baldrick to clapper, which we may be sure, therefore, was not supplied by Briant, but probably belonged to the former bell; the gudgeons are near the top of the stock, which is also apparently older than the present bell; wheel keyed. 2: the impressions of half-crowns are from one of Roettier's pattern, 1½ inch diameter, obverse, bust to fight, "[CAROLUS] II. DEI GRATIA." Reverse, [the royal arms upon] four separate shields, [crowned and] arranged in form of a cross, [with the star of the order of the garter in the centre,] and two C's interlinked in each angle\* (p. 227). 3 and 4 (pp. 161, 162): by James Keene; the lettering on 3 (Plate XXVI.), is the set, of which the letters I K are well known as James Keene's trade mark; but this is the only bell, so far as I am aware, where this lettering is

\* Hawkins's *Silver Coins*, 3rd edit., p. 380; the words in brackets are details unrecognizable on the bell.

used for the entire inscription; the cross is No. 1. on the same Plate. The two dates are in similar, but not identical, figures; crown-staple of 4 broken. Tenor: the only Buckingham-cast bell bearing the name of Robert Newcombe, partner, until his premature death, with Bartholomew Atton (p. 196). The letters are shown on Plates XXVIII. and XXIX.; the ornamented cross is on the latter, and the shield is fig. 66. Saunce: "S. Seymour," of Aylesbury, was an ironmonger, and not a bell founder. The lettering is extremely similar to that in use at the Whitechapel Foundry at that date, but it is not identical. The Rev. T. A. Turner (*Records of Bucks*, Vol. IV., 1872, p. 127) designates this bell as "a most miserable apology for the old one," which was inscribed CHANDLER MADE ME. As he does not describe the lettering, one cannot say which member of the family it was. Hung with a half-wheel. Isaac Hurst was a farmer: he died March 10th, 1858, aged 41 years.

23 July, 1552, Hardwyk (also Hardwyke)

Īt iij Bells/ . . . Īf ij hande Bells & a Sawnbell.

17 July, 1638. 5 bells. S<sup>ts</sup> bell.

1714, 5 (sanctus not mentioned).

The frame (except the additional cage for the treble) is evidently by Jeffs (see Adstock), in the first half of the seventeenth century, and badly needs attention.

### HARTWELL.

Assumption B. V. Mary.

Single.

R C 1691

(25½)

By Richard Chandler III., in his one-inch set of lettering (p. 232).

23 July, 1552, Hartwell Īf ij belle in the steple Īf ij hand belle

12 July, 1637, 1 Bell & a S<sup>ts</sup> Bell

1714, one bell (sanctus not mentioned).

Death Knell as soon as possible after the death. Tellers, 3 × 3 = a male; 2 × 3 = a female. Tolling at funerals.

No churchwardens' accounts.

Thanks to the late Rev. C. Lowndes, Rector.

### HIVERSHAM.

Nativity B. V. Mary.

1. CHANDLER MADE ME 1667 (31½)

2. GOD SAYE OVR KING 1625 (33½)

3. ✱ GOD SAYE OVR KING 16E8 (34½)

S. 1752 (12¾)

Treble: by Anthony Chandler (p. 226). 2 and 3: by James Keene (pp. 163, 165); the cross on the tenor, is No. 2, on Plate XXVI. 2: some straps nailed, others keyed, others bolted; tenor has central straps nailed, the others bolted; its wheel made like a half-wheel, old, but bolted. All three crown-staples broken, and all stays at wheel end. Saunce: without much doubt from the Whitechapel Foundry (p. 100); canons broken; "home-made" wheel.

The tower exceptionally dirty. Carved on the cage of the tenor is, J W, followed by some hieroglyphics running downhill at the end of the beam, which I interpret very doubtfully, as, 1661; but as the *first* hieroglyphic is very like a 7, it may possibly be intended to record that the frame is the same age as the treble.

1714, 3 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

Death Knell at the sexton's convenience. Nothing to distinguish age or sex.

On Sundays, a bell rung at 8 a.m. The three chimed for Services; saunce for last five minutes. A bell rung after Matins.

Ringing on New Year's Eve.

Many thanks to the Rev. A. A. W. Hadley, Curate-in-charge.

## HAWRIDGE.

S. Mary.

1. J WARNER & SONS LONDON 1856



(17½)

2.

1676

(18)

Tenor: by Richard Chandler III.; the figures belong to his 1-inch lettering (p. 227); the clapper *hooked* on; the bell was evidently rehung when the treble was renewed. The bells have wheels, but no stays.

23 July, 1552, Harryge, Ifm, ij fmall bellis in the steple. Ifm ij hand belle . . . .  
ij facrying belle

1714, 2 bells.

Death Knell: as soon as the death is made known; no tellers. At funerals, a bell is tolled for a quarter of an hour, ceasing as the corpse reaches the churchyard.

On Sundays, the bells are chimed for a quarter of an hour before the Services.

They are also chimed immediately after a wedding, for about five minutes; and for about five minutes before a Vestry Meeting.

No churchwardens' accounts.

Thanks to the Rev. H. Lister, Rector.



*HAZLEMERE.*


H. Trinity.

Modern parish ; church built 1846 ; 3 small bells, in an open turret.

*HEDGERLEY.*

S. Mary the Virgin.

1. ✻ **GLORIA** ✻ **DEO** ✻ **IN** ✻ **EXCELSIS**  
**1640 B E** (28 $\frac{1}{4}$ )

2. **T. MEARS & SON OF LONDON F'ECIT**  
 1808  (28 $\frac{1}{4}$ )

3. **RICHARW TVRNER CHURCH WARDEN**  
**W W J68J** (31 $\frac{1}{2}$ )

Treble : the only example by Bryan Eldridge I. in the county (p. 244) ; through being allowed to hang loose on the stock, the lip touches the frame on one side, and the bell is, I believe, cracked, which is certainly what one would expect ; canons broken. 3 : probably by William Wightman, and is interesting as a rarity (p. 254). The w which takes the place of D, at the end of what seems to be intended for RICHARD, is incised ; the whole word is almost illegible, and I imagine, that, the churchwarden having been accidentally given a wrong name, an attempt was made to efface it, and that his correct initial was incised in place. In the churchwardens' accounts (which begin 1678), is :—

ffor this present year 1681 we the Minister & Parishon<sup>rs</sup>. of Hedgerly doe nominate William Turner to be Church Warden Constable and Overseer for the poor of the said Parish. April 5<sup>th</sup> 1681. (Signed) Jonathan Lowe Rectr. (and others).

One of his predecessors was *Henry* Turner, but no Richard is mentioned in the book.

8 Aug : 1637, Hedgley (was visited, but the bells are not mentioned. On the following day) Hedgly Bulstrode Chappell (was visited, but bells not mentioned. This was evidently a private chapel attached to Bulstrode House. It is not even mentioned by Lipscomb).

1714, Hedgerley not known the number, but not above 3.

Death Knell for about half an hour, as soon as convenient after notice is received. Tellers, 3  $\times$  3 = a male ; 2  $\times$  3 = a female.

At funerals, slow tolling for about an hour, until the procession approaches the churchyard, then quick tolling until the clergyman meets it at the gate.

On Sundays, for Services, chiming for about half an hour, and a single bell as "last bell" for the last ten minutes.

Ringing on 5th November.

Very many thanks to the Rev. R. P. Bent, Rector.

## HEDSOR.

S. Nicholas.

Single.

A K J 300

(20 $\frac{7}{8}$ )

Founder not identified; see p. 266. Roughly cut on the stock is 1736.

18 July, 1552, Hedyffoere. Itin ij belles whereof the one stolen  
by one Wyffm Gybbis and nycholas prattchedd wyffm whyte John long, ij hand belles

A second Indenture, of the same date, for "Hedyffoer," is torn, and part of the  
inventory is gone.

10 Aug: 1637, Hedsore, 1 Bell.

1714, one bell.

## HILLESDEN.

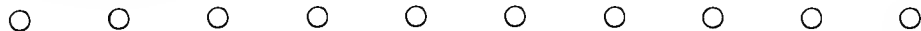
All Hallows (*or*, S. Nicholas).\*

1. ALEXANDER (*fig. 72, for 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  in.*) DEANTON (... *Do.*, 9 *in.* ...) E 9S  
(*Do.*, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  *in.*) 1681 (... *Do.*, 13 *in.*, ...) )

(*On Waist:*)



(*On Sound-bow:*)



(27 $\frac{1}{2}$ )

2. ALEXANDER (*fig. 72, 4 $\frac{1}{4}$  in.*) DEANTON (. . *Do.*, 8 $\frac{3}{4}$  *in.*, . . ) E 9S  
(. . *Do.*, 6 $\frac{3}{4}$  *in.* . . ) 1681 (. . *Do.*, 8 $\frac{3}{4}$  *in.* . . )

(*Low on Waist:*)



(*On Sound-bow:*)



(28 $\frac{3}{4}$ )

3. PRAYSE (*fig. 72, 4 $\frac{1}{4}$  in.*) O YE O (... *Do.*, 10 $\frac{3}{4}$  *in.* ...) O THE O  
(*Do.*, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  *in.* . . ) O LORD O M O B O O 1681 O (29 $\frac{3}{4}$ )

4. (*Plate XXXII., No. 1, portions G to L, reverse side up*) HENRICVS (*Do.*,  
*same portions, right side up*) BAGLEY (*Do.*, *portions D, E,*) ME (*fig. 72, for 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  in.*)  
FECIT (*Do.*, 4 $\frac{3}{4}$  *in.* ) 1681 (*fig. 73.*) (32)

\* Browne Willis in his MSS., xxii., 88, and also in his *Hist. Buck. Hund.* (1755), p. 198, gives the former dedication; and his "assertion is supported by the Wake or Feast of Dedication being annually kept on the Sunday after All Saints' Day." (Lipscomb, III., 20). Lysons (*Magna Brita.*, I., 488) gives the latter. There is a beautiful early sixteenth century window, illustrating legends of S. Nicholas, in the S. transept, which was probably the Chapel of S. Nicholas (Sir G. G. Scott, *Records of Bucks.*, IV., 314).

5. (*The former bell:*) **W HALL MADE ME 1756**  
(34½)

(*The present bell has a reproduction of this, in nearly similar letters, and also, on the Waist:*)

ROBERT HOLT, VICAR.

NATHANIEL COATES,

FREDERICK THOMAS BARGE, } CHURCHWARDENS

(*On Sound-bow:*) RECAST BY MEARS & STAINBANK, WHITE-  
CHAPEL FOUNDRY, LONDON. 1893. (34½)

6. (*The former bell:*) (*Fig. 72, in negative, all round*)

(*Do., do. reverse way up, 1¾ in.*) PRO (*Do., do.*) REGE (*Do., do.*) ET (*Do., do.*) ECCLESIA (*Do., do.*) ALEXANDER (*Do., do.*) DENTON  
(? *Do., do.*) ROBERT CORBETT

CHVRCH WARDEN HENRY BAGLEY  
MADE MEE J J 2 J O O (*fig. 72, in negative, and reverse way up, 5⅞ in.*) O O

(*On Waist:*)



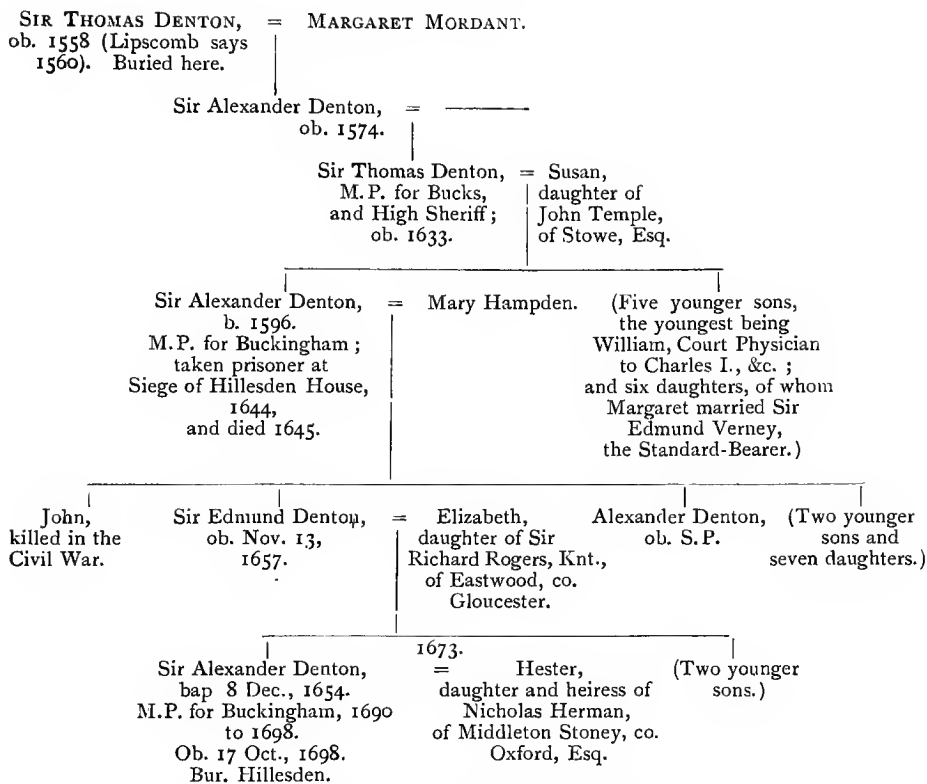
(39)

(*The present bell has the same inscription, the letters not being exact copies; but without any of the ornaments. On Waist and Sound-bow, ditto to present fifth.*) (38)

1 and 2: by one or both of the partners, Henry and Matthew Bagley (p. 216); letters from  $\frac{5}{8}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch high; the A's have a cross-bar on the top, curled downwards on the right side. The escutcheon on the waist of each bell is  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches high; party per pale; on the dexter side two bars, in chief three cinquefoils. On the sinister side a lion passant, inter three annulets. On the treble are fourteen, and on the second, five, impressions of shillings of Charles II. ( $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch diameter); all, except one on the sound-bow of treble, are obverse, bust dexter, laureate, CAROLVS II DEI GRATIA (Roettier's pattern); the reverse has four shields of arms, crowned and arranged in form of a cross.

Hillesden, and the Denton family, have lately been brought into prominence, through the very interesting *Verney Memoirs*, from which, and Lipscomb (IV., 17, &c.), supplemented by some additional items kindly given me by Lady Verney, the following pedigree is gathered.

A Patent of the Manor of Hillesden was granted by Edward VI., 2nd August, 1547, to Thomas Denton, Esq., after, by the attainder of Edward Courtenay, Marquess of Exeter, the manor had reverted to the crown. He was, presumably, knighted subsequently, as Lady Verney calls him Sir Thomas:—



Lady Verney kindly called my attention to the fact of the donor of the bells being recorded as without a handle to his name, and suggested that they might have been the gift of Sir Alexander's uncle—Alexander; but it would seem that (unless Henry Bagley merely made a mistake in the title), Sir Alexander was not knighted, or created baronet, until after the gift of these bells, as they are proved to be his gift, and not his uncle's, by the wife's arms impaled with his on the two trebles.

In Burke's *General Armoury* (1884), the arms of Herman (Middleton Stoney, co. Oxford, confirmed 10th December, 1630), are given as Vert a lion passant or, armed and langued gules, between three annulets argent. Lipscomb gives the Denton arms as, Argent, two bars gules; in chief three cinquefoils; in fess-point a mullet.

3, and 4: most of the letters are from stamps similar to, but not identical with, those used on treble and 2; all the letters being about  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch high; the A's are plain. The coins on 3 are impressions of sixpences of Charles II. ( $\frac{1\frac{5}{16}}$  inch diameter). 5: the lettering on the old bell was Richard Chandler III.'s 1.2 inch set (p. 237.) The letters on the present bell are not absolute copies. The old bell was cracked about 1891; its loss is matter of regret, as it was the latest known production of the

Drayton Parslow Foundry, and the only one on which the name of William Hall appeared.

Tenor: the former bell was by one of the later Henry Bagleys, in heavy lettering, 1 inch high (p. 217). The use of the running border, fig. 72. in *negative, i.e.*, the groundwork raised instead of the pattern, is remarkable, and must have been stamped from the *matrix* from which the stamp itself was cast (?). The floral stop is fig. 76. The coins are impressions of shillings similar to those on 1 and 2, all obverse. On waist, large Royal Arms,  $8\frac{3}{4}$  inches high, taken from an embossed stamp, so that they are impressed, instead of being in relief, and are reversed—arms, supporters, and legend. The arms are, quarterly (instead of quarterly quartered), *i.e.*, three lions passant (heads to right) in what is intended for the first quarter; and three *fleurs-de-lis* in the fourth. In the (intended) second, the Royal Shield of Scotland, within a double Tressure flory counterflory, a lion rampant. In the third, a harp, for Ireland. The bell was split some years before 1886. The crack was bored out, in the futile hope of improving the sound.

Until 1893, the bells hung left-handed, in, doubtless, a seventeenth century frame, and with their original clappers, etc.

5 May, 1553, Hillfden. iij great Bells & one faunfe bell hangyng in the fame church.

11 July, 1637, Hilsdon. 3. Bells & a S<sup>ts</sup> Bell . . . The steeple wants pargeting. The pinicles upon the top of the Terret adjoyning to y<sup>e</sup> Church in decay.

1714, 6 (saunce not mentioned. At another place in Browne Willis's MSS., xxii., 88, is :) At the west end is a square embatteld Tower in which hang a musical ring of 6 small Bells cast out of a lesser number I think of 4 by the late Alexander Denton Esqr at the Instance of Mr. Dormer\* of Rousham.

According to the List of Bagley bells printed at Oxford in 1732, and preserved among the Browne Willis MSS. (xliii., 26), the Bagleys cast six bells here, and recast the tenor later.

Death Knell: as soon as possible after the death, but if this occur after sunset, then the following morning. Tellers: three strokes = a male, two strokes = a female. A child is distinguished from an adult by tolling for a shorter time.

A bell tolled at funerals.

On Sundays, the bells are chimed for the Services. A Sermon Bell is said to have been formerly rung at 9 a.m.

The bells are rung on 5th November, in Advent, on Christmas Day, and on New Year's Eve. Also for weddings. A single bell rung for Vestry Meetings. There appears to have been no resident incumbent here, before the institution of the present Vicar in 1868, for some hundred and fifty years; consequently, all old churchwardens' accounts, and other records, are lost.

Many thanks to the Rev. R. Holt, Vicar.

\* The manor of Rowsham came to the Dormers from John Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, by the grant of King Henry VIII. (Lipscomb, III., 540).

## HITCHAM.

S. Mary.

1. HEY. COLESELL CHURCH. WARDEN. THO  
SWAIN FESET J755 (23)
2. (25)
- ∪ s a n c t e □ p e t r e □
3. THOMAS SWAIN J755 (27½)

2: from the Reading Foundry; probably by John Saunders (p. 70); the shield is the rebus shield on Plate XIX.; it is only known elsewhere at Cheddington; the stop is fig. 38. Treble and tenor: p. 141.

The Rev. G. Frewer, Rector, informs me that there are no entries concerning the bells in the Registers.








18 July, 1552, Hechm In pime ij belle.

10 Aug: 1637, 2 Bells.

1714, ditto.

## HOGGESTON.

Holy Cross.

1. +  + TRYETTY + FREEMOE + IS +  
HAROE + TO.  (27½)
2. (30)
-  a ⊕ ∪     □ ∪
3. CHANDLER MADE ME I669 (33)
- S. (*Blank*) (11)

Treble: the last figure may be a 3, but on a similar bell at Passenham (Northampts, but only six and a half miles from Buckingham), the date is distinctly the later one. They are, probably, the earliest bells extant by Robert Newcombe III. and Bartholomew Atton, after they took the Buckingham Foundry (p. 194) (Plates XXVIII. and XXIX.). 2: probably by John White, when assistant to John Hasywood, at Reading (p. 61). The cross *fleurette* and the first shield, which is charged with S. George's cross, are figured on Plate XIX.; the black-letter *æ* does not belong to any set which I have met with elsewhere; the cross *patée* is shown on Plate XVII.; the crowned H, W, and cross are (copies of) the Wokingham set (Plates XV., XVI., and XIX.); the rectangular stamp is the later lion's head, fig 33, and the last shield is fig. 36. The intended beginning of the inscription may be anywhere. Tenor: by Anthony Chandler (p. 226). Saunce: has an odd, somewhat shield-shaped argent, pierced by three upright slots, for the

gibs to pass through, in place of canons. I suppose it to be a seventeenth century bell; straps nailed; wooden lever; iron baldrick. Treble, 2, and saunce, have the gudgeons half-way up the stocks; treble stocks all nailed, and keyed in addition; 2: has seventeenth century hangings, straps nailed; iron baldricks to 2 and tenor.

The oak frame-work to support the turret, comes down to the floor in the north-west corner of the north aisle, with long struts extending eastwards.

23 July, 1552, Hoggeston, Iſm iij belle in the ſteple & on fanct<sup>a</sup>/ bell . . . .  
ij hand belle

18 July 1638, Hogstone 3 bells S<sup>ts</sup> bell . . . the church & steeple [want] pgeting . . . there is like to be a decay betweene y<sup>e</sup> steeple and the church by reason of the fall of the water from y<sup>e</sup> church.

1714, 3 (sanctus not mentioned).

Death Knell: about two hours after the death, but not between sunset and sunrise. Tellers:  $3 \times 3 =$  a male;  $2 \times 3 =$  a female. Then tolling for about half an hour. The tenor used for all over thirteen years of age; second for children; treble for infants.

At funerals one bell (difference according to age, as in the knell), chimed for half an hour previously.

On Sundays, a bell was formerly rung at 8 a.m., but was discontinued when the present clerk was appointed, about 1877. The bells are chimed twenty minutes before Service, with a pause in the middle; then the tenor is rung (?) as Sermon Bell; and the saunce used the last few minutes. The second bell is rung (?) after Morning Service.

Ringling two or three times a week, for two or three weeks before Christmas.

For weddings when requested.

Many thanks to the Rev. C. H. Tomlinson, Rector.

### *HOGSHAW-CUM-FULBROOK.*

Hogshaw Church, dedicated to S. John Baptist, partly destroyed during the Civil War, was afterwards neglected, and from about 1650 divine service was only performed here occasionally.

July 1637, 1 Bell and no more for theſe 40. yeares . . . The Church in Decay w<sup>th</sup>in and w<sup>th</sup>out.

From which it would seem that the Civil War was not (at least, in the first instance) responsible for the destruction of this church.

Browne Willis (according to Lipscomb, I., 269) did not overlook its single bell, which had been taken out of the ruins and kept in the neighbouring mansion, tenanted in Mr. Willis's time by Stevens, a Quaker, who "desecrated the church,

converted it to profane uses, and afterwards broke his neck by a fall from his horse in the grounds, and died instantly" (Willis's MSS.); and when his family quitted Hogshaw this "bell was either sold or carried away."

Hogshaw is now united for ecclesiastical purposes with East Claydon.

*HORSENDEN.*

S. Michael.

*Single.* □ □ □ □ †582 (26)

Four hopelessly illegible letters (fig. 65), followed by particularly clear figures, which are noticeable, this being the earliest dated bell in the county. The first and last letters look like black-letter, filled in with scroll work; the third at first sight seems to be a capital F. The founder is unknown (p. 193). Original stock and straps; the former may be older than the bell; gudgeons near top of stock; wheel keyed; iron baldrick to clapper.

17 July, 1637, Horsingden 3 Bells. . . . The Steeple in decay.

1714, Horsington, 1 bell.

The present church was originally only the chancel, the nave and tower were pulled down in 1765, and the present tower built.\* Only one bell when Browne Willis visited the church in 1728; the other bells were, it is presumed, taken away during the Civil War. Browne Willis's own account is published in the *Records of Bucks*, IV., p. 75, in a letter from him, dated 4th June, 1750, to Mr. John Grubb, the father of the Mr. John Grubb who took down the church. In it he says the church "had at the west end an embattled tower open there at the lofts, with only one bell left, two others being seemingly stolen away or sold." He adds, further on, "I hope all will plead 'for your keeping up the steeple or tower.'"

*HORTON.*

S. Michael.

1. RICHARD PHELPS MADE ME 1727 †  
 † † † † (31½)
2. FEARE GOD 1647 (33)
3. HONOUR GOD EDM<sup>D</sup>: BOWRY W<sup>M</sup>: WELLS  
 CH: W: R: P: FECIT 1719 (33½)
4. THO: SWAIN MADE ME: J752: FRANCIS BOWRY  
 ROBERT SINGER CHURCH WARDENS (37½)
5. PRAYES THE LORD †636  
 E † K (41½)

\* Lipscomb, II., 335.



Treble (p. 98): smaller editions of the two ornaments are figured on Plate XXI. 2: by Ellis and Francis Knight (p. 128), lettering about  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch high. 3: the initials are those of Richard Phelps. 4 (p. 141). Tenor: by Ellis Knight (p. 127); lettering from  $\frac{3}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{8}$  of an inch, except the initials, which are  $1\frac{7}{8}$  inch high; the large *fleur-de-lis* is on Plate XXII. Horizontal iron stays, and perpendicular iron sliders; rough, old wheels; are never rung.

Death Knell tolled as soon after the death as possible. No distinguishing tellers. No bell used at funerals. No churchwardens' accounts extant.

Thanks to the Rev. H. Newton, Rector.

18 July, 1552, If iij great belle in the tower If a Litill bell in the fayd towre  
If the said towre coveryd w<sup>th</sup> lead.

8 Aug: 1637, 5. Bells. a clock. . . . The steeple in decay in the stone worke.  
1714, 5 bells.

*HORWOOD, GREAT (or Harwood-cum-Singleborough).* S. James.

1. C EZ G MEARS LONDINI FECERUNT 1847 (32)
2. I 6 5 2 ☉!☉!☉!☉ CHANDLER MADE ME ☼ (33½)
3. B A ☼ R A ☼ I 6 0 5 (34½)
4. EDWARD HALL MADE ME  
I C E C (37)
5. PRAYSE ☼ YE ☼ THE ☼ LORDE ☼ ALWA-  
YSE ☼ 1623 ☼ I ☼ B ☼ G ☼ V ☼ R ☼ B ☼ (40½)
6. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1847 (46½)
- S. I 6 9 6 (19)

Treble, 2, and tenor: reduced by tuning from lip. The four old bells turned. 2: by Anthony Chandler (p. 224); the pattern is fig. 81; the *fleur-de-lis* is somewhat less broad than the example figured on Plate XXXIII.; lettering, smallest on that plate. 3: Earliest known appearance of Robert Atton, with Bartholomew (p. 200); lettering, and ornament No. 5, on Plate XXX. 4: cracked from canons to inscription, from too heavy clapper; sadly wants iron band round shoulder, and its clapper reduced. Inscription below usual position, in Richard Chandler III.'s  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch lettering (p. 236); the canons have diamond-shaped ornaments. 5: by Robert Atton; samples of this medium-sized lettering are at the bottom of Plate XXXI.; the rose is No. 10 on XXX.; neither pair of the initials are those of the Rector, and it seems possible that the first and third pairs may indicate the same

founders that are similarly referred to on p. 93 (see also pp. 204 and 207). Saunce : evidently by Richard Chandler III., in his 1 inch lettering (p. 232); cracked in the shoulder.

20 July, 1552, Horwood magna,  
 Ifn iij Belle <sup>t</sup>/<sub>w</sub> in the tower & A fans Belle  
 1714, 5 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

Browne Willis (MSS. cix., 29) records the inscription on the third (of five), probably the predecessor of the bell by Hall, as, *Sancte Johannes Baptiste oru pro nobis*. Lipscomb (III., 387) also gives it (no doubt copied from Browne Willis), except that he contracts the first word into *Sc̄e*.; the first version is doubtless the correct one. I take the present treble to be the additional bell, from the fact of the second having been considerably tuned.

Lipscomb (*ib.*) mentions "In the south window of the chancel, are these arms : S. three bells Arg. ; which were the arms of Porter, Warden of New College ; but they have sometimes a canton Erm." William Porter was Warden from 1494 to 1520.\* One cannot help conjecturing that he was the descendant of an early bellfounder,† and that Porter is a corruption of Potter, by which appellation bellfounders were almost invariably known until quite late in the fourteenth century.‡ The Rev. C. F. Porter, Vicar of Banbury, Oxon, and formerly Vicar of Dropmore, Bucks, has the same arms as those displayed in the window, with the addition of a mullet in chief, which is the difference of the third son. He is not, however, aware of any connection with the Warden of New ; his crest (which may be of later adoption) is a Portcullis.

The "Pancake Bell" used to be rung on Shrove Tuesday at 11 a.m., within the memory of persons still living ; the treble was used.

Death Knell : tolled for half an hour, about three or four hours after the death. Tellers :  $3 \times 3 =$  a male ;  $2 \times 3 =$  a female. A bell tolled for half an hour before funerals ; also tolling on the death of a member of the Royal Family, and on occasion of a corpse passing through the parish. If a corpse is brought from elsewhere for interment in this churchyard, the tolling is continued from the time the body enters the parish, until its arrival at the church gate.

On Sundays, the treble is rung at 7 a.m. in summer, and 8 in winter. For Service, bells chimed for twenty minutes, then the tenor rung for ten minutes as Sermon Bell ; the saunce used for the last half minute. These are old usages.

Ringin in the evenings throughout Advent ; also ringin on Christmas, Easter, Ascension, and Whitsun Days ; also on 5th November. Midnight ringin on

\* Chalmers, *Hist. of Oxford University*, 8vo, 1810 (kindly looked up for me by Percy Manning, Esq.). This living is in the gift of New College.

† See p. 17.

‡ *Bells of Surrey*, p. 2.

Christmas and New Year's Eves. Ringing on Shrove Tuesday, and not again until Easter Eve.

Ringing on the day of a wedding, if requested; and on the following Sunday, if the newly-married couple come to church. Treble rung for Vestry Meetings.

The churchwardens' accounts record payments for ringing on 5th November and at Christmas, but appear to contain no other notices concerning the bells.

Very many thanks to the Rev. S. T. Adams, Rector.

*HORWOOD, LITTLE.*

S. Nicholas.

- 1, 3. CHANDLER MADE ME 1672 (29½, 33¼)  
 2. A C I F R B C W 1672 (31½)  
 4. STEPHEN LANGSTON A. M. VICAR GEO. OAKLEY &  
 JOHN CURTIS CHURCH WARDENS. THOS MEARS OF  
 LONDON FECIT 1793 (35)  
 5. 1672 CHANDLER MADE ME (39)  
 8. CHANDLER MADE ME 1690 (15½)

The ring (probably including originally the fourth bell), is in Anthony Chandler's lettering; the saunce is in Richard Chandler III.'s 1.2 inch set; but all have the inscriptions below the rims, and are therefore perhaps, as I would suggest, by Richard Chandler II. (pp. 226, 232). Someone when ringing the tenor, somewhere about the later part of the fifties, missed the sally; and as the stay (as is so often the case) was too strong, it did not give way before the consequent "bump," but caused the bell to be thrown out of its bearings, with the result that it was split, and a piece broken out of the lip as well. The wheel, from long disuse, has almost decayed away. As at Hanslope, and elsewhere, the four lower bells hang round the walls, with the treble cross-cornered in the centre.

This is one of the most filthy and ruinous belfries in the county; the bells are ready to drop from their hangings, and I was kept awake a good part of the night following my visit to it, by the irritation from the bites of the starling vermin, which had here joined company.

23 July, 1552 Lyttyll (*also* Lytle) Horwod Iīm iij belle in the steple & a fanct<sup>a</sup>/  
 bell . . . ij hand belle

(There is a second indenture for "Littill Horwood," of the same date, with similar entries, but on the reverse side, is :) this Invytory . . . . . (*probably* "wanteth") ij hanbelle. . . . .

1714, 5 bells.

The "Pancake Bell" used to be rung on Shrove Tuesday at noon ; discontinued during the sixties probably.

Death Knell tolled about an hour after death, or as soon as information is sent to the clerk. The tenor used for adults ; the fourth for children under 14 (?). Tellers :  $3 \times 3 =$  a male ;  $2 \times 3 =$  a female. Tolling for five minutes, about an hour before funerals, and continuously for the last half-hour, ceasing as the body reaches the gate.

On Sundays, the bells are chimed for the Services ; the tenor rung (?) for the last five minutes, and called the Sermon Bell ; then the saunce until the clergyman appears in church. These usages are of old establishment.

The bells are rung for practice before Christmas ; and at Christmas and New Year there are "early peals." There is also ringing on 5th November and S. Andrew's Day (30th November), and on the day of a wedding.

There is an endowment of 2s. 6d. for ringing on 5th November.

A bell rung for Vestry Meetings.

Many thanks to the Rev. F. R. W. Malpas, Vicar.

### HUGHENDEN.

S. Michael.

1, 2. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1881.  
(On Waist:) IN MEMORY OF EARL BEACONSFIELD.

---

PRESENTED BY ROBERT WARNER ESQ<sup>R</sup>  
BELL FOUNDER TO HER MAJESTY  
QUEEN VICTORIA.



(On opposite side of Waist of Treble:)

YEAR BY YEAR THE STEEPLE MUSIC  
OER THE FENCED GRAVES SHALL POUR,  
WHERE THE DUST OF SAINTS IS GARNERED  
TILL THE MASTER COMES ONCE MORE. (27)

(On opposite side of Waist of 2:)

CHRISTIAN MEN SHALL HEAR AT DISTANCE  
IN THEIR TOIL, OR IN THEIR REST,  
JOYING THAT IN ONE COMMUNION  
OR ONE CHURCH, THEY TOO ARE BLEST. (28)

3. **M**eans et Stainbank, Londini, Recerunt, 1875. (28 $\frac{3}{4}$ )






(On Waist:) "Laudate Dominum omnes ejus Angeli."

4. (*Ditto on Shoulder.*)

(*On Waist :*) “**D**ominum campanæ clangore laudate.”  
(29½)

5. 6.

ANAN†AS      WR†GHT      W†LL†AM      RVSEL      C □ W  
H ∪ K +663

7.  ⊕  Sancta ⊕  Maria ∪  O-  
ra  Pro [ ]obis □ (36)

8.   ristc  aptista  ampana  
 audeat  ista □ ⊕ (41½)

Treble and 2 : Mr. Robert Warner was the head of the Cripplegate firm when these bells were cast. It is hardly necessary to remind anyone that Lord Beaconsfield owned Hughenden Manor, and is buried in this churchyard ; the two bells were dedicated by the Rev. Canon Blagden, Vicar, at a special Service, on 20th August, 1881. 3 and 4 : by Mr. Robert Stainbank (p. 117), they are a very good “splice” on to the four old bells. 5 and 6 : probably by the second Henry, and the second Ellis, Knight, in partnership (p. 130) ; letters about  $\frac{9}{16}$  inch high, figures  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch ; the Ellis Knight shield, and the “churchwarden” ? figure, between the letters c w, are shown on Plate XXII. 7 and tenor : from the Wokingham Foundry, in the fifteenth century ; the crowned initial cross and capitals are on Plates XV. and XVI. The seventh is (as I suppose, see p. 57), by John Michell, the shield (fig. 36) being that of his predecessor, Roger Landen, and the last stamp, the later lion’s head (fig. 33). The tenor is (as I suppose, see p. 52), by Landen’s predecessor, whose name we do not know ; the square stamp is the older lion’s head (fig. 32) ; the last letter of “Crist—,” which is quoted on p. 52 as *ī*, is probably not that letter, but intended for an *ē*, though it does not match that letter in “Gaudeat,” but more resembles a long *ℓ* or *ℓ*. The initial of “Nobis” on 7, has entirely corroded away, if it ever was stamped, which admits of doubt.

The six lower bells were hung by Mears and Stainbank, in 1875, in the new tower substituted for the original (? Early English) one.

Belfry very nicely kept ; this being at the present time the principal ringing tower in the county. Numerous Peals have been rung here during the last few years, by members of the Oxford Diocesan Ringing Guild, the majority by local bands, in the following methods : Triples—Grandsire, and Stedman ; Major—Plain

Bob, Alliance, Treble Bob, Double Norwich Court Bob, and London Surprise. The two first peals were Holt's Ten-part Peal of Grandsire Triples, on December 29th, 1883, and Thurstan's Peal of Stedman Triples, on December 8th, 1884, both by sides from Oxford.

Death Knell as soon as possible after the death : " chiming and missing two ; " *i.e.*, one blow chimed, then during two swings of the bell, the clapper is allowed to miss, the next swing the bell is made to speak again, and so on.

No ringing at funerals except on special occasions, *e.g.*, Lord Beaconsfield's funeral, April 26th, 1881, when there was muffled ringing.

On Sundays, the bells are rung for Morning and Evening Service ; also before the early Celebration on Festivals. Before the ring was completed, the bells were chimed for the Services.

Midnight ringing on Christmas and New Year's Eves ; also ringing on Christmas Day. For weddings if required. Ringing on special parish festivals, Choir Outing, Sunday School Feast, etc.

July, 1552, Hichynden.

iij bells in the Steple a lytill bele in the Steple callid the sanctis bele.

(Another indenture of the same date, has) Huchynden

If iij belle in the steple a lytell bell in the steple called the Saunce belle.

If another bell called the Sacryng bell

11 Aug: 1637, Hitchenden 3. Bells. S<sup>ts</sup> Bell. The window in the bellfry pt dambd up. The butterices of the steeple on the north side . . . & the steeple in decay in the stone worke. The Chur : & steeple wants pgeting.

1714, 4 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

The churchwardens' accounts go back to about 1685 ; the following are extracts from them :—

|      |                                                                                                                                     |     |     |     |         |
|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|---------|
| 1688 | I paid Ringers for Gunpowder Treason                                                                                                | ... | ... | ... | 2,,6    |
| 1690 | (The same)                                                                                                                          | ... | ... | ... | 2.0     |
| 1691 | For a Bushell of Moulte for the Ringers at Gunpowder Treason                                                                        | ... | ... | ... | 4.0     |
| 1694 | Payed for Ringing y <sup>e</sup> Bell on the Queens* Buriall Day                                                                    | ... | ... | ... | 1.6     |
| 1702 | Paid Grove for Malt at the Thronation†                                                                                              | ... | ... | ... | 7.0     |
|      | bellropes...                                                                                                                        | ... | ... | ... | 7.6     |
|      | Paid for Malt at Gunpowder Treason                                                                                                  | ... | ... | ... | 10.6    |
| 1704 | For expenses at the Visitation & Parish Meetings, & for Mault for Ringers, & for Bread & Wine & works done at y <sup>e</sup> Church | }   |     |     | 3.13.11 |
| 1705 | Goddy Burkott for watters w <sup>h</sup> the workmen drank, when they repayed the Bells                                             | ... | ... | ... | 2.10    |
|      | nigh‡ Wright for two bussell of Malt for Gunpowder Trefson                                                                          | ... | ... | ... | 6.0     |

\* Mary, died December 28th. † Anne crowned April 23rd.

‡ Ananias, probably the son of the churchwarden of the same name, who is recorded on the fifth and sixth bells.

|      |                                                                                                        |     |     |               |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|---------------|
| 1706 | Moses Puttonham for Iron work for Bells ...                                                            | ... | ... | 4 . 9         |
|      | mending Bell Frame ...                                                                                 | ... | ... | 13 . 6        |
| 1708 | a Bushell & a half of Malt Brewed for Ringing at Gunpowder Treason                                     |     |     | 5 . 0         |
| 1710 | for a Bushel & a half of malt for the Ringers on 6 <sup>th</sup> of January ...                        |     |     | 6 . 9         |
| 1717 | 2 Quarterns of Tobacco spent on Ringing days                                                           | ... | ... | . 9           |
| 1722 | Paid Matt East a Bill for Malt & other things he hath                                                  | }   | ... | 01 ,, 08 ,, 8 |
|      | been out of Pocket about the Church Bells                                                              |     |     |               |
| 1723 | P <sup>d</sup> Daniel Weedon a Bill for Ironwork for y <sup>e</sup> Bells of y <sup>e</sup> Church ... |     |     | 00 . 17 . 08  |

Very many thanks to the Rev. Canon Blagden, late Vicar.

### HULCOT.

All Saints.

|    |         |     |               |      |   |               |   |      |                     |                     |
|----|---------|-----|---------------|------|---|---------------|---|------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. | (Blank) |     |               |      |   |               |   |      | (22)                |                     |
| 2. |         |     |               |      |   |               |   |      | (26 $\frac{3}{4}$ ) |                     |
|    | +       | Æ   | B             | E    | E | G             | D | D    | I                   | Ɔ                   |
| 3. | ⊕       | GOD |               | SAVE |   | OVR           |   | KING |                     | 1621                |
|    |         |     | <del>IK</del> |      |   | <del>EN</del> |   |      |                     | (27 $\frac{1}{2}$ ) |

Treble: as likely to be by Richard Keene as by anyone else that one can think of (p. 171); rims one inch apart, with a raised band between them where the inscription would be, less than half an inch wide. 2: probably cast during Mary's reign; founder unknown, but for a suggestion, see p. 188. These letters were originally crowned, as in Plate XXVII., but being reversed, it seems as if the next founder into whose hands they passed, had cut the crowns off, so that some of the letters, used the other way up, came the right way about. Tenor: an early bell by James Keene, in conjunction with E. N., concerning whom, see p. 161. Initial cross, No. 3, on Plate XXVI., where the lettering used for the initials is shown; some straps nailed, the others keyed. All the clappers cased in wood, and therefore, doubtless, have iron baldricks.

23 July, 1552, Huccott, In the steple [iij belle]\* thre belle In the churche ij handbelle

28 July, 1637, Hulcott, Bells. 3.

1714, 3 bells.

Death Knell tolled for an hour immediately after death, if before sunset; otherwise the following morning. Tellers: both before and after the knell, three strokes on each bell = an adult; two strokes on each = a person of either sex between the ages of 14 and 20 years; and one stroke on each bell = a child under 14 years. Tenor used for adults; second for persons between 14 and 20; and treble for children up to 14 years.

\* Erased.

On Sundays, the bells are chimed for a quarter of an hour before each Service. These are old usages.

Apparently no entries concerning the bells in the old churchwardens' accounts. Many thanks to the Rev. Edward Bonus, Rector.

*IBSTONE.*

S. Nicholas.

*Treble. (Blank)*



Tenor: the zig zags form roughly, equilateral triangles, being three inches high, and an average of three inches or rather less, broad. They are rather long-waisted bells, and perhaps date from the eighteenth century (p. 266).









Death Knell tolled on day of death, provided there is time before sunset; no tellers. A bell tolled at funerals.

Bells rung (?) at weddings.

Thanks to Rev. H. Joscelyne, Rector.

*ICKFORD.*

S. Nicholas.

|    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |       |
|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 1. |        | (28½) |
| 2. | <b>CHANDLER MADE ME I716</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | (31)  |
| 3. | <b>LET YoVR HOPE BE</b><br><b>IN THE LORD</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | (36½) |
| S. | W: TAYLOR FECIT 1847.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | (14)  |

Treble: founder unknown, see p. 188; the initial cross and lettering are on the lower half of Plate XIV., except the J, which is on Plate XXVII.; crown-staple broken. 2: by "the firm" at Drayton Parslow, in George Chandler's 1¾ inch letters; old high stock; wheel and some of the straps keyed, others renewed. Tenor: one of the earliest bells by Ellis Knight (p. 126), the *fleur-de-lis* is like the larger example on Plate XXII., but has rather less widely-spread arms. Old stock, with large horizontal mortise, apparently for a lever. All three have old wheels like half-wheels; no stays; iron baldricks and wooden splints.

23 July, 1552, Yckeford, Iſm iij great Belles Iſm one Sancte Bell Iſm one handbell  
 1714, 3 bells (saunce not mentioned).



Death Knell: tellers at beginning; for a male over six years old, the bells are chimed round three times, followed by ringing the tenor; for a female over six, twice round, followed by ringing the second; and for a child under six, bells once round, followed by ringing the treble. Until after the coming of the present Rector (in 1861) the ringing was continued for an hour, but he curtailed it to fifteen or even ten minutes. Not rung between sunset and sunrise.

On Sundays, the second is rung for five minutes (up and down). For Morning and Afternoon (or Evening) Service, the bells are chimed for twenty or twenty-five minutes: but rung on Christmas and Easter Days, and other great festivals. If a sermon, the tenor is *rung* alone for five minutes. Saunce the last five minutes.

Ringling on 5th November, and periodically from about a fortnight later, to end of year. On Christmas Eve, from about 6 to 7 p.m. On Christmas Day, from 6 to 7 a.m., and 6 to 7 p.m. For the New Year, ringing either 6 to 7 p.m. on the eve, or 5 to 6 a.m. on the day. For weddings, ringing if ordered, after the Service, and again later on in the day. Until about 1875, a bell was chimed for Vestry Meetings.

No churchwardens' accounts exist; and no notes of bells in registers, or other parish documents.

Many thanks to the Rev. T. A. Turner, Curate in charge.

*ILMER.*

S. Peter.

1. ✠ HENRI KNIGHT MADE  
MEE ANO 1618 (30½)

2. ✠ gloria in excelsis  
deo 1586 WK (34)

3. ✠ Sancta Margareta Ora  
Pro Nobis W H (37)

Treble: by Henry Knight I. (p. 124). 2: by his father, William Knight (p. 122). 3: may be safely assigned to William Hasywood (p. 58); the initial cross and capital letters are shown on Plates XVII. and XVIII., and the shield, charged with S. George's Cross, on XIX. The tower is of wood, at the W. end, supported by oak frame starting from the ground inside the nave walls, (as at Hoggeston and Saunderton).

23 July, 1552, Ilmere Inpmis iij belle a fannfe bell & a hande bell.

17 July, 1637, Ilder, . . . the Steeple to be repaired in the whole (bells not mentioned.)  
1714, 3 bells.

Lipscomb, I., 292, says, "in the tower are two little bells." This is probably a mistake.

*IVER.*

S. Peter.

1. RICHARD ABROOK & GEORGE BINFIELD CH. WARDENS.  
ROBT PATRICK OF LONDON FOUNDER.

1787

(32½)

2. ♪ GLORY TO GOD ON HIGH ♪ OUR VOICES SHALL  
WITH JOYFUL SOUND MAKE HILLS AND VALLEYS ♪  
ECHO ROUND LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FE-  
CIT 1768 (*Incised* :) S,, BATTING & G,, BINFIELD CH,, WARDENS

I,, SPENCER CLARK

(34)

3. PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1770   
 (*Incised* :) JN<sup>o</sup> THACKTHWAITE & S,, BOWRY CH,, WARDENS,,

(38)

4. 5. MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON 1885.  
(—, 41½)

6. ♪ THE REV: MR JOHN BRETT SAUNDERS VICAR & JOHN  
ELTON JOSEPH THACKTHET CHURCH WARDENS : R<sup>T</sup> CATLIN  
FECIT J747

(46½)

S.

1792

(20½)

Treble: the latest bell known by Patrick (p. 103). 4 and 5: by Mr. Lawson, the present proprietor of the Whitechapel Foundry, whence the second and third also come (pp. 100, 101, 117). The former fourth was inscribed: "T. Lester of London made me" (no date, but evidently before he took Pack into partnership in 1752); cracked by 1864, and all the canons broken off; diameter, 39 inches. The former fifth bore: "The Five Old Bells. recast in 1747, By A voluntary Subscription into A Peal of Six Bells, John Spencer, W<sup>m</sup> Bunyon, Collectors, Joshua Shure (?), Samuell Stanbard, Tho<sup>e</sup> Swain made me, 1754." A piece broken out of the sound-bow by 1864; diameter, 41½ inches. (These two inscriptions are from notes by Mr. Henry Wilson, of Windsor, kindly put at my disposal by Mr. A. D. Tyssen.) If Catlin cast the whole ring of six, as implied by the late fifth, the bells must either have been badly cast, or else met with very bad usage, as five out of the six were recast within forty years! Tenor (p. 141): the Rev. J. B. Saunders was Perpetual Curate; he appears to have been licensed in the year that this bell was cast; his successor was licensed in 1755. Saunce: evidently from the Whitechapel Foundry,

and therefore by Thomas Mears I. (p. 104). All rehung by Mears and Stainbank in 1885.

18 July, 1552, Yver, Iſn iiij grett Belle & a lytell fans bell Iſn the ſtýpell ys leded.

5 Aug: 1637, 5 bells a clock S<sup>t</sup>s Bell . . . the butterices of the ſteeple in decay in the foundacon. The Bellfry porch out of reþre.

1714, 5 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

Death Knell tolled the morning following the death ; tellers, at end,  $3 \times 3 =$  a male ;  $2 \times 3 =$  a female ; the treble used for children. Muffled ringing on the death of a ringer, and at the funeral.

On Sundays, two bells are chimed for ten minutes, at 8 a.m. Five bells are chimed for Morning and Evening Service, followed by the sanctus for the last ten minutes.

The old year is rung out, and the new one in.

Ringinġ for weddings on wedding day when paid for.

A bell is tolled for Vestry Meetings.

Many thanks to the Rev. W. S. Ward, Vicar.

### IVER HEATH.

S. Margaret.

*Single.*

J. Warner & Sons, 1861.

Patent.

(33)

Modern church and parish. For the inscription, I am indebted to the notes of Mr. Henry Wilson, of Windsor (1864), kindly lent me by Mr. Tyssen. Thickness at sound-bow,  $1\frac{5}{8}$  inches.

### IVINGHOE.

S. Mary.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

( $31\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $32\frac{3}{4}$ ,  $34\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $36\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $40\frac{1}{2}$ )

CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1875.

6.

( $44\frac{1}{4}$ )

CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1875.

S. (*Blank*)

(16)

The present ring takes the place of "five good bells," as Lipscomb calls them ; and Sheahan (p. 696) alludes to them as "five large and excellent bells, and a small bell." They were exchanged chiefly, as I understood, because, in the Vicar's judgment, they were too heavy for the tower. Unfortunately no note of any kind was taken concerning them, before they were destroyed, except that in the *Records of Bucks*, II., 46 (1859), the tenor is mentioned as dated 1628, and inscribed :—

“*Sacra manet Christi plebisque religio vana.*” Browne Willis (MSS. xxxviii., 2) gives its weight as “2900,” and (*ib.*, cix., 30) mentions a bell, formerly at Bletchley, which had this inscription. Saunce: probably seventeenth century; canons ornamented with two isosceles triangle-shaped buttresses or spurs to each; straps nailed; pair through the centre of the stock, keyed; iron baldrick; half-wheel. The frame, altered by Warner, is probably eighteenth or seventeenth century.

23 July, 1552, Iwyngho, 1fm v belle & a fawnfe bell. (There is a second Inventory, of the same date.)

29 July, 1637, 5 Bells & a S<sup>ts</sup> Bell . . . The ringing loft to be taken downe and the next loft to be layd lower as formerly.

1714, 5 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

The Rev. H. J. Rawlinson (Vicar in 1875) kindly informed me that the churchwardens bought a *second-hand clapper* for the former tenor, which was too heavy, and at once cracked it. One of the bells was supposed to have been exchanged with Marsworth, and others with other places. He thought there were no inscriptions on any of the bells, but this was a mistake, at least with regard to the tenor, and even four blanks in one tower are unlikely.

The Curfew was continued until (probably) the destruction of the old ring.

Death Knell: tenor used for “an old person,” the other bells for younger persons, according to age. Tellers: 3 × 3 = male; 2 × 3 = female. A bell tolled for half an hour before funerals.

On Sundays, until the present Vicar came in 1889, a bell was rung at 8 a.m. It is now only rung on the Sundays on which there is an Early Celebration. The bells are rung for one Service and chimed for the other alternately.

Ringin on anniversary of restoration of church, and on the Queen’s Birthday.

Many thanks to the Rev. A. E. Wanton, Vicar.

There was formerly a chapel, dedicated to S. James, in the hamlet of Ivinghoe Aston,\* which the Commissioners, in 1547, reported “distant from the parish of Ivinghoe by Estimation one mile and an half,” which probably had a bell; and at the hamlet of S. Margaret, distant four or five miles from Ivinghoe Church, was “The Priory or Nunnery of the Order of St. *Benets*,” where, at the time of the dissolution, the Commissioners reported, “Bells, Lead, and other Buildings worth 8*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.*”†

### KIMBLE, GREAT.

S. Nicholas.

1, 2. G. MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1860.

(*On Waist*:) JOHN ORMOND VICAR.

|                 |   |                |          |
|-----------------|---|----------------|----------|
| WILLIAM READING | } | CHURCHWARDENS. | (27, 29) |
| ABEL REDRUP     |   |                |          |

\* *Records of Bucks*, I., 198, etc.

† Browne Willis, *Hist. of Abbies*, II., 23.

3. ✠ gloria ◇ in ◇ ercescu l ◇ de o  
 HK I 5 8 7 (30½)
4. ✠ aue ◇ maria ◇ gracia ◇ plena  
 HK I 5 8 7 P W (32¾)
5. HONAR GOD 1635 (36¾)

The two Mears bells take the place of one, inscribed: PRAYSE THE LORD 1618, which may have been either the treble or tenor, but most likely the first: Lipscomb's reference (II., 349) is confused, and suggests some omission; but as it stands, it seems to intimate that it was either the treble or the third. Lukis (*Church Bells*, p. 63) also quotes the bells in wrong order, and calls it the *third*, which is not at all likely. Possibly the bell was by James Keene; if so, the word YE is doubtless omitted. The Rev. John Ormond was presented to the living in 1857. 3 and 4: two of Henry Knight I.'s first bells (p. 123). Who P W (4th) was I do not know; he was not the Vicar; he may have been H. Knight's assistant, or the churchwarden. Tenor: by Ellis Knight I., son and successor of Henry Knight I. (p. 127); lettering from 1 to 1⅓ inch.

The two new trebles were hung by White (of Appleton, Berks). The three old bells hang loose from old, rotten stocks; the straps are modern—probably by White; they have the maker's mark, V, on them. 3: much tuned away at lip; crown-staple broken, wheel, etc., by White. 4: crown-staple broken, and a nut missing from the new staple (through the crown). Tenor: badly cracked across crown and shoulder, no doubt in consequence of hanging loose on the stock; it badly needs an iron band shrunk round its shoulder (and, of course, a new stock!).

The frame is old, possibly contemporary with Henry Knight's bells; but the cages have been rearranged, to hold the present number of bells.

23 July, 1552, Kymbell Magna, lfm iij belle hangyng in the steple & ijº hand belle  
 17 July, 1637, Kimbell magª 4 Bells . . . The bellfry dore to be repayred . . . the bellfry unpaved . . . The belfry and the west end of the north Isle unpaved.  
 1714, 4 bells.

Death Knell: as soon as the sexton is told. Tellers: 3 × 3 = a man; 2 × 3 = a woman; 1 × 3 = a child. Then the age is tolled. Before funerals, one bell is tolled for an hour.

On Sundays, the bells are usually chimed for the Services.

Many thanks to the late Rev. E. K. Clay, Vicar.

**KIMBLE, LITTLE.**

All Saints.

1, 2. **RECAST BY J WARNER & SONS LONDON 1875** (18 $\frac{3}{4}$ , 19 $\frac{3}{4}$ )*Small bell (kept, unhung, at Rectory):* **R**  
**R ♯ S ♯ E S Q ♯ 1 J 1 3** (17 $\frac{1}{2}$ )

On treble, the word **BY**, is represented by the letter **Y** only. The two bells have square canons, and hang in a new gable, at the W. end of the church. They were "recast" from one larger bell. For the small bell, see p. 266.

23 July, 1552, pua Kymbell, . . . ij belle in the Steple A Sanctus bell ij hand belle 1714, one bell. (This would be the bell now melted, not the small unhung bell.)

Lipscomb (II., 354) says of the old arrangement:—

A small turret; with a little spire, covered with lead, near the west end, recently erected, to contain a clock presented by Sir Scrope Bernard Morland, Bart. Lord of the Manor and Patron, who purchased it, circ. 1810, on the demolition of the seat of Philip Earl of Chesterfield, at Eythorpe.

The family there (*op. cit.*, I., 483) was Stanhope, but I cannot find an owner for the initial **R**; else it seems likely that the small bell, now at the Rectory, came here with the clock.

Death Knell: an hour after death (? if day time); apparently no tellers.

On Sundays, the bells chimed for Services; one bell for the last five minutes.

Chiming at weddings.

Thanks to the Rev. A. K. Hobart Hampden, Rector.

**KINGSEY.**

S. Nicholas.

1. **FEARE** **GOD** **‡ 6 3 2** (31 $\frac{1}{2}$ )

2. **‡AMES** ♣ **KEENE** ♣ **MADE** ♣ **MEE** ♣  
1625 **AH** ♣  
~~~~~ (36 $\frac{1}{2}$ )

3. **‡AMES** **KEENE** ♣ **MADE** ♣
ME ♣ **1628** ♣ (39)

S. (*Blank*) (14)

^ Treble: by Ellis Knight (p. 127). 2 and 3: the lettering is James Keene's later heavy set (pp 162, 164); the *fleurs-de-lis* on the second are No. 5, and on the tenor, No. 7, on Plate XXVI.; the running pattern on the lower line of the second, is fig. 61, and the long-shaped stop on the tenor is the imperfect arabesque, fig. 62. Keene's bells have larger and more solid canons than E. Knight's. All three

clappers cased in wood; horizontal iron stays and sliders. Saunce: probably seventeenth century (p. 171); the leather baldrick is here still retained in the form of a strap and buckle; wooden lever.

23 July, 1552, Kyngfeye (*also* Kynseye) iij belles in the styple ij hand belles & a sacryng bell.

July, 1637, 3 Bells S^{ts} Bell . . . The steeple crackt and wants pgeting.
1714, 3 (sanctus not mentioned).

The church was rebuilt about 1800, and again nearly so, in 1893-4. The bells removed to ground, and no opening large enough to re-admit them, left in the tower!

LACEY GREEN.

S. John the Baptist.

Modern parish; church built 1826; one bell.

LANE END.

Holy Trinity.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.

Mears & Stainbank, Founders, London

Presented by

H. W. Cripps  

Parmoor 1878

(*Tenor*, 33½)

The lightest ring of six in the county (p. 117). The church was rebuilt in 1878, and the bells were presented at that time by Mr. Henry William Cripps, Q.C., J.P., who was at that time living at Parmoor, in Hambleton parish. They take the place of a single bell by one of the Mears family, most probably Thomas Mears II., the original church having been built in 1832.

Death Knell: as soon as the death is reported to the sexton. Tellers: 3 × 3 = a man; 2 × 3 = a woman; 1 × 3 = a child. Single bell tolled for funerals.

On Sundays, ringing for Morning and Evening Services; treble alone for last five minutes. Single bell tolled for Afternoon Service.

Ringling for weddings, if paid for. One bell for Vestry Meetings. Ringling on New Year's Eve.

Many thanks to the late Rev. J. K. Best, Vicar.

The bells were hung by George Oliver (of Whitechapel, working for Messrs. Mears and Stainbank), whose grandfather hung the Great Marlow ring in 1835; and they were rung for the first time by ringers from Great Marlow.

LANGLEY MARISH.

S. Mary.

1. ∞ THOS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1792 RICH^D
MOORE & EDW^D IVE CH. WARDENS. $\leftarrow \infty \rightarrow$ (33)
2. BENIAMIN \equiv STILE \equiv AGENT \equiv FOR THE
WORK OF THE BELLS \equiv 1649 \equiv (35½)
3. W WHITMORE NOS FECIT MICHAEL
TRENLEY AGENT \equiv WW \equiv 1649 (38)
4. LET ARONS BELLS BE RVNG \equiv WITH PR-
AISES STIL AMONG W W 1649 (42)
5. THOMAS IOHNSON THOMAS LOGGROVE CHV-
RCH WARDENS \dagger RICHARD PHELPS \dagger MADE \dagger ME \dagger 1706 (47)

Treble: by the first Thomas Mears (p. 104). 2, 3, 4 (p. 249): the lettering is about 1.1 inch high; the little rectangular stop measures $\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{5}{16}$ inch, and bears an heraldic *bend*. A good many persons of the name Style are buried here, and at the neighbouring parishes of Upton and Wraysbury. 4: turned; canons broken. Tenor (p. 98).

18 July, 1552, langley marez iiij belle in the Steple one Handbell/

5 Aug: 1637, 5 Bells.

1714, ditto.

LATHBURY.

All Saints.

1. EDWARD HALL MADE ME 1731 (29½)
2. NEWCOME MADE ME (32½)
3. + GOD \clubsuit SHVE \clubsuit OVR \clubsuit KING
 \clubsuit 1627 \clubsuit \mathbb{K} FC \clubsuit RP \clubsuit CW \clubsuit (34½)
4. GOD SHVE OVR KING 1629 (39)

Treble (p. 236): high canons; round, sloping, shoulder; inscription below usual position; Richard Chandler III.'s 1.2 inch lettering. 2: probably cast at Bedford, by one or more of the sons of Edward Newcombe I. (p. 156); original stock; straps bolted; crown-staple broken. 3 and 4: by James Kcene (pp. 163, 164); the initial cross on the third is No. 4, and the *fleur-de-lis*, No. 6, on Plate XXVI., where the letters \mathbb{I} \mathbb{K} are also figured; the smaller lettering (about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch high), which follows those initials, I have only met with elsewhere in the letters Q and T,

5. † : SIR : ANTHONY : CHESTER : BARONETT : ∞
 : ∞ : THOMAS : NEWTON : ESQ : ∞ : ∞ : ∞ : ∞ : ∞ : ∞
 † : ALEXANDER : RIGBE : MADE : ME : J 6 8 9 : ∞ :
 RICHARD : BRYAN : AND : IOHN : SCOTT : CH : W : ∞ :
 ∞ (39)

For A. Rigby, of Stamford, see p. 246. The double scroll is fig. 84.

Treble : several canons broken ; ingenious iron clamp encloses them, and keeps them in place ; wheel rotten. 4 : canons all off. Tenor : turned.

All rehung some years ago by F. White (of Appleton, Berks), in the old frame ; on the tenor cage is carved :—

· IS RB : C^H : W^D : 1690

The hangings are now in a somewhat rotten condition ; there is no wiring to the large two-light ogee windows.

In the year previous to the casting of this ring, Rigby supplied a bell to the neighbouring church of Cold Brafield, which is annexed to this parish.

Sir Anthony Chester, whose name is recorded on the tenor, was the third baronet ; he was buried in February, 1698, æt. sixty-four. See Chicheley, p. 348.

Mr. Thomas Newton, whose name likewise appears on the tenor, purchased the manor of Lavendon, in, or shortly after, 1660, from Robert Eccleston, Esq., whose grandfather, of the same name, had purchased it, c. 1617, from Mr. William Newton, of Yardley Hastings, in Northampts, but on the borders of Bucks. The latter had originally purchased it c. 1610 ; his relationship to Thomas is not known.

Lipscomb (IV., 213, etc.) mentions another Thomas Newton, who was instituted to the Vicarage of Lavendon-cum-Brafield, 1st March, 1580, and buried here 28th May, 1629 ; but whether the three form a family sequence does not appear. Richard Newton, D.D., youngest son of the first-named Thomas, born at Yardley Chase, in or about 1676, became Principal of Hart Hall in Oxford University ; and in 1740, he obtained a Charter whereby it was raised to the denomination of Hertford College ; he had no son.

xij^m die m̄cij 1555 (The Monastery of —) Lavenden* { The leade ther (&c.)
 The belle ther — iiij

{ The belle . were . fold : by the
 faid Damestre as apperyth by
 certiff remaynyng And he therfor
 ys to anwer for it ys not
 charged in any of his accompt
 charged in Comp^o An^o xxvij^o H viij^{ui}

* P. ix.

Browne Willis,* apparently referring to the same Survey, mentions that this Monastery "was of the Order of the *Premonstratenses*," and the "Bells, Lead, &c. worth by Estimation 73*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*"

1714, 5 bells.

LECKHAMPSTEAD. [Assumption of the†] B. V. Mary.

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|--|---|----|------|-----|---|-------|---|---|-------|
| 1. | g | a | b | d | e | v | i | r | g | |
| o | | m | a | t | | r | | | | (37½) |
| 2. | — CHANDLER — MADE — ME ————— 1664 ———— | | | | | | | | | (39¾) |
| 3. | CHANDLER | | | MADE | ME | | 1662 | | | (44¼) |
| S. | | | | | | | | | | (18⅝) |
| † | CRESCIT | 5 | ME | V | MRI | 5 | RECET | | | |

Treble: the inscription is spaced out very irregularly all round the bell, with nothing to mark beginning or ending, but is intended for, *Gaude Virgo Mater*; this set of black-letter belonged to John Saunders, of Reading (*ob.* 1559), but no other bell is known by him so irregularly spaced; so perhaps this bell may be by William Welles, either sent when foreman to execute a distant order on the spot, or by him after he had succeeded to the business (p. 76). 2: Anthony Chandler's lettering, but the inscription is down among the rims, and the bell is therefore, perhaps, by Richard Chandler II. (p. 267). Tenor: by Anthony Chandler, a splendid bell, turned and rehung. Short wooden stays, and iron bolt-like sliders to all; iron baldricks and wooden splints. Saunce: this interesting bell is hopelessly split; the lettering is the lower set on Plate VIII., which only occurs elsewhere to my knowledge at Chetwode; a short-waisted bell, canons broken, and their substitutes are keyed. I have puzzled more than a little over the donor; the K probably does duty for either H or R, but I cannot find any name, either among the Lords of the Manors, the Rectors, or the Priors of Luffield Priory, with which this parish was connected, at all resembling it. The Chastillons held the third manor here soon after 1167; there is a Return (*Teste de Nevill*) in Henry II.'s time, that Hugh de Chasteleyn stood seized of the Manor of Great Leckhampstead. The second manor came into possession of the family by the reign of Richard I. In John's reign, the Chastillons were patrons of the church of this parish, and continued so through the reigns of Henry III., and the three first Edwards; and in Richard II.'s reign (*i.e.*, towards the end of the fourteenth century), they conveyed their Demesnes to the Gernons.†

* Browne Willis, *Hist. of the Abbies*, II. 23. † B. Willis, *Hist. Buck. Hund.*, p. 208.

† *Ibid.*, p. 205.

There seems no reason to doubt that the Chetwode bell, on which this lettering occurs, dates from about the middle of the fourteenth century, but the date of the Leckhampstead bell is slightly doubtful. It is almost obviously later than that at Chetwode, because the letters H and R appear to be missing, and the long-tailed Q has been cut in three, and the portions are used as stops (see p. 16); also the letters of each word are here grouped together, with a considerable space between each word and stop, instead of being, as at Chetwode, spaced out almost equidistantly, without increase of space between the words; and these details, together, perhaps, with the blundered Latin, seem to point to a much later date—even possibly to the sixteenth century. On the other hand, it is extremely unlikely that a set of letters, used so seldom that only a solitary instance has come down to us, should have been put aside for a couple of centuries, and then again used only (so far as our information goes) once.

If we suppose the date of the bell to be late fourteenth century, or quite early in the fifteenth, we should expect to find either a Chastillon or a Gernon as its donor; but not only is the name on the bell very unlike the former, and quite unlike the latter, and equally unlike any later name connected with the parish—but it is also very unlikely that the surname alone would have been inscribed; and in the absence of any Christian name at all resembling *CKESTIT*, the only explanation I can suggest, and which I only offer under all reserve, is, that the word stands for *CHESTID*, = “placed in a coffin,”* and that the inscription records that some notable “deceased,” probably a lord of the manor, bequeathed money to provide the bell. I shall at any time be very much obliged for a better explanation.

Carved on the frame, which is fixed into the wall, is: G ◇ q

9 July, 1637, Leckhamstead, 3 Bells and S^{ts} Bell.

1714, 3 (saunce not mentioned).

At another place in Browne Willis's MSS. (xxii., 94) is:—

At the west end is a square strong embatteld Tower in which hang 3 heavy Lumbring Bells.

And in his *Hist. Buck. Hund.*:—

At the West End is a broad embattled Tower, in which hang three pretty large Bells, the two biggest were cast 1662 and 1664.

Death Knell (on the tenor): as soon after the death as possible. Tellers: 3 × 3 = a man; 2 × 3 = a woman; 1 × 3 = a child.

At funerals, the tenor tolled for about half an hour, ceasing when the procession reaches the gates.

On Sundays, the treble is rung up and down, at 8, 9, and 10 a.m. The three bells chimed for the Services. Before the chiming for matins, the tenor is rung up

* Halliwell's *Dict. of Provl. & Arch. Words.*

and down as Sermon Bell. Immediately after the Service, a bell—generally the second—is rung up and down, as Sermon Bell for the Evening Service. These are, probably, ancient usages. The saunce is too far gone for use.

Ringing for weddings when ordered.

In the Register is the following :—

1st Bell unknown. 2nd made by Chandler, A. D. 1662. 3rd by ditto, 1664. 4th or Saints' bell, unknown.

(It will be observed that even this simple statement is incorrect, the dates on second and tenor being transposed.)

Many thanks to the Rev. H. C. Tompkins, Rector.

LEE.

S. John Baptist.

Single.

(20)

✠ M J C B A E I : D E : U U U M B J S : M E : F E C J T

For what is known of the founder of this extremely interesting bell, see p. 6 ; the cross and lettering are shown on Plate III. ; string moulding on canons ; flat crown extending to outside of canons ; long waist ; crown-staple broken and bolted ; modern clapper ; new "home-made" wheel.

It hangs in an open cot, at a considerable height, at the west end of a modern, red-brick church, built in 1868, to replace a small, Early English church, which remains in a mutilated condition, and used as a school, a short distance to the west of the new building.

As it is not known how long before 1290 Michael de Wymbis began business, it is possible that the bell may be cotemporary with the old church.

23 July, 1552, lye (*also*, the prythe churche of the lye).

Ifm inpimis in the stepell iij belle If on hand bell

1714, Lee capella, one bell.

Lipscomb, II., 357, thus describes the former situation of the bell in the old church :—

On the gable at the west end, a small wooden turret, supporting a little spire.

Death Knell tolled on morning following the death ; tellers, 3 = a man ; 2 = a woman ; 1 = a child. Tolling for funerals.

Chimed for a quarter of an hour before Services.

No churchwardens' accounts.

Thanks to the Rev. A. Werninck, Vicar.

LILLINGSTONE DAYRELL.

S. Nicholas.

- 1.
- ~~CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1868~~
- *



PATENT

(26 $\frac{7}{8}$)

2. EDWARD HALL MADE ME 1726 DN (27
- $\frac{5}{8}$
-)

3. RICHARD CHANDLER MADE ME 1674 (29
- $\frac{3}{4}$
-)

Treble : angular canons ; old stock, inner pair of straps nailed. 2 : inscription below the rims, in Richard Chandler III.'s 1.2 inch lettering (p. 236) ; the initials are perhaps the churchwarden's, they are not the Rector's ; long, round shoulder ; high canons ; iron baldrick, and one wooden splint ; original stock ; straps renewed. Tenor : by Richard Chandler III., in the lettering copied from his father Anthony's set (p. 268) ; new stock, inner straps nailed ; iron baldrick. The exact correspondence of the two lower bells here, with the two at the adjoining parish of Akeley, is an odd coincidence, if merely accidental. I cannot speak to their notes.

New half-wheels to all three, apparently copied from old pattern ; stays to all, and they are evidently *rung*. Old frame, properly repaired with angle-irons.

5 May, 1553, Lillingstone Dorrell, two great belle [one fance bell]*

8 July, 1637, Lillingston dorrell p^t Akelei (bells not mentioned, but in another Inventory of the same date, is) Lillingston 3 bells.

This latter certainly refers to this parish, not only because Lillingstone Lovell was part of Oxfordshire until 1844, but also because the Inventory goes on to mention "a great monument standing in the middle of the Chancell," which can only refer to the very handsome altar-tomb, under which lie "Paulus Dayrell Armiger et Margareta Uxor ejus," who died in 1491.

1714, 3 bells.

1755, three modern bells. (So also at another place in B. Willis's MSS., xxii., 96)

The Rev. Walter Hill (Vicar of Medmenham, formerly Curate-in-charge of this parish), informs me that when this church was restored in 1868, a piece of a Bell "was dug out close to the angle connecting new north Aisle and Tower. There had been a N. Aisle in ages past. The piece was simply a wedge-shaped fragment from rim inwards, the rim being the thick end. It weighed about 8 or 10 lbs. I could not say whether there was any sign of local casting ; I should say not. I left the fragment in the vestry." The present Rector informs me that the fragment had disappeared before he was instituted to the living in 1872.

* Erased.

In Mr. Hill's time (1867-72), there was ringing on New Year's Eve from 11.30 p.m. to 0.30 a.m.

Part of the buildings of Luffield Priory (suppressed 1494) stood within the present boundaries of this parish; and Browne Willis (*Hist. Buck. Hund.*, p. 225, and to the same effect in his *Hist. of Abbies*, II., 28), writes:—

. . . they informed me, that by Tradition there were five Bells in the Tower, and that they were carried to *Paulers Perry*, on the first Bell of which Church I met with this Inscription, *Sancta Maria, Ora pro nobis*; and so it might possibly have been brought from hence.

Mr. North, in *Bells of Northampts*, p. 361, *et seq.*, quotes the treble at Paulerspury as dedicated to *Sancta Anna*, instead of *Maria*, and says:—

There is a tradition that the five ancient bells here were brought by Sir Nicholas Throckmorton from Luffield Abbey, upon the dissolution of that House. He was Lord of the Manor of Paulerspury.

The bells recorded there by Mr. North in 1878, are: the above-mentioned treble, which is by Thomas Bullisdon (p. 41). 2: by Henry Bagley I., of Chacombe, 1654. 3: by Robert Atton, of Buckingham, 1623. 4: by one of the earlier Newcombes, of Leicester, early part of sixteenth century. 5 (tenor): by Bartholomew Atton, of Buckingham, 1613.

In his MSS., xxii., 99*b*, Browne Willis again quotes the Paulerspury treble as "*Sca Maria ora pro nobis*," and states that it (or he may mean the whole ring as it existed in 1494) was brought from Luffield Priory. The second, third, and fourth, he merely says are "modern"; but records (inaccurately) the inscription on the fourth, as the tenor (fifth).

LILLINGSTONE LOVELL.

S. Mary.

1. † : ∞ : ALEXANDER : ∞ : RIGBE : ∞ MADE : ∞ : ME
: ∞ : J 6 9 3 : ∞ : ∞ : ∞ : (24½)

2. † : ∞ : ALEX : RIGBE : MADE : ME : J 6 9 3 : ∞ : IOHN
: MAYNARD : RECTOR : (26¾)

3. † : ∞ : ALEX : RIGBE : MADE : ME : J 6 9 3 : ∞ : WILLIAM
: HVNT : CHVRCH : WARDEN : (29)

4. † : IOHN : CRESWELL : ESQ : AND : HIS : LADY :
CATREN : J 6 9 3 : ALEX : RIGBE : MADE : ME : (33)

For A. Rigby, of Stamford, see p. 246; the double scroll (the two halves here used separately) is fig. 84. Treble: gudgeons at top of stock. 3: tuned away from lip. 4: in the (anonymous) *History, &c., of the County of Oxford* (published

by Gardner, Peterborough, 1852), p. 766, it is stated that in 1546, the king gave this estate and manor, in exchange for certain lands in Northampts, to Sir Nicholas Wentworth, in whose family they remained until 1682, when they passed by marriage to John Cresswell, who took the name of Wentworth in addition. William Wentworth Cresswell, who died 1784, bequeathed the manor and estate to his brother-in-law, Major Drake, for life, with remainder to his cousin, the Hon. Edward Onslow. The latter pulled down the ancient mansion erected in the reign of Henry VIII., and destroyed the deer-park, etc. In 1821, the whole parish, except about forty acres of glebe, and some few acres of woodland, was purchased by James Bogle Delap, Esq., of Stoke Park, near Guildford, in whose family the property still remains.

All the stocks are original; there are remains of the nailed straps, but some are keyed, and most are bolted; the wheels are partly keyed, but have probably been renewed; iron baldricks. The frame is older than the existing bells, and was made for three bells, placed in a row. The two lower bells have been moved back (westwards) from the centres of their cages, and one for the treble constructed across the two. The beams are thicker at the original centre of each cage, where the brasses are, or were, embedded, than throughout the remainder of their length, and the ends of these thickened parts are finished off in a neat zig-zag chamfer like that on the frame at Drayton Parslow, which was constructed by a "W. K." in 1641. It is not unlikely that this frame is by the same hand, at about the same date.

This village, including the greater part of the parish was, until 1844, an outlying part of Oxfordshire, and is so reckoned in Lipscomb's *History of Bucks*, published in 1847; in Parker's *Architectural Topography, Bucks* (1849), and *Oxon* (1850); and is even still so included in the Clergy List for 1895.

28 July, 1552. Lillingeston Lovell
 Ifm iij belle in the steple one saunce
 ij hande belle

Sheahan (*Hist. of Bucks*, published 1862) says, "four good bells (re-cast in 1693), and the 'ringing-in-bell.'" This latter must mean a saunce bell; but there is not one here at the present time.

In the "Catalogue of the Museum of Articles Exhibited at the Town Hall, Buckingham, 31 July and 1 August, 1855," published in part IV. (Vol. I.) of the *Records of Bucks*, is:—

76. Small Bell, found with silver Coins of Edward I. or II. eighteen inches below the surface in Churchyard at Lillingstone Lovell. *Rev. W. Lloyd.*

The Rev. W. Lloyd (died 1891) was the Rector; Sheahan (*op. cit.*) says he gave the bell to the Museum of the Bucks Archæological Society; as I have the honour to be curator of that (at present) forlorn little collection, I can state positively that

it is not there now, and I have not been able to trace this interesting relic, which was possibly the sacring bell.

In the same catalogue, is :—

57. Sacring Bell, found built in the wall which blocked up a circular-headed window over south entrance of Deddington Church. *C. Faulkner, Esq.*

Deddington is in Oxfordshire (about $14\frac{1}{2}$ miles west of Buckingham).

The following extracts from the churchwardens' accounts were very kindly made for me by the Rev. H. C. Tompkins, Rector of Leckhampstead :—

1693.

| | | | | |
|---|-------|-----|-----|------|
| Paid to Thomas Sandes for A Quarte of strong | | | | |
| WATERES when the townesmen waid the belles | ... | ... | 0— | 1—4 |
| Spent at the waing of the belles when they | | | | |
| went to the Belfounderes | ... | ... | 0— | 7—6 |
| ffor my one dayes woork Lost going with Men | ... | ... | 0— | 1—2 |
| Spent at the Casting of beles | ... | ... | 0— | 3—0 |
| Spent at the waing of the belles after they was Cast | ... | ... | 0— | 4—0 |
| paid to the farmer for rarieng the beles & fething them whome | | | 0— | |
| Spent at the fatshing whome the beles | ... | ... | 0— | 2—6 |
| for my one dayes woork a fetshing them | ... | ... | 0— | 1—2 |
| ffor my one Iournies & expenses to the bellfounderes | ... | ... | 0— | 10—0 |
| paid to edward fmith for 4 bell ropes | ... | ... | 0— | 9—0 |
| paid to william Rose ffor mending of the 3 ^d bel Claper | ... | ... | 0— | 6—6 |
| ffor a pound of grease for the belles | ... | ... | 0— | 0—4 |
| ffor a pint of oile & a botell | ... | ... | 0— | 1—0 |
| paid to M ^r Rigby for Casting of the | } ... | ... | 03— | 17—0 |
| Beles & for metall the sum of | | | | |
| Iti for M ^r Rigbyes dieat whille hee was About the beles | ... | ... | 0— | 5—0 |

1694.

| | | | | |
|--|-------|-----|----|------|
| To W ^m Rose for Hinge & Key for the Steeple door & work | ... | ... | 0— | 1—6 |
| To Iohn Spenser for carrying the Bells | } ... | ... | 0— | 8—0 |
| to Pury* & for bringing them Back | | | | |
| payd by Iohn Spenser to William | } ... | ... | 0— | 3—0 |
| Rose for mending y ^e Bell claper | | | | |
| To W ^m Rose for fastning y ^e Bells | ... | ... | 0— | 3—0 |
| For 4 new Bellropes | ... | ... | 0— | 10—0 |
| To Benj. Bennet for Tolling y ^e Bell | ... | ... | 0— | 1—0 |

1695.

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|----|------|
| Oyle for Bells | ... | ... | 0— | 0—7 |
| Dec: 20. 4 new Bell Ropes | ... | ... | 0— | 10—0 |

* Paulerspury, in Northampts, about three miles distant (p. 446).

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|
| 1696. | | | | | |
| To the man that made the Bell Wheels for 6 days | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0—12—0 |
| for Nailes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0— 2—3 |
| 1697. | | | | | |
| Oyle for the Bells | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0— 0—5 |
| Shooting the Bellropes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0— 0—4 |
| 1699. | | | | | |
| 4 Bell-Ropes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0—11—0 |
| 1700. | | | | | |
| To George Savage Bell Wheels | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0— 0—3 |
| 1701. | | | | | |
| Mending Bells | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0— 2—0 |
| Materials | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0— 1—0 |
| my wk | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0— 1—0 |
| Bell Ropes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0—10—0 |
| 1702. | | | | | |
| Nov: 8. To W ^m Rofe abt̄ y ^e Bells | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0— i—6 |
| To W ^m Rofe for mending y ^e Bells | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0— 1—0 |
| 1703. | | | | | |
| P ^d for Bell-Ropes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 : 10 : 00 |
| 1704. | | | | | |
| Bell Ropes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 11 . 0 |
| 1706. | | | | | |
| p ^d to John Webb for mending y ^e bells | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 : 01 : 6 |
| p ^d Richard Edkins for making Keys ferrills & nayles | } | ... | } | ... | 00 : 01 : 8 |
| for y ^e bells and haspe and staples for y ^e stiple dore | | | | | |
| 1709. | | | | | |
| Bell Ropes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 10 . 0 |
| 1710. | | | | | |
| To Iohn Webb abt̄ the Bells | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 2 . 6 |
| 1712. | | | | | |
| paid I nich* for making A new Steeple window & boords | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 4 . 6 |
| paid richard Edkins for a ceayy & forles & nellf† for y ^e bells | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0— 2—4 |
| for belle ropes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0—10—0 |

* Nichols.

† Key, ferrules, and nails.

1715.

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| paid to duke carter for mending A bell whell | ... | ... | ... | 0—0—4 |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-------|

1718.

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| pd to alfeat Cosley for mending y ^e gret bell and church geat | ... | ... | ... | 00—02—06 |
| pd to dike cartright for menden y ^e Church geat and beles | ... | ... | ... | 00—01—08 |

1719.

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| paid for iole | ... | ... | ... | 00—00—07 |
| paid for mending y ^e belf | ... | ... | ... | 00—15—03 |

1720.

| | | | | |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| A fet of Bell-ropes | ... | ... | ... | 10—00 |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|

1721.

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| paid for a pint of oyle | ... | ... | ... | 0—0—8 |
| paid to George Sayles for the Steeples | ... | ... | ... | 0—8—0 |
| paid to dike cartrit for mending the bell whele | ... | ... | ... | 0—3—0 |

1722.

| | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| paid to dike for mending the bells | ... | ... | ... | 0—0—9 |
| paid for a pint of oyel | ... | ... | ... | 0—0—8 |

1723.

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| paid for the bell ropes | ... | ... | ... | 0—12—6 |
| paid for a pint of oyel | ... | ... | ... | 0—0—i |

1724.

| | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| paid to the coler maker for belrop | ... | ... | ... | 0—11—0 |
| paid for a pint of oil | ... | ... | ... | 0—00—8 |

1731.

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------------|
| P _d for bell ropes | ... | ... | ... | 00 . 10 . 6 |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------------|

1735.

| | | | | |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| pd for 4 bell rop | ... | ... | ... | 0—10—0 |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------|

1736.

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| p _d to alfer Cosbey for mending ye yec (key) of bell claper | ... | ... | ... | 0—1—6 |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-------|

1739.

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| p _d to dike cartright for mending ye bells | ... | ... | ... | 0—1—6 |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-------|

1742.

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| paid to Wid Bealy for hale Duke
Carterite when he mended y ^e bells | ... | ... | ... | 00=00=08 |
| paid to Duke Cartright for mended the bels | ... | ... | ... | 00=00=02 |

paid to Duke Cartright for work

In church 1741 for got Last year = 00=06=06
 paid to Edward Scrivener for the bel Ropes 00=12=00

1743.

gave the Ringers one shilling for good nues In wars 00=01=00

1744.

pd to Geor. Greenwood for Shoothing the Bell Rope 0— 0—2

1746.

March 1. pd for the Bell Ropes waid 38^{lb} 0—18—0

1749.

Paid for 4 new Bellrops 0=10=09


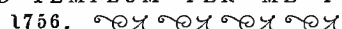
LINFORD, GREAT.

S. Andrew.

1. HENRICUS UTHWATT ARMIGER ME SUIS SUMPTIBUS HIC
 COLLORARI (*sic*) CURAVIT. 1756  (31)




2. QUOD SIT SACRA DIES PRIMO DENUNCIO
 MANE. 1756  (33)

3. DET SONITUM PLENUM DEUS ET MODULAMEN AMENUM J:
 EAYRE S^T NEOTS FECIT. 1756. (35½)

4. AD TEMPLUM PER ME POPULUS PROPERARE JUBETUR 
 1756.  (37)

5. CONJUGIUM PARTUS MYSTERIA FESTA DECORO 
 ANNO. DOMINI 1756.  (39¾)

6. ME RESONARE JUBENT HOMINUM MORS CONERO (*sic*)
 FUNUS 

(*Round lip:*) QUINQUE QUÆ MAXIMI SUNT PONDERIS CAMPANÆ (QUIBUS SIMUL ADDITA FUIT
 NON PARVA METALLI MOLES) DE NOVO SUNT CONSTATÆ SUMPTIBUS HENRICI UTHWATT ARMIGERI
 ANNO DMNI. 1756. JOSEPHO EAYRE ARTIFICE   ROBERTO CHAPMAN RECTORE PHI-
 LIPO WARD IOANNE RAWLINS ADITUIS.  (44½)

S. 1753 (13½)

Treble: Sir William Pritchard, Knt., Alderman of London, purchased this manor about 1683, from Richard Napier, and bequeathed it, after his wife's decease, to his nephews, Richard Uthwatt and Daniel King, Esqs. Richard Uthwatt purchased King's interest, and died possessed of the manor in 1719, aged 61, and it descended to his eldest son and heir, Thomas Uthwatt, Esq. He died 1754, leaving an only daughter (married to Matthew Knapp, Esq., of Little Linford). Lipscomb's account here becomes confused; but Henry Uthwatt, apparently a younger son of Richard, and evidently the donor of this bell, succeeded to the

property. He married, 12th June, 1750, Frances (baptized 4th November, 1728), daughter of Sir John Chester, sixth Baronet, of Chicheley.

In *Genealogical Memoirs of Extinct Family of Chester of Chicheley*,* Vol. II., p. 614, it is stated that Mr. Henry Uthwatt, "like his wife's grandfather, Sir John Chester, loved the music of Church bells. In 1756 he completed the peal of bells at Great Linford at his own expense, by adding a sixth bell, and by having the old bells recast by the famous bellfounder, Eyre, of St. Neots," etc., etc. Mr. Uthwatt died, *s.p.*, in London, of consumption, on 22nd December, 1757, at the early age of 29 (*vide* his monument, and Cole's MSS., xxxviii., 220), and was buried with his maternal ancestors (Andrewes) at Lathbury. It will be noticed, however, that the above dates make him out to have been born about nine years after his father's death! Either he was not a son of Richard, or the latter did not die at the date stated by Lipscomb.

Henry's widow died 28th November, 1800, at the age of 72. In recording the inscriptions on the bells, Mr. Waters (*op. cit.*) adds, in a foot-note, "These mottoes (with the exception of Nos. 1 and 3) were copied from the new bells put up in Bletchley Church by Mr. Browne Willis." They correspond as follows; Linford second = Bletchley third; fourth in both; Linford fifth = Bletchley seventh; tenor in both (but the Bletchley bell is without the long addition on sound-bow).

Sauce: the figures do not match those on the big bells, and I doubtfully assign it to Lester and Pack, of the Whitechapel Foundry (p. 100).

Elaborate moulding on the canons of the four lower bells. All turned. Rehung by Gillett, June, 1887, in old frame; on the tenor cage is carved:—

These Frames made
By Henry & Edward
Cox, of this parish
1756

The bells are very long-waisted, and are hung quite out from the stocks (the old stocks having been apparently retained). They appear to "go" very heavily.

26 July, 1552, Grete Lynford. Inprimis five bellē in the Steple and a fannctē bell. Item ij handbellē and a sacring bell.

1714, 5 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

Lipscomb (IV., 226) states:—

In the tower were five bells, the 3rd and 5th bearing these inscriptions, viz. 3rd, 'Hujus Campanæ nomen est J'hu speciale;' 5th, 'Ave Maria gratia plena.' These five bells being re-cast in 1756, by Mr. Eyre of St. Neot's, Mr. Henry Uthwatt added another

* By R. E. Chester Waters, London, 1878.

to them; so that now there is a complete peal of six tuneful bells in the tower, on which are the following inscriptions: (Here follow the inscriptions with sundry inaccuracies.) The weight of the five bells was $46\frac{1}{4}$ cwt. ; and of the six bells, 60 cwt.

The third was most likely a fifteenth century bell; and the fifth, fourteenth century.

Death Knell: for an hour, as soon as notice is received, unless after sunset; when it is tolled the following morning. Tellers, at conclusion of the knell; three strokes = a male, two strokes = a female. Tenor used for adults, the fifth for a child over five years old, and the fourth for a child under five. For funerals the tenor is tolled.

On Sundays, either the treble or second is rung at 9 a.m. For the Services, the bells are chimed, or sometimes rung; the saunce used for the last five minutes. After Morning Service the treble and second are rung to give notice that there will be a sermon at the Afternoon Service (this ringing is, of course, omitted, if there is not to be a second sermon). These are all old usages.

During Advent the bells are rung once a week. No ringing in Lent. Midnight ringing on Christmas and New Year's Eves. Also ringing on Christmas and New Year's Days, Easter Eve and Day, Ascension Day (?), Whitsun Day, and S. Andrew's Day (Patron Saint of the Church); on the Queen's and Prince of Wales's Birthdays, and on 5th November. Ringing for weddings if paid for. Third bell rung for Vestry Meetings.

There are two traditions of fatal accidents in the tower. In one case, after the bells had been rung for a short time (having been evidently left set from the previous occasion), blood was noticed running down one of the ropes, and it was found that a man, who had been among the bells unknown to the band below, had been killed. In the other case, it is said that a man was carried up by the rope of the fourth bell, and falling, was killed on the spot.



The churchwardens have always paid twelve shillings for the midnight ringing on New Year's Eve.

Many thanks to the Rev. Sydney H. Williams, Rector, and to Mrs. Uthwatt, of the Manor House.

LINFORD, LITTLE.

S. Leonard or S. Andrew.

1. + A V E M A R I A G R A C I A
P L E N A (194)

2. x Johannes Vylleby Me Fieri Fecit   (22)

Treble: doubtless an early fourteenth century bell, and probably more or less local (p. 14); the cross and lettering are the upper set on Plate VI. Tenor: the

shield (fig. 15) bears the arms of the family of Kebyll or Keble, and the founder who owned it is supposed to have borne that name (p. 28); the capitals are the smallest set on Plate XI.; the initial cross (No. 5) and the crown are on the same plate. The only other bell in the county bearing Keble's shield is at Chesham Bois (p. 28), which is in the Willoughby country (Chesham Bois adjoins Latimer), so the coincidence of that name appearing here, caused me to write to the late Rev. Bryant Burgess, M.A., then Rector of Latimer, whose interesting paper "Latimers, or Latimer," opportunely appeared in the *Records of Bucks*, VI., 27 (1887). He very kindly passed on my query to his cousin, William L. Rutton, Esq., author of a pedigree of the Latimer and Nevill families, which follows the first-named paper in the *Records*, and I am much indebted to Mr. Rutton for writing me as follows:—

"I find in Lipscomb's (*Hist. of Bucks*, IV., 228) account of Little Linford, that the manor was sometime in the possession of *Botetourt*, and the fact certainly affords a clue to its connection with Willoughby. For Sir John W., the natural heir of Latimer was probably also one of the co-heirs of Botetourt, through the marriage of his maternal ancestor, William Third Baron Latimer, with Elizabeth Botetourt" (*vide pedigree op. cit.*, p. 49).

"Since my paper on the Latimer Barons was printed, my attention has been drawn to the fact that the Third Baron appears to have had some right to the manor of Iselhamsted (now Latimer) through his wife, Elizabeth Botetourt, before it was granted to him by the King in 1331.

"In the Rolls of Parliament, there is a petition of William Latimer for the manor, on the ground that it had been given to his wife, by her mother Maud Botetourt, whose *heritage* it had been.

"I have found that Maud had certainly the *custody* of Iselhamsted, but not that it was her possession or heritage. But however that may be, I think it likely that some lands may have come to Latimer by his marriage with Elizth Botetourt, which may have passed down to their descendant Sir John Willoughby, or the latter may, as I have before said, have possessed part of the estate of Botetourt as one of the co-heirs.

"Among these estates were those of Newport Pagnell, Linford, &c., acquired by Thomas Botetourt (brother of Elizabeth, wife of Latimer) by marriage with the heiress (or co-heiress) of Somerie. And though in Lipscomb's account of Little Linford there is no mention of Willoughby, I think it very probable that as heir of Latimer, and co-heir of Botetourt, he may have had land there or in the neighbourhood, and that this may have led to his gift of a bell to the church of Little Linford."*

* I find the following references to Botetourt in connection with this manor, in the Feet of Fines for Bucks.

21 Edw. III. Joñes Bottetourt et Ux. (Quer.) Rog's. de Elyngton psona ecclie. de Northfeld et Añs (Deforc.) de Maner. Lynford Parva. *Mich. Term*, No. 18.

32 Edw. III. Joñes fñ. Joñis. Buttetourt et matiñt fñ Joñis de Gray de Retherfeld, Ux. (Quer.) Johes. Buttetourt de Weleyi, Miles et Johana ux. eius (Defoř.) de mañijs. de Woketon et parua Lyneford cum pñiñ et aduocatōe ecclie eiusdem mañij de Woketon. *Trin. Term*, No. 14.

Sir John Willoughby died somewhere about the middle of the fifteenth century. His son and namesake was knighted by Edward IV., in 1471; and it may have been he, and not his father, who gave the bell.

The bells hang in a cot at the west end of the roof of the nave. The pillars of the cot are early Norman, the gable renewed. Iron baldricks to both bells. Chimed by iron levers.

In 1714, 2 bells.

LINSLADE, NEW, or Chelsea.

S. Barnabas.

1. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1869.
(*On Waist:*)



(25½)

2. ANDREW CORBET ESQ^R LORD OF THE MANOUR JOSEPH GURNEY CHURCH WARDEN 1781

(*On Waist:*) ALL THO' BUT SMALL YET WE ARE GOOD JOHN SWINSTEAD JUN. OF LEIGHTON

FOR US STOOD WM CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT (26½)

3. >> WM CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1781 <<<<

(*Incised, below:*) ANDREW CORBET ESQ LORD OF THE MANOUR (28½)

4, 5. ANDREW CORBET ESQ^R LORD OF THE MANOUR. JOSEPH GURNEY CHURCH WARDEN 1781.

WM CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT (29, 31.)

6. ANDREW CORBET ESQ^R LORD OF THE MANOUR JOSEPH GURNEY CHURCH WARDEN 1781 <<<<<<<<

(*On Waist:*) WM CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT (34)

These are the only bells in the county by William Chapman *solus* (p. 102). The church was consecrated 15th June, 1849. The five lower bells were brought from Old Linslade Church, in 1869; the treble was then added, and they were all

And in connection with the adjoining manor of Newport Pagnell:—

33 Edw. III. Joñes Buttetourt de Woolye Miles et Ux. (Quer) Thoñs. Shirrif psona eccñie de Sheldeslye et als. (Deforc.) de Maner. Neuport Paynel. *Hill. Term*, No. 2.

And in *A History of Newport Pagnell*, by J. Staines (Newport Pagnell, 1842), p. 37, is: "In the meantime (reign of Henry VI.), Newport Manor passed from John de Botetourt, to his grand-daughter (in right of her father and brother) the lady of Sir Hugh Burnell. It is a disputed point whether this lady died without issue; at her death, the manor passed to the Berninghams it is said by marriage; but after long research, we have been unable to find the record of any such marriage."

hung, by Warner. 2 : the treble of the adjoining parish church of Leighton Buzzard, in Beds, also records John Swinstead, jun., with :—

JOHN SWINSTEAD DID THRO' PERSEVERANCE RAISE THIS
PEAL COMPLEAT. REAL MERIT IS HIS PRAISE 1787. JOHN
STUBBE M.D. DONOR
W. & T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1787

Tenor : weight given in the Whitechapel Foundry Lists (1852 to present time) as seven hundredweight.

Death Knell : as soon as notice is given. Tellers : $3 \times 3 =$ a man ; $2 \times 3 =$ a woman ; $3 \times 2 =$ a boy ; $2 \times 2 =$ a girl. In future (April, 1895), the age is to be added. At funerals, the tenor is tolled ; muffled ringing occasionally.

On Sundays, bells chimed for all Services ; rung on Festivals. The treble always rung for the last five minutes.

Ringings once or twice a week during Advent ; no ringing during Lent ; ringing on New Year's Eve ; and on the day of a wedding, when paid for.

Many thanks to the Rev. C. E. Dandridge, Vicar.

LINSLADE, OLD.

S. Mary.

One small bell, which Mr. Vickers, sexton of both Old and New Linslade, informs me is by Warner, 1869, to take the place of the five bells removed hence in that year to New Linslade Church.

The holes for the ropes of the five bells remain in the ceiling of the ringing-chamber.

23 July, 1552, Lynchelade, iij bellys & a fanct^a/ bell/ ij pceffion belle
(*On the back, is :*) this Invytory wanteth [. . . ij hand belle]*

1637, Linchlade (the number of bells not mentioned, but) the steeple wants 3 stone pinacles.

1714, 3 bells.

Lipscomb, III., 406 :—

. . . three bells, with these inscriptions : 1. *Johes Dies hanc Campanam fecit.* 2. *See Gabriel ora pro Nobis.* 3. *Ecce Gabriells sonat hac Campana fidelis* : † and two more modern bells have been added : on another (*sic*) of them, "Andrew Corbet, Esq." On one of the beams, the date 1700.

The first of these was by John Dier (p. 241). The three ancients were recast into five long before Lipscomb's time, *viz.*, in 1781 ; but his account confuses

* These words are erased.

† The inscription on the third is given by Browne Willis, MSS., cix., 29.

Chapman's bells with the former three. Sheahan (*Bucks*, 1862, p. 707) evidently blindly following Lipscomb, says there are five bells—the three ancients above mentioned, and two modern, one of which bears the name of Andrew Corbet, Esq. According to Sheahan (p. 705), William Lucy died in 1461, seized (*inter alia*) of the manor of Linslade, and his heirs were found to be Elizabeth, wife of Roger Corbet, and Eleanor, wife of William Vaux. In the reign of Henry VII., the Vaux family conveyed their interest in these manors to the Corbets; and in 1513, Roger Corbet, of Moreton Corbet, co. Salop, died possessed of Linslade and other manors. Two parts of the manor, and the family seat, passed from the Corbets by the death of Sir Vincent Corbet, aged nineteen, in 1688, to his sister, married to John Kynaston. Andrew Corbet, whose name appears on the bells (see New Linslade), died unmarried, April 21st, 1796.

Mr. North states in *Church Bells of Beds*, p. 133, that the stone turret on the church at Billington, Beds (about two and a half miles from Leighton Buzzard, of which New Linslade is a suburb), was brought from Old Linslade Church about the year 1860 (? 1869), and took the place of a wooden belfry.




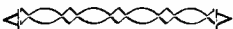






Tolling for funerals; the Knell is tolled at New Linslade.


Chimed for Services, when held here.

Thanks to the Rev. C. E. Dandridge, Vicar.



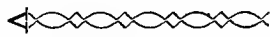
LONG CRENDON.


B. V. Mary.

1. **ALTHOUGH I AM BOTH LIGHT AND SMALL I WILL BE
HEARD ABOVE YOU ALL** 
LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1768 (29½)
2. **ALL THOUGH BUT SMALL OUR TONES ARE GOOD JOHN
BAKER BLACK SMITH FOR US STOOD** 
LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1768 (29¾)
3. **PEACE AND GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD**  LESTER & PACK
OF LONDON FECIT 1768  (32)
4. **MUSICK IS MEDICINE TO THE MIND**  LESTER & PACK
OF LONDON FECIT 1768  (33¾)
5.  **OUR VOICES SHALL WITH JOYFUL SOUND MAKE
HILLS & VALLEYS ECHO ROUND** 
 LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1768  (36½)
6. **TO HONOUR BOTH OF GOD AND KING OUR VOICES
SHALL IN CONSORT RING** LESTER & PACK OF LONDON
FECIT 1768 (39½)

7. YE RINGERS ALL THAT PRIZE YOUR HEALTH AND
HAPPINESS BE SOBER MERRY WISE AND YOU'LL THE
SAME POSSESS 

LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1768 (43½)

8.  HUGH WEST & JNO CROOK CH. WARDENS 1768
 LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT 

IN WEDLOCK BANDS ALL YE WHO JOIN WITH HANDS
YOUR HEARTS UNITE SO SHALL OUR TUNEFUL TONGUES
COMBINE TO LAUD THE NUPTIAL 

RITE (48)

S. G C I7I9 (16¾)

2 : John Baker, blacksmith, of this parish, was churchwarden at the time these bells were cast, and gave the ironwork connected with their hanging. This was recorded in an inscription painted on the plaster over the west door, found at the restoration of the church in 1889. 3 : Much tuned away at lip. Tenor : The weight is given in Messrs. C. and G. Mears's List (and later, in Messrs. Mears and Stainbank's) as 19 cwt. As all odd quarters and pounds are therein omitted, the bell may perhaps be as much as 3 qrs. over this weight, as it is locally supposed to be. Saunce : by George Chandler ; letters 1¾ inches high (p. 235) ; half-wheel ; straps nailed ; iron baldrick.

Hung left-handed. Frame timbers older than Lester and Pack's hangings. In ringing order, and a splendid ringing-chamber. Some of the straps apparently renewed by Messrs. Warner.

23 July, 1552, Crendon, fower gret bells. A fancte bell A hand bell two facring belle 1714, Crendon, 5 bells (sanctus not mentioned). "The biggest bells in the County." (Not the case with the present ring.)

Nottley Abbey, in this parish, surrendered in December, 1539, according to Browne Willis,* who records that "the 5 great Bells anciently hanging in the Abbey Steeple were removed to the Parifh-Church of *Crendon*, and put up there, since when they have been all re-cast except the second, on which is this, *In multis annis refoinet Campana Johannis.*"

Lipscomb (I., 217), quoting from Browne Willis's MSS. says that the (original) tenor was reputed the heaviest bell in the county, weighing 40 cwt. He also says that the present bells were "recast in 1768 out of the same number, which had been formed from five belonging to the Abbey of Nottley." I have not found this passage among Willis's voluminous MSS., but in vol. xxxviii., 2, where this bell is mentioned as the heaviest in the county, its weight is recorded as '3500.'

* *Hist. of Abbies*, II., 33.

The Record Office furnishes the following note* on the Nottley bells :—

8th March, 1557 The Monastery of Nottley.

The Leade (&c)

The belle—The belle were fold by Docto^r Loudon on of
the visit^r at the suppreffion as the Lord
Williames hath confessed before theise comiffion^rs

Death Knell : between 8 a.m. and sunset ; each bell is struck three times in succession ; the tenor is then rung for an adult, and the seventh for a child. Tellers : 3 strokes = a male ; 2 = a female.

At the funeral of a ringer, the tune “ Bedford ” is chimed (? clogged) ; occasionally there is muffled ringing.

On Sundays, two bells are rung at 7 a.m. in summer, and 8 in winter. For Services, the tenor is first raised, and called the Sermon Bell, followed by round-ringing. The saunce is used immediately before the Service “ to stop the bells.” These usages date back beyond the memory of persons now living.

A Quarter Peal (half-pull) rung on Christmas and New Year’s Eves, and on May Day. Also ringing on Whitsun Thursday for the Court Leet, and on Nov. 5th ; sometimes also for the School Treat. On the day of a wedding, when desired.

The saunce is used for Churchwardens’ Meetings.

No old churchwardens’ accounts, and no mention of the bells in the registers.

Many thanks to the Rev. Frederick E. Ogden, Vicar, and to Mr. George Warner, late foreman of the belfry.

LOUDWATER.

(*Dedication unknown*).

Single.

1790

(16½)

Evidently from the Whitechapel Foundry, by William and Thomas Mears (p. 104).

The Church was originally built in 1788, by Mr. William Davis, a native of the hamlet.

LOUGHTON.

All Saints.

| | | | | | |
|----|---|----------|-------|---------|-----------|
| 1. | ✿ | ROBERT | ATTON | MADE | |
| | | 1631 | | | (31) |
| 2. | ✿ | her | Noba | Campana | Margareta |
| | | Nominata | | | (33½) |

* See p. ix.

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|---|-----------|-------|--------|---------------------|
| 3. | ✠ | ∩ | Sit | Nomen | Domini | |
| Benedictum | | ∩ | | | | (35 $\frac{5}{8}$) |
| 4. | | | | | | (39 $\frac{3}{4}$) |
| B A R T H O L O M E W A T T O N | | ∩ | A T T O N | | ∩ | |
| (Underneath:) | | ✠ | 1590 | ✠ | ✠ | ✠ |

Treble: if Robert Atton died, as is probable, in 1628 (p. 207), this bell must have been the production of his executors; the lettering is his medium-sized set, of which samples are shown at the bottom of Plate XXXI.; the rose is No. 10, on Plate XXX. 2 and 3: by Henry Jordan, who died between 1468 and 1470 (p. 38); the initial cross and capital letters are on Plate XII.; the last shield on the second, and first on the third, is fig. 27; the other shield is fig. 28. The inscription on the second doubtless indicates a recast. On the crown of the third is the tiny ox's head, fig. 30, apparently the impression of a signet-ring. Tenor: is of special interest, as being one of Bartholomew Atton's earliest bells (p. 197). The large lettering is on Plates XXVIII. and XXIX.; the shield is fig. 66; the little cross *patée* is on Plate XXX., and the ornate cross at the end is on Plate XXIX.

The bells were rehung (including new stocks) about 1866-70, by an engineer in Northampton, who, instead of making a rectangular frame of the usual pattern, constructed an "A" frame—an elaborate arrangement of sloping timbers, like the rafters of a roof—which, I need hardly add, is *not* a success. Iron baldricks to all, and wooden splints to the upper three. The treble has a short horizontal iron stay in the same plane with the stock, and perpendicular iron slider, hinged at bottom; the other three have short wooden stays, and horizontal bolt-like sliders.

August 1637, 4. Bells & S^{ts} Bell. The new buttefice crack at the west end of the Steeple . . . in decay.

1714, 4 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

Death Knell *rung*: if possible, within an hour or two of the death. The tenor is used for adults; the third for children. Tellers, both before and after the ringing: 3 strokes = a male, 2 = a female. At funerals, the tenor is chimed for half an hour, or longer.

On Sundays, the treble is rung at 8 a.m. The second and third used to be rung at 9 a.m., but this was given up before the present Rector was inducted in 1883. The bells are chimed for Service, the tenor being raised, and then rung in, *when there is to be a Sermon*. After Matins the treble is rung, to signify a second Service. These are probably all old usages.

There was formerly a saunce bell, but it cracked, and was sold. It was used "while the Clergyman was putting on his robes."

The bells are rung from six weeks or so before Christmas, until January 6th. Midnight ringing on Christmas and New Year's Eves. Ringing for Weddings on the day, if paid for. There was formerly ringing on 29th May and 5th November (= Oak-apple Day and Gunpowder Treason), in the evening; on S. Thomas's Day, at 5 to 6 a.m.; and also on the Sovereign's birthday: these were paid for out of the church rate.

The churchwardens' accounts (which unfortunately do not go back beyond 1732) record:—

| | | | | |
|------|---|-----|-----|------------|
| 1743 | Paid to John Jarvis for work at the Bell | ... | ... | 1 . 10 . 9 |
| 1791 | A new beal weal and mending the Great bell weal | ... | ... | 1 . 12 . 6 |

There are also entries of payments for ringing at Christmas and on 29th May, and for new ropes.

Very many thanks to the Rev. John T. Athawes, Rector.

LUDGERSHALL.

Assumption B. V. Mary.

- | | | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|--------------|------|-------|
| 1. | <i>(Blank)</i> | | | (27½) |
| 2. | R | K | 1658 | (29½) |
| 3. | THOMAS LESTER OF LONDON MADE ME | | | |
| | J3 | 45 | ✠✠✠ | ♡♡♡ |
| | | | ✠✠✠ | ♡♡♡ |
| | | | ✠✠✠ | ✠✠✠ |
| | THOMAS WHITE AND EDMVND BETT CHVRCH- | | | |
| | WARDENS | | | (32) |
| 4. | THOMAS SHVRLEY | JAMES MILLAR | C | |
| | W | 1658 | ✠ | (34) |
| 5. | | 1662 | | (38) |

2 and tenor: cracked; new bells by Messrs. Taylor substituted in 1892; these two old bells, and the fourth, by Richard Keene (p. 167); possibly the treble may be also by him: the *fleur-de-lis* on the fourth is No. 7, on Plate XXVI., with the bottom part, up to the upper horizontal line, cut off. 3: probably recast by Lester, from a Richard Keene bell. Iron baldricks, cased in wood, to all, until 1892, when Messrs. Taylor rehung the ring in an iron frame.

- 23 July, 1552, Lurgyfall It iij gret belle j fanct^s bell & ij had belle
- 16 July, 1638, Ludgarsall (visited, but bells not mentioned).
- 1714, 5 bells.

Lipscomb (I., 320):—

. . . five bells, cast out of three. . . A little bell was formerly suspended in an open arch on the eastern gable, between the nave and the chancel.

That would be the old sanctus. Probably Richard Keene recast the three old bells in 1658, into the same number (the late second and third, and the existing fourth), added a fourth, as tenor, in 1662, and an additional treble to make five, some years later again.

Death Knell : tolled as soon as intimation of the death is given ; but if after sunset, not until following morning.

On Sundays, a bell is rung at 8 a.m., and again after Morning Service, to intimate respectively, that there will be Morning and Afternoon Service ; this usage being, of course, a survival from the days of irregularity. For the Services, the bells are either rung or chimed, with one bell alone for the last five minutes.

No ringing in Lent, except for Services. Ringing on Christmas and New Year's Eves, and for Weddings when desired.

Many thanks to the Rev. F. F. Morgan, Rector.


(*LUFFIELD ABBEY*—see Lillingstone Dayrell.)

MAIDS' MORETON.

S. Edmund the King.

1. CANTATE (*fig. 75, 2½ in.*) DOMINO (*do., 2⅙ in.*) CANTICVM (*do., 2½ in.*) NOUVM (*sic*) (*do., 6¾ in.*) (*fig. 74, 2¾ in.*)

HENRY (*fig. 74*) BAGLEY (*do.*) M A D E (*do.*) M E E (*do.*) J 7 J 7 (*do., 1⅝ in.*)

(*On Waist:*) (*fig. 74, 1⅙ in.*) E (*do.*) B  ESQ: (*do., 1⅙ in.*)
(*do., 1 in.*) M (*do., ¾ in.*) B REC: (*do., 1⅝ in.*) (29½)

2. WILLIAM ❀ SCOTT ❀ MOSES ❀ GIBBES ❀
CHVRCH ❀ WARDENS J7J7 (30½)

3. (*Plate XXXII., No. 3, all round.*)

WILLIAM (*do., sec. D, central 1⅝ in., reverse way up*) SCOTT ❀ MOSES (*do., do.*) GIBBES ❀ CHVRCH (*do., do.*) WARDENS ❀ J7J7 (*fig. 74, 1¼ in.*) (33¾)

4. WILLIAM ❀ SCOTT ❀ MOSES ❀ GIBBES ❀
CHVRCH ❀ W A R D E N S (*fig. 75, for 8¾ in.*)

PRAYSE ❀ YE (*Plate XXXII., No. 3, sec. D, central 2 in.*) THE (*do., do.*) LORD (*do., 1⅝ in., reverse way up*) ALL W A Y S E (*do., do., right way up*) H (*do., do., reverse way up*) BAGLEY (*do., do., right way up*) M M J 7 J 7 (*fig. 74*) (37)

5. JOHN BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1806 J: LONG SUTTON
RECTOR J: SCOTT & R: HINSON C: WARDENS † * † * † * † (39½)

The upper four bells are probably by the son of the first founder of the name (pp. 214, 217); the lettering is a heavy set, 1 inch high; the *fleurs-de-lis* and roses (used separately) belong to the pattern No. 3, on Plate XXXII.

Treble: the shield measures $3\frac{5}{8} \times 2\frac{5}{8}$ inches, and bears the arms of *Bate*: a fesse engrailed, between three human hands bend-wise, coupéd at the wrist. On 3rd November, 1603, Bartholomew Chamberlain (of Holywell, Hunts), D.D., sold the advowson and patronage of this living to the Rev. George Bate (A.M. or B.D.), and on 13th December, he was instituted to the rectory, which he held until his death, on 11th March, 1642-3. He was followed by the Rev. Matthew Bate; but whether he was a son, neither Browne Willis nor Lipscomb state. Anyway, the Rev. George had two sons—George and Robert. George was a celebrated doctor at Oxford; he was physician to Charles I., Cromwell, and Charles II.; and is mentioned in the *Verney Memoirs* (III., 195) as lending money to Sir Ralph Verney; he was author of several books, and died in London, April, 1669. His brother Robert, born 1610, was killed on the Royalist side, in the Civil War. The first pair of initials on the bell are those of the doctor's son, Edward Bate, Esq., who was lessee of the manors in this parish, belonging to All Souls and Christ Church, Oxford. He was a magistrate for the county, built a "handsome" house near the church, and was a friend of Browne Willis. He died September 15th (buried here 18th), 1717, in his seventy-fifth year. His wife, Penelope, second daughter of Robert Lovet, of Liscombe (Soulbury), had died in October, 1713. The Rev. Matthew Bate, above mentioned, resigned the living in 1665, but did not die until August, 1670, and was buried here. The two next rectors were only here a very short time, and on 1st June, 1671, a second Matthew Bate (A.M.) was instituted to the living, which he held until his death in June, 1685, and was buried here. After his successor, came a third Rev. Matthew Bate (LL.B.), son of the second rector of that name. He was instituted 5th June, 1699, by George Bate, LL.B., and who he was, I do not know; but perhaps Dr. George's eldest son, the elder brother of Edward. The second pair of initials on the bell are those of the third Rev. Matthew, whose successor was instituted in 1743. The advowson having passed into the hands of the Rev. Matthew (on the death of Edward), he conveyed it in 1719 to Thomas Coxed.* Clapper very roughly made, with no flight. 2: diameter reduced about three-quarters of an inch by tuning. 3 and 4: clappers cased in wood. Tenor: also reduced about three-quarters of an inch by tuning; very flat crown, and low flat-topped canons. In a list of bells cast by John Briant, preserved in the chest of the "Hertford College Youths," undated, but made between 1806 and 1809, the weight of this bell is given as 12 cwt. The name of the Rector should be James Long Hutton (not Sutton as recorded by Briant), A.M. He was inducted 29th November, 1790, on the presentation of George III., by reason of

* Willis's *Hist. of Buck. Hund.*, and Lipscomb, III., 42, etc.

the lunacy of F. T. R. Long, Esq., one of the patrons. He took the additional name of Long, by Royal License, bearing the arms of that family, quarterly, with the arms of Hutton. The †s and *s are crosses *fitchées* and double triangles, or six-point stars, respectively.

According to Bagley's List, published at Oxford in 1732, he cast five bells for this tower; Briant's tenor is therefore probably successor to one cast by Bagley at the same time as the rest of the ring. All have large, old-fashioned wheels, and iron stays and sliders. The clappers of treble, 2, and tenor, hook on to the crown-staple, and a pin across the bottom of the hook keeps them in place.

4 May, 1553. Maydyffmurtone,

iiij great bells [& a fans bell]* hangeng in the steple in the feid pifhe orelle wher in the feid churche.

8 July, 1637. Mayds morton 3 Bells & S^{ts} Bell . . . some pa . . . ing of y^e steeple . . . 1714, 3 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

1755 . . . a neat embattled Tower at the West End, in which were three very tuneable good Bells: on the first this, in old Characters, *Sancte Edmunde Ora pro Nobis*; † on the second *Sancta Maria Ora pro Nobis*; the third modern; but these were, *Anno* 1717, run into five small Bells; the Weight of which five all together, is only thirty-three Hundred and an half, and fourteen Pound.

Lipscomb's account is apparently based on the above; he surmises that the two ancient bells were "cœval with the Church," which is quite likely, as it dates from about 1450.

A bell tolled at funerals.

On Sundays, the bells are usually chimed for the Services, but are rung on festivals and special occasions.

Ringling two or three times a week during Advent; also for weddings.



No churchwardens' accounts.

'Thanks to the Rev. B. W. Johnstone, Rector.

MARLOW, GREAT.

All Saints.

1. THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FOUNDER 1834. (29 $\frac{1}{8}$)

2.  T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1827.  (29)

(Incised:) WILDSMITH BADGER }
THOS GIBBONS } CH WARDENS.

3, 4, 5, 6. R: PHELPS FECIT 1719 (29 $\frac{3}{8}$, 31 $\frac{5}{8}$, 33 $\frac{2}{8}$, 37)

* Erased.

† Also mentioned in Browne Willis's MSS., cix., 29.

7. (40½)
THE REV^D: RICH: MILLECHAMPE M:A: VICAR GEO: BRUERE ESQ:
WM: BLUNDELL CH: WARDENS R: PHELPS MADE ME 1719 ❀ ❀

8. **THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FOUNDER 1834.**
(On Waist:) **REV^D THOMAS TRACY COXWELL VICAR.**

THOMAS GIBBONS } CHURCH WARDENS.
SAMUEL BARNES }

VOLUNTARY SUBSCRIPTIONS. (45¼)

S. **S K** **1694** (17½)

Treble, 2, and tenor: by Thomas Mears II. (p. 105). The present treble and tenor were added to the old ring of six when the existing yellow-brick edifice was substituted for the ancient church. 2: Mr. J. C. Truss, sen., an old and widely-known ringer, states that the treble of the six, cast in 1719 by Phelps (p. 98), (the predecessor of the present second), became cracked, and the churchwardens grudged the money necessary for its recasting; so the ringers, on the occasion of a visitation by the Archdeacon, brought its cracked music so prominently to his notice, that he directed the churchwardens to replace it. Wildsmith Badger was parish clerk as well as churchwarden, being appointed to the former office on 13th April, 1789. His grandson, Henry Badger, succeeded him as clerk, in January, 1832, and was in turn succeeded in January, 1855, by his son, Mr. Henry Wildsmith Badger, the present respected holder of that office. Thomas Gibbons was a ropemaker. 3: having developed a crack just below the crown, an iron band was put round the shoulder in 1849 (by advice of Mr. Mears); this band hides the inscription, which is given on the authority of Mr. J. C. Truss; he was a boy of fifteen or sixteen at the time the band was put on, and helped his father, the sexton and foreman of the belfry. The hoop was made as hot as possible at the late Thos. Burrell's forge, in High Street; a man then ran with it to the tower, where it was again heated in a fire made on sheet-iron in the bell-chamber, and being put over the bell (which was unhung and stripped of its stock), was "squenched" with water. 6 and 7: were quarter-turned on the old stocks in 1892, with reversed staples (the old ones retained) and new clappers. The Rev. Richard Millechamp, M.A., was presented to the Vicarage by the Dean and Chapter of Gloucester, 5th August, 1708; he died 25th March, 1729, and was buried in the "Parish Chancel" (the chancel proper). George Bruere (or Brewer), Esq., was M.P. for this borough, 9 and 12 Anne, and 1 George I. (*i.e.*, from 1710 until 1721, probably). He died about 1733, and was buried in the "Improprators' Chancel," or "Lady Chapel" (a south aisle to the chancel, of Perpendicular date). William Blundell occurs on the treble at Medmenham (three and a half miles away), as the name of the churchwarden there in 1691, and if not the same person as here recorded, he was, in all probability a near relation. Tenor: note F, ¼♯; weight, 16 cwt. odd. The Rev. T. T. Coxwell, M.A.,

was presented by the Dean and Chapter of Gloucester, in October, 1811, and removed to the living of Horton in 1850. He was whip to the pack of harriers kept by the late Colonel Williams (of Temple, near Marlow), and immortalised himself by pulling down the ancient church here. Samuel Barnes was a retired clockmaker from London. Saunce: by Samuel Knight, of Reading (p. 136); something of its history, and of the expenditure on Phelps's ring, will be found in the extracts from the churchwardens' accounts.

1552, marlowe } xvijth daye of Julye
 magna e } It iij grete belle
 † a fancebell in the steple/

From another inventory dated the same year, for "Grett marlowe," a portion is missing, including the notice of the bells.

By 1593, there were four bells, and in 1610, five bells, as I gather from the churchwardens' accounts; perhaps raised to the latter number in 1609.

1637, 11. Aug: Marlow mag^a 5. Bells a clock S^s Bell.
 1714, 5 Bells (saunce not mentioned, but obviously existing).

The five recast into six in 1719, the saunce being left. The ring augmented to eight in 1834. These eight bells were rung for the first time on February 25th, 1835, by William Truss, 1; William Smith, 2; Jeffrey Truss, 3; John Smith, 4; Thomas Coster, 5; Thomas Rosewell, 6; George Cresswell, 7; Richard Davis, 8.

I recollect all of them except Rosewell. The last of the band, Jeffrey Truss, died in June, 1895.

The Curfew was rung on the tenor (the present seventh) during the winter six months of the year, until the demolition of the old church in 1832.

Death Knell: tolled (for about half an hour) between 8.30 and noon—generally about 10, on the morning following the death, by a hammer striking on the seventh bell. Tellers (at beginning), 3 × 3 = a man; 2 × 3 = a woman; 1 × 3 = a child.

Muffled ringing for anyone specially connected with the church, either as a benefactor, or on account of personal service; also for royalty; occasionally on the day of death as well.

On Sundays, ringing for the 11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. Services, for twenty-five minutes, followed by the fifth bell rung alone for the last five minutes, after which the saunce is chimed for a minute or two, as "hurry bell." For the 8.15 a.m. Celebration on Sundays throughout the year, and for the 3 p.m. Service, and for the ordinary week-day Services, the fifth is chimed. Ringing on Easter, Whitsun, and Christmas Days, immediately on the conclusion of the Early Celebration.

Ringings at 5.30 a.m. on Ascension Day; and for Morning and Evening Service on that day, and on the Harvest Festival. Also ringing on the Queen's Birthday (May 24th); and at midnight (11.30 p.m. to 0.30 a.m.) on Christmas and New

Year's Eves, the bells being previously raised, and a short touch rung, at 7.30 p.m. For weddings, with the sanction of the Vicar, at a fee of not less than two guineas. Tenor rung for the Easter Vestry.

Most of these uses were introduced, together with "half-pull" change-ringing, in the spring of 1883.

A Board records a Peal of Grandsire Triples, rung on June 5th, 1843, by eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, of whom Mr. J. R. Haworth is now the only survivor. Since 1883, numerous Peals, in various Methods, have been rung here, most of them by local or mixed bands; the latest being also one of Grandsire Triples, by eight *bonâ fide* natives of the parish (all Members of this Tower).

At the dissolution of the religious houses, the bells of some of them in Bucks and Oxon, at dates ranging from, perhaps, the latter part of 1538, to November 19th, 1540,* were sold by the commissioners to a certain John a Marlowe. I much regret that I have not found any other trace of him. The name does not, of course, prove that he lived at Marlow, but he must have been, at any rate, of Marlow extraction. His name appears in "The Declaracon of Joife Carleton wydowe," mentioned p. ix. He bought six bells at Ashridge for £82 (see Pitstone); the Missenden bells (number not specified, but we know it was five), for £73 13s. 4d.; and from the following Oxfordshire houses:—

The Late Monastery of Godstowe—The belle—ix fold to John Marloo for lvli xj iijd.

The Late Nunry of Studeley.—The belle—iiij fold to John Marloo, for—xxiiijli vs.

The Late Monastery of Thame. nō there wer at Thame v belle.

Belle—ij fold to John A Marloo for—xvijli xs (etc.).

Showing an outlay of capital, probably within two years, of the not inconsiderable sum at that time, of £252 19s. 7d.

The very interesting early churchwardens' accounts of Thame, in Oxon, mention Marlow in connection with bells. The Thames was "the silent highway" between Marlow and London, leaving only sixteen miles of land carriage between Thame and Marlow:—

1522-3 It paied to John Tomlynson for caryng of the first bell to Marlow ij^s

This bell, as a subsequent entry tells us, was recast in London, but the founder's name is not given.

1538 Ifm p^d to John Tylby for goyng to marlow for the fore bell v^d

This was apparently cast by "Thoñs lawrence of london belfounder" (see pp. 45 and 65), and recast the next year by "m^r white of Redyng," together with the tenor,

* Browne Willis's *Mitred Abbies*; see also Lipscomb's *Bucks*.

but the account is not very clear. The next transaction in which Marlow is mentioned, is given with so much curious detail, that I copy it in its entirety:—

1548.

| | | | |
|---|--------|--|--------------------|
| Iīm Rec for ye great bell & iij litle hand belle fold to Richarde hylton wayinge xxviij ^C / _z . Afre the rat of xxvj ^s / _z ye C. fñ | } | ... xxxvj ^{li} viij ^s / _z | |
| Iīm for ye brekyng of ye Bell ^t / _w in ye ftepull }
& for ye Cariage to mr. Dormers to be weyd } | | | ij ^s |
| Iīm for ye Carige of ye fame bell to marlowe Iīm our expence | ... | vj ^s | ob |
| Iīm for or Cofte to london fechyng ye money for ye fame bell | ... | vj ^s | viiij ^d |
| Iīm payd for ij Barrelle to Cary ye bell when yt was Brokyn | ... | ... | xiiij ^d |
| Iīm for hoopyng & heddyng ye fayd barrelle | ... .. | ... | xvj ^d |

Nothing is known of Richard Hylton. The probability is that he was a marine-store dealer, and not a bellfounder.

On the first page of one of the old Register Books of Gt. Marlow, is:—

Jvne the 4 daie 1657

A promef mayd vnto Thomas Langlie in is feler one the day before menconed to ring 2 or 3 paylef one grat Marlow bells and to bee performed foe long as wec liv by of names her ar vnder riteine

Thomas Langlie hime felfe

Henry fmall

John Rannce

william Cocke

william East

Thomas Langley was probably identical with Thomas Langley, *senior* (to distinguish him from a namesake "of the Coppie" Farm), who was *Town* Collector for the Poor in 1609, churchwarden in 1615, and who affixed his mark to the churchwardens' accounts with considerable regularity. Henry Small was apparently foreman of the belfry in 1665, and sexton from about September, 1672, until the end of 1690, or later. The signature of John Rannce appears from 1642, by which date a namesake was evidently dead, who had affixed his mark to the accounts with tolerable regularity from 1609, and was styled *senior* from 1611. Between the two Johns, appears a Barnaby in 1624, who sold a rope to the churchwardens. William Cocke was a blacksmith, and was probably son of John Cocke, who served as churchwarden, and whose name occurs frequently in the accounts. William (or a namesake of his) seems, in 1690, to have been a publican. William East, frequently signed the accounts from 1642; as his name appears in connection with lime and hair, he was probably a bricklayer, or possibly a master-builder in a small way. He appears as one of the Bridgewardens in 1644 and 1646; and besides lending the churchwardens some money belonging to that trust, seems to have accommodated them, in 1645, with a loan from his own purse.

On the following page of the Register, probably, from the handwriting, of some date between 1642 and 1659, is:—

The fants Bell waied when he
was carried to the Casting /v fcor j⁴

EXTRACTS FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS.

Dec. 1593. Payments.

| | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| It p ^d to wydmo ^r * for his paynes in goynge to and from wokyngham† att
what tyme the bell was in Caftyng | } xij ^d |
| It p ^d John Black for mendynge the belle when the Quene came to Bisfham ... | xviiij ^d |
| It p ^d for naylle and dryncke the same tyme | xij ^d |
| It paied Ellys Graye for helpinge Draper cutt the bell flock | ij ^d |
| It p ^d Ranffe Draper for mendynge the gudgen of the great bell ... | ii (torn off) |
| Itm paied Ranffe Draper for settinge upp A post in the Churche and
mendynge the belle | } xij ^d |
| It paied Ellys Greye for spleffhinge‡ the bell rope | j ^d |
| It p ^d for tooe Iron wedge for the bell | j ^d |
| It p ^d goodman Sergeaunt for fower bell ropes | xij ^s iiij ^d |
| It p ^d hym for makyng A rope for the clocke | xvj ^d |
| It p ^d hym more for A newe baldricke | xx ^d |
| It p ^d for A locke for the fleple doare | xviiij ^d |
| It paied Ranffe Draper and Sallenes for woorke don in amendynge the fleple | x ^s |
| It paied George Pemerton for fawynge of CCCCxx ^v y foote of bordys
for the fleple | } ... vij ^s |

* There is an ancient manor of this name (now spelt Widmer) in the parish, mentioned in Domesday Book as already existing in Edward the Confessor's time. Langley (*Hist. Desb. Hund.*) says, "After the reformation, it appears to have been the property of a family of the same name," and to have been sold by them to the Borlases about 1634. The individual here mentioned was doubtless Silvester Wydmore, whose name appears regularly in the accounts from Lady Day, 1595, as paying rent "for the house Mother Chaundler dwelleth in," until Lady Day, 1615, after which the payment was continued by "Goodwife" or "Widow" Widmore, until Lady Day, 1648. In April, 1647, Silvester Widmore (perhaps son of the two just named) was appointed one of the overseers of the poor for the *town* (and not for the *fforrens*, in which the Manor is situated), and in April, 1650, he signed the account as "ffilvester Widmere Constable." He was probably the individual who issued a token: Ob. SILVESTER. WIDMERE = a griffin. Re. OF GREAT. MARLOW = S. K. W. A Mychael Wydmore was sexton, 1599 to end of 1603. "Mr. Richard Widmer, of Hitchenden House," is mentioned in 1690, in the Hughenden Register (*Records of Bucks*, V., 202). John Widmer was Mayor of Wycombe, 12 George III., and there are others of a later date, buried at Hughenden, the latest being Joseph Shrimpton Widmer, who died July, 1803, in his nineteenth year.

† This would be the Eldridges' foundry (p. 242).

‡ Splicing.

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-------------------------------------|
| It for the tymber logg whereof the bordys were fawen | ... | ... | xij ^s |
| It p ^d for one hundred of bordys more occupied att the fteple | ... | ... | v ^s |
| It p ^d to Gowter whalley for certeyn whele tymber | ... | ... | ij ^s iiij ^d |
| It p ^d to Sawyers for cuttyng the fame tymber | ... | ... | xx ^d |
| It for a bell flocke | ... | ... | xij ^d |
| It paid to Thomas waters for naylle and other Ironwoorke about the Belle... | | | xviiij ^d |
| It paid to Ranffe Draper for woerke don about the belle | ... | ... | iiij ^s |
| It paid to the Ringers uppon St Hughes daye* Anno 1592 | ... | ... | iiij ^s iiij ^d |
| It paid to William Hedge for tooe dayes woerke in helpinge Ranffe draper | | | xvj ^d |
| It p ^d for XVI ^{tene} pownde of heme to make a roape for the clocke | ... | ... | ij ^s viij ^d |
| It p ^d for amendynge the hangynge of the Bell ropes | ... | ... | xij ^d |
| It p ^d John Black and Thomas webb for hangynge the Belle
against the last Coronaçon daye† | ... | ... | ij ^s |
| It for naylle occupied the fame tyme | ... | ... | iiij ^d |
| It to the Ryngers uppon St Hughes daye laft | ... | ... | iiij ^s |
| It p ^d to Henrye Truffe‡ for A roape | ... | ... | xxj ^d |

May, 1595. Receipts.

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------------|
| Re of goodwyfe parfons for a feate she fytteth in at the north fyde of ye
belfrye | ... | ... | ... | ... | vj ^d |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------------|

Payments.

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|--------------------|
| In printis paid to John Seamer\|\| for a lyne for Bell ropes | ... | ... | viiij ^s |
|--|-----|-----|--------------------|

* November 17, the day of Queen Elizabeth's accession. S. Hugh was born in Burgundy, and was summoned to England in 1181, to take charge of the first Carthusian House, at Witham, in Somerset, founded by Henry II., who made him Bishop of Lincoln in 1186. He rebuilt that cathedral in 1200.

† January 15.

‡ The Truss family, as ringers, still keeps up a connection with the belfry. A few years ago there were no less than six ringers here of that name, at the same time.

|| A second manor in the parish is of this name (now Seymour Court). Langley says, "The other manor of Seymours was the property of the noble family of that name. John Semor occurs in the year 1425, which is the first account I have discovered. The tradition of the country says, that this was the birth-place of lady Jane Seymour." John Semor's will was proved 19 May, 1425. He left his estate here to his grandson Thomas, his son having predeceased him. Edward Seymour was created Viscount Beauchamp at the marriage of his sister, Lady Jane, with Henry VIII.: their father, Sir John, died December, 1536; and in October, 1537, Lord Beauchamp was made Earl of Hertford, and soon after, K.G. In September, 1541, he granted the manor and estate to John Seamor for one hundred years; but it must have been afterwards exchanged with the Dean and Chapter of Bristol, as in 3 Edward VI., they regranted it to John Seamor. Sir Wm. Willoughby was lessee of the manor by about the beginning of the seventeenth century, and it frequently changed hands afterwards. It is at the present time the property of T. O. Wethered, Esq.

The name Seamer appears continually in the churchwardens' accounts until several years later.

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-------------------|--------------------|
| It pd for a poolye for the Clocke | ... | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^d |
| April 14. It. pd to John Surman for a plate for the Bell stocke | ... | ... | ... | ... | viiij ^d |
| June It pd for fullat oyle for the clocke | ... | ... | ... | ... | ij ^d |
| Octob. 23. It pd for the mendinge of a plate of the Clocke | ... | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^d |
| It pd to the Ringers vpon St ^t Hughes daye | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^s | iiij ^d |
| It pd for the mendinge the Bawdricke of the belles | ... | ... | ... | ... | viiij ^d |
| It pd for nayles to amende the belles }
wheeles and for candles and greace } | ... | ... | ... | ... | v ^d |
| It pd Tho ^m s Graye for mendinge the bell wheeles | ... | ... | ... | ... | viiij ^d |
| It pd to the smythe for makinge a plate and mendinge the other }
plates of the belles againste St ^t Tho ^m s daye* } | ... | ... | ... | ... | xij ^d |
| It pd for a Bawdricke for the fannce Bell to Sergeannte | ... | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^d |
| It pd to cocke of Cooke ^m for mendinge the Clocke w ^{ch} he must }
be pd well and looke to yt this xij monthe } | ... | ... | ... | vj ^s | |
| It pd to Bryden for mendinge the plates of the Bells | ... | ... | ... | ... | xij ^d |
| It pd to Tho ^m s Graye for Trussinge vppe ^t the belles | ... | ... | ... | ... | viiij ^d |

1596. Payments.

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------------|
| I ^m to the Ringars vpon St ^t hewghe's daie | ... | ... | ... | ... | v ^s |
| I ^m grece for the belle and fallett oyle for the clock | ... | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^d |
| I ^m paid Nichas Buckhurt for mendinge the bell ropes }
for Nayles and for A linke for the Clock } | ... | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^d |
| I ^m to the Smyth for mendinge the yroa worke of the bell wheelf | ... | ... | ... | ... | xij ^d |
| I ^m to Thomas Grey for one daies work & A half in mendinge }
the Bell wheele } | ... | ... | ... | ... | xvj ^d |
| I ^m paid Serieant for A newe Badrick and mendinge an old | ... | ... | ... | ... | x ^d |

April, 1598. Payments.

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------------|
| I ^m for a Bell rope & a Baldericke | ... | ... | ... | ... | v ^s |
| I ^m to the Ryngars vppone St ^t Hues daye A ^o 1596 | ... | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^s |
| I ^m for oyle for the Bells at that tyme | ... | ... | ... | ... | ij ^d |
| I ^m for a rope for the Sanncebell & a baldricke | ... | ... | ... | ... | ij ^s |
| I ^m for mendynge the clocke & for oyle... | ... | ... | ... | ... | vij ^d |
| I ^m paid to Henrye Truffe for a lyne to make bell ropes | ... | ... | ... | ... | viiij ^s |
| I ^m to Tho. Gray for mendinge the Bells & the bare [†] | ... | ... | ... | ... | ij ^s |
| I ^m for oyle for the bells | ... | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^d |
| I ^m to the Ryngars vppone the Cronatyone daye | ... | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^s |
| I ^m to Surman for mendinge the bell goodgeon | ... | ... | ... | ... | ij ^d |
| I ^m for mendinge [§] bell clappe & for nayles | ... | ... | ... | ... | xij ^d |
| I ^m for mendynge the clocke... | ... | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^d |

* Dec. 21 (p. 280).

† Tightening them on their stocks; a more troublesome business before the upper ends of the straps were fitted with screw-threads and nuts.

‡ Probably *bier*.

April, 1599. Payments.

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----------------|
| Iĥm to the Ryngers on fet̄ hue's daiye ... | ... | ... | ... | v ^s |
| Iĥm for a Baldericke ... | ... | ... | ... | xx ^d |
| Iĥm to Tho. graye for mendinge the Bellwheelee ... | ... | ... | ... | ix ^d |
| Iĥm for oyle for the Bells ... | ... | ... | ... | ij ^d |

March, 1600. Payments.

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-------------------|--------------------|
| Iĥm payd to Tho. Sergeante for a rope for the greate plummett of the clocke | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^s | iv ^d |
| Iĥm payde for a hund & a halfe of vj pennye nayles for y ^e Bells | ... | ... | ... | ... | viiij ^d |
| Payd to Roĥte Hobbs for iiij dayes worke aboute the bells frame | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^s | |
| Payde to m ^r . Brinckhurte* for 34. foote of tymber for the Bell frame | ... | ... | ... | x ^s | iiij ^d |
| Payde to Tho : graye for viij dayes worke of his boye aboute y ^e newe frame | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^s | |

Marche 1601. Payde.

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----------------|--------------------|
| Iĥm for a rope for the lyttle bell | ... | ... | ... | ... | xvj ^d |
| Iĥm to the ryngers vppon fet̄ hewes daye | ... | ... | ... | v ^s | |
| Iĥm for oyle for the bells | ... | ... | ... | ... | ij ^d |
| Iĥm payde to Thomas Graye | ... | ... | ... | x | (torn) |
| [Iĥm payd more to Thomas Graye | ... | ... | ... | xx ^s | |
| Iĥm payd to ij Laborers to helpe aboute the bells | ... | ... | ... | ij ^s | |
| Iĥm to them for another dayes worke | ... | ... | ... | ij ^s | |
| Iĥm to Mychaell wydmore for iiij dayes worke | ... | ... | ... | ij ^s | viiij ^d |
| Iĥm to Tho : Harte for a dayes worke | ... | ... | ... | ij ^s | viiij ^d |
| & for his forrope lente to lett downe y ^e bells | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Iĥm more to Myc. Wydmore for a dayes worke | ... | ... | ... | ... | viiij ^d |
| Iĥm payd Petē Swadlinge for j dayes worke | ... | ... | ... | ... | viiij ^d |
| [Iĥm payd John Blackoll for j dayes worke† | ... | ... | ... | ... | viiij ^d |
| Iĥm payd More to Tho : Graye for his worke | ... | ... | ... | xx ^s | |
| Iĥm payd to ij Mafons & they ^r laborers for ij dayes worke | ... | ... | ... | ix ^s | viiij ^d |
| Iĥm for breade & beare bestowed vppon workmen at ffynfes | ... | ... | ... | ij ^s | |
| Iĥm bestowed vppon y ^e bargmen ‡ broughte vpp the bells | ... | ... | ... | ... | xij ^d |

* The Brinckhursts of Gt. Marlow are among the families whose pedigrees are recorded in the Visitations of Bucks, made in the years 1575 and 1634 (Harl MSS., *Brit. Mus.*). The individual here recorded, may have been John Brinkhurst, Esq., of the More, who, in July, 1608, founded alms-houses for poor widows, which charity still exists; or perhaps more likely, Henry Brinkhurst, to whom a payment was made by the churchwardens in 1605, for "a locke and worke done in the Church." In the old church was a monument to a later member of the family, as recorded by Langley (*Hist. Desb. Hund.*): "Here lyeth the body of John Brinkhurst, esq. who departed this life Dec. 10, 1681."

† These eight entries are consecutive, and taken with the preceding one, and succeeding four, seem to have reference to a remodelling of the ring.

the xxvijth daye of december 1603.

m^e yt ys furthē agreed
 by the inhabytaunte afore=
 sayd that the great bell
 shall not be ronge for a
 knell for anye man woman
 or chylde wthout they gyve
 ijs^s vj^d. for the maynteinēce
 of the sayd Bell & the rest
 of the Ringe/

[This was crossed
 through, no doubt,
 when no longer in
 force.]

December, 1603. Payde.

| | | |
|--|------|-------------------------------------|
| Iīm for Carryage of iiij Lo : of Tymber out of Odyams Lee for the newe frame | vjs. | viiij ^d |
| Iīm to w ^m : Sutfielde for oyle for ye Bells at fundry tymes | ... | xvij ^d |
| Iīm for iijC of vj ^d nayles occupyed aboute the frame | ... | xviiij ^d |
| Iīm for halfe a hund of x ^d e nayles | ... | v ^d |
| Iīm for a hund & a halfe of iiij ^d : nayles | ... | vj ^d |
| Iīm to Myc. wydmore for makynge the bellfery flowre | ... | x ^d |
| Iīm to Jo : Brydon for yron worke aboute the Belle | ... | xls |
| Iīm to Tho : Gray in pte of paymt: for makinge ye frame | ... | xx ^s |
| Iīm for iijC & xli ⁱ foote of boorde for ye newe flowre in ye vppe lofte | ... | xvijs ^s vj ^d |
| Iīm to Sym : dwyte for an old Lyne for ropes | ... | (torn) |
| I tem to Jo : Brydon for yron worke at the newe }
hanginge of the Belle by Phillypp* | ... | vijs ^s |
| Iīm to the same Phillipp for the newe wheelles & newe hanginge of the Belle | ... | ls |
| Iīm to Jo : Brydon for halfe a hund of viij ^d e nayles }
iij yron keyes & iij plates for the Bells | ... | xvj ^d |
| Iīm to Jo : harrys for an old lyne for ropes | ... | iiij ^s |
| Iīm to Tho : Bovington for iij dayes work aboute ye bells | ... | iiij ^s |
| Iīm to Myc Wydmore for helpinge at that tyme | ... | xviiij ^d |
| Iīm for mendinge of A Baldryck | ... | xij ^d |
| Iīm to Surman for yron worke aboute the frame/ | ... | vjs |
| Iīm for ij yron plates for the Belle | ... | iiij ^d |
| Iīm to him† for Boordes to mend the bell wheelles | ... | ijs |
| Iīm for Sullett oyle for the Belle | ... | iiij ^d |
| Iīm to Tho : Bovington for one dayes worke aboute the Belle | ... | xij ^d |
| Iīm to Thomas Gray for tymb for the bellē | ... | xx ^s |
| Iīm to Jo : Sargeant for ij baldrycke | ... | iijs ^s viij ^d |
| Iīm for halfe a Pynt of fallet oyle | ... | iiij ^d |
| Iīm to ye Ryngers when ye kynge was p ^r claymed‡ | ... | vj ^d |

* Perhaps identical with Richard Phillips in the Hambleden accounts for 1634.

† Jo : Lytle.

‡ Queen Elizabeth died March 24th, 1603, and King James of Scotland was proclaimed King of England almost immediately afterwards.

| | |
|---|------------------|
| I ^l m to Tho : Bovington for worke about the Bells | xx ^d |
| I ^l m to John Brydon for yron fpeake for the fframe | xij ^d |

Apryll 1605 *Receipts* for the Belles

(A List of Subscriptions follows, of which the "sum" only amounts to the modest total of £3 8s. 3d.)

Apryll, 1605. Payde

| | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| I ^l m for ij ^C of nayles for the Bolles* | iiij ^d |
| I ^l m fo ii ^d in syxepeny nayles | ij ^d |
| I ^l m for d ⁺ pinte of Sallet oye (<i>sic</i>) | iiij ^d |
| I ^l m for ij dayes worke about the Bell wheele to Thomas Bovington | ij ^s |
| I ^l m paid to the Cooper for the fole of the Bell wheele | iiij ^d |
| I ^l m for fyve plates for the Bell braffles | x ^d |
| I ^l m for nayles | x ^d |
| I ^l m for platinge of ij Armes of the Bell wheele | xviiij ^d |
| I ^l m for A Stocke Locke and a staple for the Steeple dore | xiiiij ^d |
| I ^l m for A verole for the Clocke | ij ^d |
| I ^l m for makinge of a guggion for the fore Bell | vij ^d |
| I ^l m paid to the Ryngers when the Kyng came to Byffome | v ^s |
| I ^l m for fallett oyle | ij ^d |
| I ^l m for Sallet oyle | j ^d |
| I ^l m for Sallette oyle for the Belles | ij ^d |
| I ^l m for A Lyne to Barnard Hobbes † | iiij ^d |
| I ^l m paid to Barnard Hobbes for truffinge the Belles | viiij ^d |
| I ^l m for fallett oyle | j ^d |
| I ^l m paid for A Rope for the great Bell | ix ^d |
| I ^l m paid to good man Lytle that he laid forth for the Belles | xxxiiiij ^s ij ^d |

1605.

| | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Item paid to the Ryngers on S.t Jameses daie | vj ^s — |
| Item paid to the Ryngers when the kyng came to Buftletham | iiij ^s — |
| Item paid to Sargent for mendinge of A Baldricke | ij ^s — |
| Item paid for Bell Roopes | vj ^s |
| Item payd more to Barnard hobbs for one dayes worke and a halfe }
And for mendinge of A Baldricke | xvj ^d |
| Item paid to the Ryngers on Sanct James daye | iiij ^s |
| Item payd to Morgen for Roopes | iiij ^s iiij ^d |
| Item payd to Truffe for Roopes | iiij ^s v(torn) |

* *Bolles* are sconces (for tapers; also *bowls*, *tankards*, etc.); but as such things would hardly require 200 nails to fit them up, *bells* are no doubt intended.

† *Dimidium* = half.

‡ Sexton, 1604 to April, 1635, and possibly until Lady Day, 1638.

Aprill, 1608.

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----------------------------------|
| Inþmis paid for beare at the takeinge downe of the bells | ... | ... | ... | .iiij ^d |
| Iñ paid at Reddinge for o ^r Charges when the bells were Caft | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^s vj ^d |
| Iñ for bringinge of the bells from Reddinge | ... | ... | ... | ij ^s v(?) ^d |
| Iñ paid for Castinge of the bells and for mettle | ... | ... | ... | x ^l . vj ^s |
| Iñ paid for stockinge of the bells | ... | ... | ... | xj ^s |
| Iñ to Barnatt hobbs for vj daies worke w th that man that Stockt the bells | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^s |
| Iñ to goodman Dyer for Sawinge of the bell stockf | ... | ... | ... | xvj ^d |
| Iñ paid for a bell Roope of xvij fladdam | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^s vj ^d |
| Iñ to John Surman for yron worke and Nayles | ... | ... | ... | vij ^s |
| Iñ paid for bear when the bells were hunge vp | ... | ... | ... | xij ^d |
| Iñ paid for mendinge of ij Baldrickf | ... | ... | ... | xij ^d |
| Iñ paid for A new wheele for the treble | ... | ... | ... | vj ^s vi(torn) |
| Iñ paid to Barnatt hobbs for ij daies worke when the bells were trust | ... | ... | ... | xvj ^d |
| Iñ paid the bell fownder for trufinge of the beles | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^s |
| Iten pay to Surman for yron worke and nayles at that tyme | ... | ... | ... | ij ^s xj ^d |
| Iñ paid at Stutfeldf for Oyle and Nayles | ... | ... | ... | xvj ^d |
| Iñ paid their* for Sallett oyle | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^d |

Aprill 1609.

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|---------------------------------|
| Item Paied for A newe baldricke and mendinge of an olde one | ... | ... | ... | ij ^s vj ^d |
| Iñ paied for mendinge of A wheele | ... | ... | ... | x ^d |
| Iñ paied to Christopher morgine for a Roope | ... | ... | ... | ij ^s vj ^d |
| Iñ Paied to the Ryngers at the Kingf Comynge through the towne | ... | ... | ... | ij ^s |
| Iten Paied to Christopher Morgine for A Roope | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^s |
| Iñ Paied to Barnard Hobbes for worke and wyer for the Clocke | ... | ... | ... | xvj ^d |
| Item Paied to Shrympton for makinge of a Clapper | ... | ... | ... | xviiij ^d |
| Item Paied to Surman and Hobbs for cuttinge of the bell† | ... | ... | ... | xvj ^d |
| Item Paied to Surman for Rowndinge of ij Clappers | ... | ... | ... | xviiij ^d |
| Iñ Paied to Good Man Stutfelde for nayles and Oyle | ... | ... | ... | ij ^s ix ^d |

Aprill 1610.

| | | | |
|--|-------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Inprimis Paied vnto the Bellfounder in pt of Payment for Castinge of the Bells | iiij ^d | x ^s | |
| Item Paied to the Carter for Carryeing the Bells from the water syde to
be Caste and for bringinge of them home | ... | ... | } ix ^s |
| Item Payed for makeinge of the bonde from the Bell founder vnto vs : | ... | ... | vj ^d |
| Item Paied for more mettell Putt in the bells | ... | ... | xx ^s . |
| Item Paied to Grigory‡ for hanginge of them and
for newe Boxinge and Truffinge the others ... | ... | ... | } x ^s |
| Item Paied for A newe wheele for the fourth bell | ... | ... | vj ^s viij ^d |

* At Little's.

† Query, to cut out a crack, in the futile hope that it might stop the jarring from the vibration; or possibly, to tune the bell.

‡ "Gregorie" hung "the 4 bell" at S. Mary's, Reading, 1604-5, at a cost of iiij^s.

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-------|-------------------|
| Item Paied to Henry Truffe for A barge lyne | ... | ... | ... | xjs | vjd |
| Item Paied to Barnard Hobbs for ij dayes worke | } | ... | ... | ... | xvjd |
| helpinge grigory to hange the Bells | | ... | ... | ... | |
| Item to John Bryden for Iron worke | ... | ... | ... | xijjs | jd |
| Item Paied for our Charges in goeing to and from | } | ... | ... | ... | ixs |
| Readinge to fee the Bells Cast and brought home | | ... | ... | ... | vjd |
| Item Paied to Christopher morgen for the Carriage of the | } | ... | ... | ... | iiijjs |
| Tennor and fourth bell to Readinge to be Cast | | ... | ... | ... | |
| Item Paied for his* Charges goeing to Reddinge to fee the | } | ... | ... | ... | ijs |
| Tennor newe Cast | | ... | ... | ... | |
| Item Paied to the Bellfounder† in full Payment for | } | ... | ... | ... | xl̄s |
| Castinge the Tennor and fourth bell ... | | ... | ... | ... | |
| Item Paid for xx ^l of mettell att ix ^d the pounce | } | ... | ... | ... | xv̄s |
| Putt into the Tennor the last Castinge | | ... | ... | ... | |
| Item to Grigory for A new wheele for the Tennor | ... | ... | ... | vjs | viijd |
| Item Paied to him more for hanginge of her and for | } | ... | ... | ... | v̄s |
| mendinge the Open Places in the steeple | | ... | ... | ... | |
| Item Paied to John Surman for Iron worke for the tenno ^r | ... | ... | ... | ... | xv ^d . |
| Item Paied to Thomas Sargent for mendinge a baldricke | ... | ... | ... | ... | viijd |
| Item Paied for makinge thingf for the Clocke | ... | ... | ... | ... | vjd |
| Iten Paied for Irons—for the great bell | ... | ... | ... | ... | vjd |
| Iten Paied for nayles | ... | ... | ... | ... | iijd |
| Item for A newe Baldricke for the seconde Bell | ... | ... | ... | ... | xviijd |
| Item Paied to John Atkines for Carryinge the | } | ... | ... | ... | ijs |
| Tennor to Reddinge† the last tyme ... | | ... | ... | ... | vjd |

Marche 1611.

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|------|--------|
| Item Paied to Thomas Sargent for A baldricke for the great bell | ... | ... | ... | ijs | |
| Item paied to the Ryngers when the kinge Came to Byffham | ... | ... | ... | iijs | iiijd |
| Item paied to Barnard Hobbs for one dayes worke aboute the bells | ... | ... | ... | ... | viijd |
| mendinge a wheelle | ... | ... | ... | ... | xviijd |
| Item paied to Thomas Sargent for A Baldricke | ... | ... | ... | ... | |

April, 1612, Payments (for 1611)

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------------|
| Paied to Thomas Sargent for a baldricke for the great bell | ... | ... | ... | ijs | vj ^d |
| Paied to John Bryden for mendinge Irons aboute the Clocke | ... | ... | ... | ... | vjd |
| Paied to wittm Battye the x th of August. for five daies worke of him self | } | ... | ... | ... | viijs |
| and his boy, Paveinge tylinge and mendinge of the steeple | | ... | ... | ... | |
| Paied to John Plumridge for A quarter of Lyme | ... | ... | ... | ijs | viijd |
| Paied to Henrie Shrympton for nayles to vfe aboute the steeple | ... | ... | ... | ... | ijd |
| Paied to wittm Sargent for a lyne for the Saunce bell | ... | ... | ... | ... | ix ^d |

* Barnard Hobbs (the Sexton).

† Most probably Henry Knight I., but William Yare was also founding at Reading at this date.

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----------------|---------------------|
| Paied to him* for glafeinge ij wyndowes next the Belfrey | ... | ... | ij ^s | viiij ^d |
| Paied to him† for makeinge A Coller for the Third Bell wheele and mendinge of yrons aboute the Clocke. | ... | ... | } | ix ^d |
| Paied to Thomas Sargient for a Roope for the great bell | ... | ... | ij ^s | iiij ^d |
| Paied to him† for wooke aboute the bell wheeles | ... | ... | ... | xij ^d |
| Paied to wittm Stutfeild for oyle and Nayles | ... | ... | ... | xxiiij ^d |
| Paied to the bellfounder of Reddinge\|\| in pte of payment for A Braffe for one of the bellf | ... | ... | } | xx ^d . |

Maj 1613 Payments 1612

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Inprimis paied to christopher morgaine for A Clocke roope | ... | ... | ij ^s | vj ^d . |
| Item paied to Barnard Hobbs for Truffeinge the bells | ... | ... | ... | viiij ^d |
| Item paied to the Ringers when the kinge came through the Towne | ... | ... | ij ^s | vj ^d . |
| Item paied for beare for the Ryngers att that tyme | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^d . |
| Item paied to Barnard Hobbs for mendinge the Tenno ^r wheele | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^d . |
| Item paied to Henry Shrympton for ij yron baldricks for the bells | ... | ... | iiij ^s | ... |
| Item paied to Henry Shrympton for a Cleete for the third bell wheele | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^d |
| Item paied to him for makeinge of an yron to keep the gudgin into the braffes | ... | ... | ... | ij ^d |
| Item paied to him for mendinge the Sayles of the Clocke | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^d |
| Item paied to him for shooteinge one of the bell Clappers | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^d |
| Item paied to him for A bolt for the bell wheele | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^d |
| Item paid to Robert webbe Junio ^r for A roope for a bell | ... | ... | ... | xx ^d . |
| Item paied to Henry Shrympton for mendinge the faile for the Clocke | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^d |
| Item for A baldricke for the Third bell | ... | ... | ... | ij ^s |
| Item for mendinge the Clapper | ... | ... | ... | xviiij ^d . |
| Item paied to wittm Stutfeilde for oyle and nayles | ... | ... | ... | ij ^s . |

June 1614 Payments 1613

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Item paied to Goodman Stutfeilde for lathes nayles Tyle }
Pinns and oyle for the Bells | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^s | jd. |
| Item paied to John Atkins for 32. ffaddome of Rope for the Bells | ... | ... | ... | viiij ^s | ... |
| Item paied to henry Shrympton for a Collor for a bell wheele | ... | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^d |
| Item paied to him for mendeinge of the plates for the bells | ... | ... | ... | ... | ij ^d . |
| Item paied for A pynne for A Baldricke | ... | ... | ... | ... | jd. |
| Item paied for mendinge a staple for the stape of the Tenno ^r wheele | ... | ... | ... | ... | jd. |
| Item paied for mendinge the ffalle of the Clocke | ... | ... | ... | ... | ij ^d . |
| Item paied to Barnard hobbs and one to helpe him Truffe the bells | ... | ... | ... | ... | xviiij ^d . |

May, 1615 Payments, 1614.

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|---------------------|
| Item paied to the Ryngers when the kinge Came through the towne | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^s . |
| Item paied to wittm Mathewe for two Bell roopes | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^s . |
| Item paied to wittm Stutfeilde for lathes, nayles, lyme, Tylepinns and oyle | ... | ... | ... | iiij ^s . |
| Item paied for A baldricke for the second Bell | ... | ... | ... | ij ^s . |

* The Plum̄er. † Henrie Shrympton (a Sydesman). ‡ Barnard Hobbs.

|| Probably Henry Knight I., but possibly William Yare.

| | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Item paid to henry Shrympton for makeinge two newe plates for the Bells ... | vij ^d |
| Item paid more to him for mendinge of two plates | iiij ^d |
| Item paid more to him for Nayles to Truffe the Bells | iiij ^d |
| Item paid more to him for the falle of the Clocke | j ^d |
| Item paid more to him for mendinge the bell Clappar | iiij ^s iiij ^d |
| Item paid more to him for A Pynne for the bell Clappar | j ^d |
| Item paid more to him* for oyle for the bells | x ^d |
| Item paid more to him for oyle | ij ^d |

Maij 1616. Payments 1615.

| | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Item paid to Barnard hobbs for mendinge of two bell wheeles... .. | xij ^d |
| Item paid to Jeromye Bryden for bindinge the Chest in the Church and
other yron worke aboute the bells | v ^s |
| Item paid to Barnard hobbs for mendinge the stocke of the bells | viiij ^d |
| Item paid to Jeromie Bryden for mendinge of the beare† & other worke
aboute ye bells | xviiij ^d |
| Item paid vnto Thomas Sargent for two Ropes for the bells | iiij ^s iiij ^d |
| Item paid for A newe wheele for the Treble bell | vij ^s |

May 1617. Payments 1616.

| | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Item paid to Thomas Sargent for A Roope for the plumett of the Clocke | iiij ^s iiij ^d |
| Item paid to the Ryngers when the kinge Came to Biffham | iiij ^s |
| Item paid to Barnard hobbs for mendinge of A Bell wheele | xij ^d |
| Item paid to Thomas Sargent for two Roopes for the Belles | vj ^s |
| Item paid to Thomas Gray for two Bell wheeles | xiiij ^s |
| Item paid more to Thomas Gray for mendinge of wheeles and Truffinge
the bells | v ^s viij ^d |
| Item paid to henry Shrimpton for two plates for the Tennor and fhootinge }
the Spindle for the Clocke | vj ^d |
| Item paid for fhootinge the fpringe of the vaine of the Clocke two tymes }
and after that makeinge of yt newe | vj ^d |
| Item for makeinge the fpindle for the vaines to runn vppon | iiij ^d |
| Item paid to wifftm Stutfeilde for oyle for the belles... .. | ij ^s j ^d |
| Item paid to the Ryngers of the fyveth daie of November beinge }
the kinge holy daie | ij ^s xj ^d |
| Item for one daies worke of my fellf‡ in the steeple mendinge the fframe
of ye bells | xij ^d |
| Item paid to Barnard hobbs for helpinge fetch and Carry thinge to me
that daie | viiij ^d |
| Item for myne owne worke two daies more in the Church makinge of a
Coope for the plumett of the Clocke to come downe in, and makinge
the Bellfrey doore and makinge A feate narrower att the vpper end
of the Church and the stepps vpp to the readinge place & other
neceffaries aboute the Church | ij ^s |

* goodman Stutfeilde.

† Bier.

‡ Nicholas Loveioye, churchwarden.

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-------------------------------------|
| Item paid to Raphe Shipwafhe for nailes | ... | ... | ... | ij ^s |
| Item paid more for hookes and henges, A locke, A staple, wth two keyes
for the Bellfrey doore, and fpikes for the Coope for the plumett to
come downe in | ... | ... | ... | } iij. ^s |
| Item paid for the bordf that made the bellfrey doore | ... | ... | ... | |
| Item paid for A wheele for the Treble Bell | ... | ... | ... | vij. ^s |
| Item paid for keyes & fore lockes* for the Bell wheeles and nayles | ... | ... | ... | vij. ^d |
| Item paid to Thomas Gray for Truffinge of the Bells and makinge Collers
for them and doeinge other worke in the steeple | ... | ... | ... | } ij. ^s x ^d . |
| Item paid for oyle for the Gudgins of the Bells | ... | ... | ... | |
| Item paid for seaven keyes for the Bells | ... | ... | ... | iiij. ^d . |
| Item paid for a Gudgin for A bell stocke... | ... | ... | ... | vj. ^d |
| Item paid for makinge of A yron spooke for A Bell wheele† | ... | ... | ... | iiij. ^d |
| Item paid for X. staples for the Bells | ... | ... | ... | ij ^s iiij. ^d |
| Item paid for An yron Baldricke for A Bell | ... | ... | ... | xx. ^d |

Maij, 1618. Payments.

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-------------------------------------|
| Item paied to Thomas Sargient for A Rope | ... | ... | ... | 0-0-10 ^d .— |
| Item paied to the Ryngers when the kinge came by to Biffham | ... | ... | ... | 0-5-0— |
| Item for mendinge of the hāmer of the Clocke | ... | ... | ... | 0-0-6 ^d .— |
| Item for fixe keyes and staples for the bells | ... | ... | ... | 0-0-6 ^d .— |
| Item for mendinge of the hāmer of the Clocke | ... | ... | ... | 0-0-4 ^d .— |
| Item for A Gudgin for the greate Bell | ... | ... | ... | 0-j ^s .—0— |
| Item for A staple for A bell | ... | ... | ... | 0-0-3 ^d .— |
| Item to wittm Stutfeilde for oyle for the bells | ... | ... | ... | 0-j ^s -8 ^d .— |

Maij, 1619. Paym:ts.

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|--|
| Item paid to wittm Stutfeild for oyle & Nayles & other stufte
as by his bill appeereth | ... | ... | ... | } ... 0-6 ^s .—4 ^d .— |
| Item paid to John Moore for Twentie fadam of Roape | ... | ... | ... | |
| Item to thomas Graye for one daies worke about a wheele of a bell | ... | ... | ... | 0-j ^s -8 ^d .— |
| Item to Barnard hobbs for one daies worke helpeinge the faid thomas Graye | ... | ... | ... | 0-0-8 ^d .— |
| Item to wittm Mathewe for a peece of Roape | ... | ... | ... | 0-0-4 ^d .— |

Maij. 1620.

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|--------------------|
| Item payd for A Lyne for the Bell Roopes | ... | ... | ... | ii s d
0-12.-0— |
| Item payd to the Ryngers when the kinge came by | ... | ... | ... | 0-4-0— |
| Item paied to Thomas Graye for Truffinge of A Bell | ... | ... | ... | 0-j-0— |
| Item paied to him more for makeinge of one wheele of two olde ones | ... | ... | ... | 0-2.-6.— |
| Item for Nayles | ... | ... | ... | 0-0-4.— |
| Item paid for Nayles for the bells | ... | ... | ... | 0-0-8— |
| Item paid for mendinge the hammer of the Clocke | ... | ... | ... | 0-0-4.— |

* In 1622, fore loops.

† Some charges for nails, which follow, probably refer to the bells ; these include lath nailes, fower peny nailes, fixe peny nailes, Eight peny nailes, and spike nailes.

Item for keyes and nayles to truffe the Bells 0-0-6-

Maij, 1621. Payments

for oyle and nayles to goodman Stutfeilde 0-1-9-
 To Thomas Graye for Truffinge of two bells 0-3-4-
 for Lether to lyne the baldricke 0-0-2-
 for A staple for the stocke of A bell 0-0-6-
 for two plates to key downe the bells 0-0-3-

Aprill, 1622

Iſm paid more to wittm Stutfeilde at that tyme for Lathes, ſande }
 Reparacion nayles and oyle 0-j-6-
 Item paid to John drap for A Treble wheele 0-7-0-
 Iſm paid to the Ryngers when the kinge came by 0-3-4-
 Iſm paid to Bonaventer ward for a Rope for the greate bell 0-j-8-
 Iſm paid to Richard Pigott for Af much lyne as Roped three bells 0-5-0-
 [Item paid more to him* for Riddinge the Rubbiſhe out of the ſteeple 0-j-8-
 Iſm paid to Jeromye Brydon for fower plates to key downe the bells 0-0-8-
 Iſm paid more to him for nayles 0-0-4-
 Iſm paid more to him for fyve fore loopes† & A key 0-0-6-
 Iſm paid for fower ſprigge nailes 0-0-2-
 Iſm for makeinge A newe ſtaple and ſhootinge two other 0-0-4-
 Iſm for mendinge of A Bell Clapper 0-4-0-
 Iſm for mendinge of the Collers of the bells 0-j-0-
 Iſm for ſixe keys and fforty nayles 0-0-6-
 Iſm. for makeinge A newe Baldricke hauinge the olde in exchange 0-0-8-
 [Iſm for nayles 0-0-2-

Aprill, 1623.

Item paid to the Cooper for the wheell 0-0-6-
 Iſm paid for 50. ffaddam of Rope for the bells 0-12-6-
 Item paid to drap for makeinge the wheele and boorde 0-j-10-
 Item paid to goodman Stutfeilde for oyle & nayles & lyme & ſande 0-6-8-
 Iſm payd towarde the Repairinge of the ſpire of the ſteeple 17-6-0-
 And moreouer borrowed of the towne ſtocke for the ffiniſhing of the ſpire }
 of the ſteeple Tenne pownde wch was alſo paid for the fame, ouer and } *li s d*
 aboute the ſome of — 17.—6s before in the ſaid accompt menconed } 10-0-0-

Maij, 1624.

Item paid to Thomas Graye for two wheeles for the bells & other worke... 0-14-6-
 Item payed to Barnabye Raunce for 60. fadam of Roape for the bells ... 0-15-0-
 Item paid to the Ringers the 5th of November 0-j-6-
 Item paid George Sargent for Leather to lyne the Baldricke 0-j-2-
 And there is due to the poore wch was } *li s d*
 borrowed to Repair the ſpire } 10-0-0-

* Barnard hobbs.

† In 1617, and 1634, fore locks.

Aprill, 1625.

| | | | |
|---|-------|-----|-------------------------|
| Itm paied to Thomas Gray for mendinge a bell wheele | ... | ... | 0-0-8.- |
| Itm paied for a Bell roope | ... | ... | 0-2-2.- |
| Itm paied for Truffinge the bells againft the kinge* came | ... | ... | <i>li s d</i>
0-j-0- |
| Itm paied to the Ryngers when the kinge came to Biffhall† | ... | ... | 0-3-6- |
| Itm paied to m ^r . Chafe and m ^r . ffarmer the money that was
borrowed of the stocke of the poore for the mendinge of the fpyer
of the fteeple beinge tenn poundf | ... | ... | 10-0-0- |
| Itm paied to Thomas Graye for three braydf [†] of worke aboute
Truffinge the Bells | ... | ... | 0-2-6- |
| Itm paied to Barnard hobbs & his fonne for helpinge him about the bells... | | | 0-j-0- |
| Itm paied to George Sargent for a Sance bell rope & an other bell Roope | | | 0-3-0- |
| Itm paied to George Sargent for a bell roope | ... | ... | 0-j-10- |
| Itm paied for a peece of tymber for a beame to lay over the bellfrey | ... | ... | 0-5-0- |
| Itm paied for Sawinge & Carryeinge of the fame peece | ... | ... | 0-j-4- |
| Itm paied to Wittm Stutfeilde for oyle . nayles. Tyles lyme ana
other thingf of him fetcht to the vfe of the Church | ... } | ... | 0-6-0- |

Aprill, 1626.

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-------------------------|
| Inprimis paied for mendinge a Bell wheelle | ... | ... | <i>li s d</i>
0-0-6- |
| Itm paid to the Ryngers att the Comeinge of the kinge | ... | ... | 0-3-6.- |
| Itm paied to the Ringers att the comeinge of the Queene | ... | ... | 0-3-6- |
| Itm paid to a Carpinter for puttinge vp a peece of Tymber
in the fteeple & Truffinge the Bells & newe Rowndinge a ladder | ... | ... | 0-7-6.- |
| Itm paid for two Bell Ropes | ... | ... | 0-5-4- |
| Itm paid to George Sargient for a bell Rope and leather to lyne
the Baldricke of the bells | ... | ... | 0-3-4.- |
| Itm paid to Robert Hobbs one daies worke Truffinge the bells | ... | ... | 0-j-4.- |
| Itm for mendinge a bell wheele. Truffinge the bells & fettinge 2. postf in
the cawfwaye to the Church to keepe of the Cartē | ... | ... | 0-j-4.- |
| Itm paid to George Sargent for a Rope for the Clocke | ... | ... | 0-3-4.- |
| Itm paid for makeinge a Bell wheele | ... | ... | 0-2-6.- |
| Itm paid to goodman Stutfeilde vppon his bill for oyle nayles & lathes | ... | ... | 0-2-3.- |

Maij, 1627. Payments 1626.

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|----------|
| Itm paied to George Sargient for a Rope for the Clocke | ... | ... | 0-2-0- |
| Itm paied for Truffinge a bell | ... | ... | 0-0-8- |
| Itm paied for a bell Rope | ... | ... | 0-2-6.- |
| Itm paied for mendinge a Bell wheele | ... | ... | 0-0-6.- |
| Itm paied to Thomas Graye for a newe wheele for a bell | ... | ... | 0-7-0- |
| Itm paied to william Mathewe for fyve bell Ropes | ... | ... | 0-17-6.- |

* Charles I. succeeded James in March.

† Bisham Abbey.

‡ *Braids of work* would mean much the same as *odul-jobs*. Among the meanings given by Halliwell for *Braid*, are, a start; a sudden movement; a moment of time.

June, 1628.

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| I ^m paid for Truffinge of a bell | ... | ... | ... | 00—00—04— |
| I ^m paid to the Ringers when the kinge Came by | ... | ... | ... | 00—03—00— |
| I ^m paid for mendinge of a bell wheele | ... | ... | ... | 00—00—06— |
| I ^m paid for Leather to lyne the Baldricke of the bells | ... | ... | ... | 00—0j—04— |
| I ^m paid to Barnard Hobbs for mendinge a wheele | ... | ... | ... | 00—00—06— |

Maij, 1629.

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| I ^m paid to Thomas Graye for the Treble wheele | ... | ... | ... | 00—07—05 |
| I ^m paid for mendinge the other bells wheeles | ... | ... | ... | 00—0j—00— |
| I ^m paid for a Roope for the Tenno ^r weighinge 9 ^{li} at 4 ^d the pownde | ... | ... | ... | 00—03—00— |
| I ^m paid for a Roope for the fourth bell weyginge fyve pownde | ... | ... | ... | 00—0j—08— |
| [I ^m paid to Robert Hobbs for Truffinge & raifeinge the brasses of 2.bells | ... | ... | ... | 00—0j—04— |
| I ^m paid for one hundred of greate sprigge nayles | ... | ... | ... | 00—00—09— |
| I ^m paid for 4. keyes & mendinge the Crowne staple & one Coller of a bell | ... | ... | ... | 00—00—08— |
| [I ^m paid to Barnard Hobbs for helpinge Robt Hobbs one Daye | ... | ... | ... | 00—00—08— |

Maij, 1630.

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| I ^m paid to Robert Hobbs for one dayes worke aboute the bells | ... | ... | ... | 00—0j—04— |
| I ^m paid to Thomas Bye for fyve bell roopes wayeinge 32 ^{li} }
att iiij ^d the pownde | ... | ... | ... | 00—10—08— |
| I ^m paid for a Braffe for the fourth bell | ... | ... | ... | 00—04—00— |
| I ^m for twoe staples for the bell wheeles | ... | ... | ... | 00—00—02— |
| I ^m for two more staples for the bell wheeles | ... | ... | ... | 00—00—02— |
| I ^m paid to Thomas Bye for a rope for the plumett of }
the Clocke weighinge fixe pound and a half att iiij ^d the pound } | ... | ... | ... | 00—02—02— |
| I ^m paid for mendinge the Treble wheele | ... | ... | ... | 00—03—04— |
| I ^m paid to Thomas Gray for a dayes worke mendinge the bell wheeles | ... | ... | ... | 00—0j—06— |
| I ^m paid to goodman widmere for thinges there fecht }
as by his bill appeareth | ... | ... | ... | 00—03—03— |
| I ^m paid to him* and his fonne for helpinge mende the bell wheeles | ... | ... | ... | 00—0j—00— |
| I ^m for half a hundred of Nayles for the bell wheeles | ... | ... | ... | 00—00—04— |

July, 1631.

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| I ^m payd for one Bell roope weighinge fixe pounde | ... | ... | ... | 00—02—00— |
| I ^m paid to Thomas Graye for makeinge a Bell wheele | ... | ... | ... | 00—09—00— |
| I ^m paid to Barnard Hobbes for Truffinge a bell and nayles | ... | ... | ... | 00—0j—0j— |
| I ^m paid to John webbe for a barge Lyne to make bell roopes | ... | ... | ... | 0j—05—09— |
| I ^m for Oyle for the bells | ... | ... | ... | 00—02—06— |
| I ^m paid to goodman shepwafhe for nayle & yron worke aboute y ^e bells | ... | ... | ... | 00—07—11— |

Maij, 1632.

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| Inprimis payed to Thomas By for Leather for the baldricke | ... | ... | ... | 00—00—06— |
| I ^m paid to Barnard Hobbes for Truffinge of foure bells | ... | ... | ... | 00—03—06— |

* Barnard Hobbs.

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| I tm paid for oyle for the Bells | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-0j-05- |
| I tm paid to Thomas Graye for mendinge a bell wheele | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-0j-06- |
| I tm paid Thomas Bye for leather for the Bells | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-00-04- |
| I tm paid to Raphe Shepwafhe for Iron worke for the Bells | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-04-08- |

Julij, 1633.

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|
| I tm for mendinge a Coller for a bell & makinge a newe one | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-0j-06- |
| I tm for makinge an Iron for the stocke of a bell & nayles | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-0j-00- |
| I tm for an Iron and Keyes for the Sance bell | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-00-08- |
| I tm for mendinge of a Goodgin | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-00-06- |
| I tm for awaye* for the stocke of the bell | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-00-04- |
| I tm for makeinge a newe hoope and other Iron woke & nayles for
stockinge the bell | ... | ... | ... | ... | } 00-02-00- |
| I tm for an yron plate for the treble | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| I tm for Oyle | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-00-03- |
| I tm for nayles | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-00-02- |

(Six more entries for Oyle from 5*d.* downwards; four more for nayles at 2*d.*)

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| I tm paid to Thomas Rockoll for mendinge a bell wheele | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-00-08- |
| I tm paid to Thomas Graye for a bell wheele | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-09-00- |
| I tm paid John Moore for bell ropes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-04-00- |
| I tm paid Thomas By for two bell ropes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-04-10- |
| I tm paid to Thomas Bye for 4. bell Collers | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-0j-04- |
| I tm paid to Thomas Gray for Colleringe a bell | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-0j-00- |
| I tm paid to Thomas Bye for a Rope for the Clocke | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-0j-02- |
| I tm paid for helpinge Thomas Gray in Truffinge the bells & for two daies
worke | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-02-06- |
| I tm paid to Thomas Gray for stockinge of a bell | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-10-02- |
| I tm paid to John Moore the yonnger for 32. fathom of Rope att 3 <i>d.</i> the
fathom | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-08-00- |

Julij, 1634.

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|
| Inprimis paid to Barnard Hobbes for his quarterage att midfomer 1633.
for Ringinge the Sermon bell for the Lecto ^r | ... | ... | ... | ... | } 00-02-06- |
| I tm paid Barnard Hobbes for his quarterage at Chriftnas for the Sermon bell | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| I tm for fyve Lyneinges for the bells† | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-0j-08- |
| I tm for foure thonges† | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-00-03- |
| I tm paid him‡ his quarterage for Ryninge the fermon bell at o ^r lady
day 1634 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-02-06- |
| I tm paid for Truffinge a bell | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-0j-00- |
| I tm paid for mendinge the Sance bell wheele and truffinge of it | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-02-04- |
| I tm paid for makinge of a new Crowne staple for the Tennor | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00-02-00- |

* A doubtful reading: just possibly a *wedge* is intended.

† Probably leather linings for the iron baldricks, and thongs to tie them in place.

‡ Barnard Hobbs.

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| Itm for mendinge of one other staple | ... | ... | ... | 00-00-06- |
| Itm for makinge of a new Coller | ... | ... | ... | 00-0j-00- |
| Itm for mende of two olde Collers | ... | ... | ... | 00-00-06- |
| Itm for nayles for the bell wheeles | ... | ... | ... | 00-0j-00- |
| Iſm for keyes for forelockf* | ... | ... | ... | 00-00-06- |
| Iſm for mendinge of the Clocke | ... | ... | ... | 00-07-00- |
| Itm paid him† for his quarterage for the Sermon bell at midfomer . 1634 | | | | 00-02-06- |

November 1634. Payments

| | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|-----------|
| Iſm paid to John Moore for two & Thirtie ffadam of Rope at 3 ^d the fadam | | | | 00-08-00- |
|---|--|--|--|-----------|

Maij, 1635.

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|--|
| Iſm for three daies worke truffinge the bells | ... | ... | ... | 00-04-00- |
| Iſm paid to Barnard Hobbs halff a yeres wadges att michaelmas . 1634— | | | | |
| and one quarter Ringinge the fermon bell | ... | ... | ... | 00-12-0(torn) |
| Iſm paid for keyes for the bells | ... | ... | ... | 00-00-06.
<i>iⁱⁱ j^h d</i> |
| Iſm paid for a newe wile for the Clocke | ... | ... | ... | 00-0j-00- |
| Iſm payd to william Collins for 4. daies worke mendinge the fframe of the bells | ... | ... | ... | 00-06-08- |
| Iſm paid to Thomas By for the Lyneinges of two Baldricke | ... | ... | ... | 00-00-08- |
| Iſm paid to Barnard Hobbs halff a yeres Ringinge the fermon bell att or lady daye . 1635 . | ... | ... | ... | 00-05-00- |

1635

| | | | | |
|--------------------|---|-----|-----|-----------|
| June ye 20. | Iſ paid to John Moore Jun ^r for on bell Rope | ... | ... | 00-02-09 |
| 25 | Iſ paid to Thomas Bye for 2 bell Rops | ... | ... | 00-04-04 |
| August 22 | Iſ paid to Thomas Bye for lether to mend the baldricks of ye bels | ... | ... | 00-01-00 |
| October 24 | Iſ paid for on Cheeke of lether to mend the baldricks of ye bells | ... | ... | 00-01-00 |
| The 25 of Nouember | Iſ paid to Thomas Bye for on bellrope | ... | ... | 00-02-06. |
| January 30 | Iſ paid to John Collyngs for making the 4 th bell a wheele | ... | ... | 00-06-08 |
| Aprill 14 | Iſ paid to John moore for a bell roop | ... | ... | 00-02-06 |
| | Iſ paid to Barnard hobbs his quat ^o for the Clock & for ringinge the Sermon bell a Tufdays | ... | ... | 00-05-06 |

Aprill 1636. Payments 1636

| | | | | |
|-----------|---|-----|-----|----------|
| Aprill 23 | Iſ paid to Thomas Bye for Two bellroppps | ... | ... | 00-05-00 |
| 30(?) | Iſ paid to the Glaffier for one Wire lettes‡ for the window in the Bellfree | ... | ... | 00-03-10 |

* Evidently identical with *fore loops* in 1622.

† Barnard Hobbs.

‡ Lattice. A lette is an impediment, or hinderance.

Maij, 1637 Diffburffments

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----------|
| Item paied to John Moore for one Bell Roope | ... | ... | 00-02-06- |
| Item paied to Thomas Rockoll for mendinge of a Bell wheele | ... | ... | 00-0j-06- |
| Item paied to John Burcott for a Roope | ... | ... | 00-0j-00- |
| Item paied to Henry Hearne for Iron worke vsed aboute the Bells and
aboute the Scaffold* when the steeple was mended | ... | } | 00-08-03- |
| Item paied to Thomas Bye for two Bellroopes | ... | ... | 00-04-09- |
| Item paied to Henry Hearne for Iron worke and nayles
vsed aboute the steeple as by his bill may appeare | ... | } | 00-08-03 |
| Item paied for Broomes for the Church & Nayles for the Bells | ... | ... | 00-00-04 |
| Item paied to goodman Collyns for three dayes worke aboute the Bells | ... | ... | 00-04-06- |
| Item paied to Goodman Collyns for one daies worke in mendinge of
the Church gate and the fourth Bell wheele | ... | } | 00-0j-06- |
| Item paied to Thomas Bye for two Bell Ropes | ... | ... | 00-02-04 |
| Item paied for a Roope for the Sance bell | ... | ... | 00-0j-00- |
| Item paied to Thomas Bye for Leatheringe of one Baldricke | ... | ... | 00-00-08- |
| Item payed to william ffrith for carrye the braffes of a bell to Minigrove | ... | ... | 00-00-06- |
| Item payed to Bishop for Castinge of two braffes & for two newe ones | ... | ... | 00-19-00- |
| Item paied to wittm Collyns for one daies worke aboute the Bells | ... | ... | 00-0j-06- |
| Item paied to wittm Collyns for half a daies worke puttinge in y ^e brasses | ... | ... | 00-00-09- |
| Item paied to Thomas Bye for one Bell rope | ... | ... | 00-02-00- |
| Item paied for a Cheeke of Leather to mende the baldricke | ... | ... | 00-0j-00- |

1638 Payments.

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----------|
| Item paied to Thomas Bye for two Bell roopes | ... | ... | 00-04-06- |
| Item paied to the Ryngers when the Comiffary was here | ... | ... | 00-0j-00- |
| Item paied for 24. ffadame of lyne to make two bell Roopes... | ... | ... | 00-05-00- |
| Item paied to william Collins for 2. dayes worke Truffeinge the greate bell | ... | ... | 00-03-00- |
| Item paied for two peeces of Afhe to make stayes for the bells | ... | ... | 00-00-04- |
| Item paied to John Moore for 33. ffadame of lyne for bell roopes | ... | ... | 00-07-06 |
| [Item for a newe Coller for a bell | ... | ... | 00-0j-00- |
| Item for mendinge a Coller for a bell | ... | ... | 00-00-06- |
| Item for halff a hundred of eight peny nayles | ... | ... | 00-00-04- |
| Item for mendinge an other Collar for a bell | ... | ... | 00-00-02- |
| [Item for a Gudgin for the Stintet | ... | ... | 00-00-04- |
| Item paied to wittm Collins for 2.dayes worke hanginge the greate bell | ... | ... | 00-03-00- |

1639.

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|------------|
| Item to John Battie and wittm Robinsonn for one daies worke at ye bellfrie | ... | ... | 00-02-04 - |
| Item paied to Symon Messinger for worke timber & boordē for ye belfrey | ... | ... | 01-06-00- |
| 1 ^l : paid to ye Ringers y ^e 5 th of Nouember | ... | ... | 00-05-00- |

* There are other entries about the Scaffold, which probably refer to the steeple.

† Apparently a further variety of the word Saunce.

| | | | | |
|--|---|-----------|----------|----------|
| l̄i : paid to Richard Langlye* for his whole quartridge due at midfumer. | } | <i>l</i> | <i>s</i> | <i>d</i> |
| 1638. for bloweing y ^e organs, lookeinge to y ^e Clocke, & wafhinge | | 00—12—00— | | |
| y ^e shirplis | | <i>l</i> | <i>s</i> | <i>d</i> |
| l̄i : paid to John Cocke for mendinge y ^e Clocke | | 02—00—00— | | |
| Item paid to Richard Langley for fiue mats for y ^e bellfery | | 00—01—08— | | |
| Item paid to John Graye for fowre score and fixe faddam of line | | 0j—00—00— | | |
| Item paid for y ^e Caftinge of two braffes for y ^e bells | | 00—05—00 | | |

Memorandum the 21th Daie of Julij. 1639. We y^e minifter Churchwardens
 And other y^e pishiners of greate marlowe whose names are vnder written
 Doe make A rate and taxe for and towards the reparacions of Church
 and makeinge of A newe frame for y^e bells and makeinge of a newe
 Church doore and othere neffaries to be donne, w^{ch} we doe rate everyone
 accordinge to our Collection booke, to paye eightteene monethes Collection w^{thin}
 one weeke after Demaund. witnefe our hands y^e daie and yeare above
 faid./ Jo: Lee Vicar: (and other signatures and marks).

Aprill, 1640 Payments.

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|--|
| pd y ^e Carpenter to looke a boutte y ^e bells | ... | ... | 00 : 01 : 06 |
| pd to John Battye for 3 daies worke in y ^e steeple | ... | ... | 00 : 04 : 06 |
| pd for beare when they raifed y ^e frame for y ^e bells : | ... | ... | <i>ii</i> <i>sh</i> <i>d</i>
00 : 02 : 06 |
| pd the sexton for helping of John Battie : | ... | ... | 00 : 01 : 00 |
| pd for one pound of hogg lard for y ^e Carpenter | ... | ... | 00 : 00 : 04 |
| pd y ^e ringers Charges from hurst† : to try y ^e bells | ... | ... | 00 : 06 : 00 |
| pd y ^e sexton for 3 daies worke & digging y ^e faw pitt : }
& filling it vpp againe : & for wyer for y ^e Clock } | ... | ... | 00 : 04 : 04 |
| pd y ^e ringers y ^e 5 th of November : | ... | ... | 00 : 05 : 00 |
| pd Thomas Bie for whitt leather for y ^e bells : | ... | ... | 00 : 00 : 04 |
| pd to williā Hollie : for 120 foote of half inche board for y ^e bell wheeles : | ... | ... | 00 : 10 : 10 |
| pd to william Hollie : for y ^e sextons wages beinge halfe }
a yearè : for ringing of y ^e bell & to binde his sonne } | ... | ... | 0j : 00 : 00 |
| [pd to Christopher Hodfon‡ for building y ^e frame for y ^e bells }
& Cafting y ^e braffes } | ... | ... | 13 : 00 : 00 |
| [pd to Ralph Shipwash for Iron work as app th p his bill | ... | ... | <i>ii</i> <i>sh</i> <i>d</i>
07 : 09 : 08 |

Jun. 1641. paments

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-------|
| paid for a Line to Thomas Bye | ... | ... | 0—1—4 |
| paid to the Ringers on the 5 th daie of November | ... | ... | 0—5—0 |

* Sexton, Lady Day, 1638, to 1644.

† In Berks., about thirteen miles distant.

‡ See p. 248.

|| This entry, following next to the last extract, refers, without much doubt, to the bell frame.

Jun 1642 payments

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-------|
| paid to the Ringer the 5 th daie of November—164i ... | ... | ... | 0-5-0 |
| paid to the Ringer that Thur daie that our kinge Camout of fscotland ... | ... | ... | 0-2-6 |
| paid to the Ringer the 7 daie of september ... | ... | ... | 0-2-6 |
| paid to Thomas Bye for To Bell Roapes... .. | ... | ... | 0-5-0 |
| paid to Richard Langley keeping the Clock and for Ringing of y ^e bell ... | ... | ... | 2-2-0 |

August 1643. difburfments

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|---------------------------|
| pd Richard langley money due to him for Ringinge the bell ... | ... | ... | 0j-10-00 |
| pd Ringers the 5 th of November for Ringinge ... | ... | ... | 00-04-00 |
| pd for mendinge the locke of the belfere doore ... | ... | ... | 00-00-08 |
| pd peeter smith toward his worke about the dyall ... | ... | ... | 00-05-00 |
| pd belgrowse for his worke about the Clocke howfe ... | ... | ... | 00-05-00 |
| pd Tho: smith toward makeinge the Clocke ... | ... | ... | 02 10-00 |
| The Dyall Coaft in all the paynteinges ... | ... | ... | <i>li s d</i>
04-05-00 |
| The Clocke Coaft in all | ... | ... | 06-00-00 |

Receipts as I have Received towards the dyall

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|----------|
| (Names, &c., follow.) Sum of thefe Rec ^{ts} ... | ... | ... | 04-01-00 |
|--|-----|-----|----------|

Payments

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|----------|
| more payd by John more fen ^t to thomas smith toward his Clocke ... | ... | ... | 00-10-00 |
| pd. att twife to the paynter for payntinge the dyall ... | ... | ... | 04-05-00 |
| pd w ^{ithm} Collins for truffinge the bells ... | ... | ... | 00-02-00 |

maj 1644 difburfements

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|----------|
| pd: Tho: smith in parte toward the Clocke ... | ... | ... | 00-05-00 |
| pd Tho: bye for a bell Rope... .. | ... | ... | 00-02-04 |
| pd: goodie Bellgrowse for worke her fonn did about the Clocke howfe ... | ... | ... | 00-04-09 |
| pd: Richard langle the Sexton for keepinge the Clocke & Ringinge the }
lecker bell due at Chrifmas | ... | ... | 0j-00-00 |
| pd: w ^{ithm} Hollis for boardes for the Clock howfe as by his bill appeareth... .. | ... | ... | 00-06-08 |
| pd: Richard langley the Sexton for keepeinge the Clocke & Ringinge the }
lecker bell due att our lady daye—1644 | ... | ... | 00-07-06 |
| pd Tho: Bye for to bell Ropes & Clocke lines as by his bill appeareth ... | ... | ... | 00-08-04 |

Borrowed of the Bridge towards paim^t. for A new Clocke for the Churches vse &c
feaven pounds and fiftiene fhillings. Novembr the 24th: 1644

John moore Churchwarden (and other signatures).

July 1645 Difburfem^{ts}

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|---------|
| pd to w ^m . Collyns for 5 dayes worke about y ^e Clock... .. | ... | ... | 0. 7. 6 |
| pd to w ^m James* for nayles & the ringers 5 Nov ... | ... | ... | 0. 6. 6 |

* Sexton, Sept. 1644-1660.

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|
| pd w ^m James his first q ^r ter at S ^o t. Tho. day for lookinge to the clock | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 7 . 6. |
| pd for oyle & Broomes to w ^m James | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 . j . 0 |
| pd to Tho Smith for the Clock in full paym ^t . | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10 . 15 . 0 |

Aprill, 1646 Difburfem^{ts}

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| pd the ringers the 5 Novembr | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 5 . 0 |
| pd ffor 5 Baldricke to Rich ^d Hofkins for the Bells | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 2 . 6 |

Maij, 1647 Difburfem^{ts}

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|
| pd to the Ringers | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 . 05 . 00 |
| Paid to y ^e Ringers when y ^e King came thorow y ^e Towne | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0—5—0 |
| Paid to the Ringers y ^e 5 ^t of November | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—6 |

1648.

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------------|
| for halfe a pint of oyle | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0—0—5 |
| for mending the greate bell clapper and nayles | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0—1—1 |
| September 21 : halfe a pint of oyle | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0—0—5 |
| a peece of rope & 9 fadam of rope to make the feckon bell a rope | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—0 |
| payd to the ringers the 5 of nouember | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0—5—0 |
| for nayles & halfe a pint of oyle and mending the ropes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0—1—0 |
| for bromes this quaf ^d halfe a pint of oyle 2 plats for a shoule* and dresin
vp t church | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—11 |
| June 25 halfe a pint of oyle dresing vp the church at witfontide nending (<i>sic</i>)
the rops & a hefe† rope | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0—2—11 |
| payd to Thomas byie for a clock lyne | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0—1—8 |
| for broomes and oyle and few [other thinges‡] a peece of rope | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0—3—1 |
| for an ouer glafe for mending the ropes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0—1—2 |
| gave to ringers one the 5 of nouember laft 1649 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0—1—0 |
| 10 th dec 1649 for mending the diall & ropes
for Broomes & oyle | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0—1—0
0—1—9 |
| March 25. 1650 for 2 peeces of rope. & mending all the bellropes
for ½ pint of oyle | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0—1—6
0—0—5 |

Aperrill 1651 Difburfments

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| Nouem ^r 5 It paid to the Ringere\|\| | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00—05—00 |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|

June 1652. Difburfments

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|
| 1651 Payd to the Ringers Nouember y ^e 5 th | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 : 05 : 00 |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|

* A shovel.

† ? Piece (of).

‡ Erased.

|| It is curious how hard custom dies. Here is the observance of "the kinges holy daie," although less than six weeks before appears :—

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| Septem ^r 29 It ffor the defacinge of the kinge Earnee | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00—01—00 |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|

And in the next account :—

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|
| Payd To the Paynter y ^e 15 th of march 1651 for y ^e fetting vp
of y ^e Statte Arms | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 : 16 : 00 |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| Paid to y ^e Ringers on the fift of November | ... | ... | ... | 0— 5—0 |
| Paid to John Cocke for mendinge the greate bells clapper | ... | ... | ... | 0— 1—0 |
| Paid to Will: James for helpeinge about y ^e Clapper | ... | ... | ... | 0— 0—4 |
| Paid to Will: Collins & Will. James for Worke about y ^e clocke | ... | ... | ... | 0— 1—6 |
| Paid to Thomas Buy for a bell rope | ... | ... | ... | 0— 3—6 |
| Paid to Will: James for a Rope for the S ^{ts} bell | ... | ... | ... | 0— 2—0 |
| Paid for mendinge a wheele & other worke done at the Church | ... | ... | ... | 0— 0—8 |
| Paid to Tho: Buy for a rope for y ^e Clocke waight | ... | ... | ... | 0— 3—8 |
| Paid to y ^e Ringers for ringeinge at y ^e pclaiminge y ^e Kinge* y ^e 9 th of
May 1660: / | ... | ... | ... | 0—10—0 |
| Paid to the Ringers y ^e fifth of November | ... | ... | ... | 0— 5—0 |
| Paid to Tho: Buy for a rope for y ^e greate bell | ... | ... | ... | 0— 3—3 |
| Paid to Robert Hobbs for amendeinge y ^e bells as by his bill appeareth | ... | ... | ... | 0— 6—0(?) |
| Paid to John Cocke for amendeinge y ^e clocke & worke about y ^e bells as
appeares by his bill | ... | ... | ... | 0— 7—0(?) |

29 Sept., 1660, to 24 July, 1662. Disburstm^{ts}

| | | | | |
|--------------|---|-----|-----|--------------|
| Nov. 5. 1660 | paid the Ringers being Gunpowder treafon day | ... | ... | 0 : 05 : 00 |
| | pd Tho Buy for bell ropes & a lyne for the font | ... | ... | 0 : 17 : 06 |
| | pd for 2 foote of board to mend the S th bell wheele | ... | ... | 0 : 00 : 02 |
| 1661 | pd for oyle & old ropes | ... | ... | 0 . 02 . 09 |
| | pd w ^m Cock for mending the Clock | ... | ... | 0 . 02 . 00 |
| | pd for beere giuen away by consent 2 barrell & 10 ^s in money to the
Ringers vppō the day of the Coronatiō. of the king. together† | ... | ... | 01 . 12 . 00 |
| | for oyle 6 ^d | ... | ... | 00 . 00 . 06 |
| | pd Robt Hobbes for truffing the tenor | ... | ... | 00 . 01 . 00 |
| | pd to Hen Snelling† his Michas qrtridg & for oyle & ropes 61 | ... | ... | 00 . 09 . 06 |
| 23 Apr. | pd to the Ringers | ... | ... | 00 . 10 . 00 |
| | pd oyle & ropes ½ year | ... | ... | 00 . 04 . 00 |
| | pd. vppō the day of the kings comeing into England to Ringers | ... | ... | 00 . 05 . 00 |
| 29 May 62 | paid the Ringers | ... | ... | 00 . 06 . 08 |
| | pd Sil Buy for a Clock lyne | ... | ... | 00 . 03 . 06 |
| | oyle & ropes\|\| | ... | ... | 00 . 02 . 10 |

1662 & 1663 Paym^{ts}.

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-----|-----|----------|
| Octo: 2 th Itf | for Roaps & oyle for the bells | ... | ... | 00—02—06 |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-----|-----|----------|

* Charles II. was proclaimed King at London, May 8, 1660; and the churchwardens here:—

pd for 4 barrell of beere giuen by consent at the pclayming of the Kinge 02 . 04 . 00

† He was crowned at Westminster, April 23rd, 1661.

‡ Sexton, 1661-1672.

|| As above-mentioned in the account of eleven years previously, it cost 1s. to deface the King's Arms, and 16s. to set up the State's Arms; so now comes:—

pd m^r Newman in p^t for painting the Kinge Armes ... 05 . 00 . 00

and a further sum of £1 10s. 0d. paid in the next account.

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|-----|-----|----------|
| Novim̄
the 3 th , | It̄ to John Cocke for mending the tennor Clapp | ... | ... | 00-04-00 |
| Decem̄.
29 th | It̄ to him for Roapes & oyle | ... | ... | 00-04-00 |
| 1663 | It̄ to William Cocke for hanging of the Clapps twice | ... | ... | 00-00-08 |
| Aprill
the first, | It̄ to him* for Roapes & oyle for the bells | ... | ... | 00-02-10 |
| | More to him for a key for the bellfrye dore | ... | ... | 00-00-06 |
| 23 th | It̄ giuen to the Ringers being the day of the Kings Crownation | ... | ... | 00-01-00 |
| June the
26 th | It̄ to Sillvester Buy for two bell roapes | ... | ... | 00-09-00 |
| July the
7 th | It̄ to him* for roapes & oyle for the bells | ... | ... | 00-03-00 |
| | It̄ to William Cocke for mending the Claps of the tereple & tennor as appeeres by his bill | ... | ... | 00-04-06 |
| Octobr
the 9 th | It̄ to him* for Roapes & oyle for the bells | ... | ... | 00-03-00 |
| | It̄ to him* for filling in a pitt in the Churchyard and for helping when the Clock & bells weare amending | ... | ... | 00-01-06 |
| 13 th | It̄ to William Cocke for scowereing & mending the Clock and other work done as appears by his bill | ... | ... | 00-15-06 |
| Decem̄ the
29 th , | It̄ to him* for Roapes & oyle for the bells | ... | ... | 00-03-00 |

April, 1664, Paymts

| | | | | |
|---------------------|--|-----|-----|----------|
| the 6 th | It̄ more to him* for Roapes & oyle for the bells | ... | ... | 00-03-06 |
| | It̄ for a peece of wyer for the Clock | ... | ... | 00-03-02 |
| | [It̄ to William Cocke for mending the latch of the Church Dore and putting a line vpon the hammer of the Clock | ... | ... | 00-00-08 |
| | It̄ for mending the treple Clapper | ... | ... | 00-02-00 |
| | It̄ to him for mending the hammer of the Clock | ... | ... | 00-01-00 |
| | It̄ to him for makeing a new wheele for the dial in the Church | ... | ... | 00-02-00 |
| | It̄ to him for neilling the wyer & puting of it on the Clock | ... | ... | 00-01-00 |
| | It̄ to him for makeing a new hollow key for the bellfrye dore and for mendeing the lock | ... | ... | 00-02-00 |
| | [It̄ to him for mendeing the stay for the treple wheele | ... | ... | 00-00-04 |
| 29 th | It̄ to Sillvifter Buy for a paire of new Bell roapes | ... | ... | 00-09-00 |
| | It̄ more to him for a Roape for the Clock & a Clock line | ... | ... | 00-05-00 |
| | It̄ to the Ringers the 5 th of Novim̄ 1661. | ... | ... | 5-0 |
| | It̄ to the Ringers the 5 th of Novim̄ 1662 | ... | ... | 5-00 |
| | It̄ paid by me to the Ringers Novimber the 5 th 1663. | ... | ... | 00-05-00 |

1665 Disbursm̄s

| | | | | |
|-----------------|--|-----|-----|--------------|
| 1664
June 24 | payd Henry Snellinge for oyle for ye Bells & Clock | ... | ... | 00 . 01 . 00 |
| | paid to him for Roapes | ... | ... | 00 . 02 . 00 |

* Henry Snelling, Sexton.

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---|-----|-----|-----|--------------|
| Nov 4 th | paid him for roapes & oyle | ... | ... | ... | 00 . 03 . 00 |
| 5 | payd John James for the Ringers | ... | ... | ... | 00 . 05 . 00 |
| January 14 th | paid John Hearne for nayles for the plumers & | } | } | ... | li s d |
| | Barrs for the windowes & hooke for the Clock | | | | |
| | weight as his bill expreffeth | | | | |
| | paid Wittm Cock then for work about clock & belle | ... | ... | ... | 00 . 05 . 00 |
| ffebr ffirst | pd him* for ropes & oyle for the bellf & clock | ... | ... | ... | 00 . 03 . 06 |
| Aprill 1665 | paid him* for Roapes & oyle | ... | ... | ... | 00 . 02 . 06 |
| 13 | | | | | |
| May 29 | paid Hen Small & other Ringers vppon ye kings restauracō. | } | } | ... | 00 . 05 . 00 |
| | & birth day | | | | |
| June 17 | paid Sil Buy for 5 roaps for ye Bells weighing 36 li | } | } | ... | 01 . 02 . 06 |
| | at 7 ^d ½ ye pound | | | | |
| July 23 | payd him* for roapes & oyle & spreading chalk & nayles | ... | ... | ... | 00 . 03 . 01 |
| Nov 5 | paid ye Ringers | ... | ... | ... | 00 . 05 . 00 |

Disburfms April 1666 to April 1667.

| | | | | | |
|--------|---|-----|-----|-----|--------------|
| Aprill | Paid him* for oyle for 3 qrtrs for ye Bells & Clock to lady day | ... | ... | ... | 00—04—00 |
| 9 | | | | | |
| | Paid for mending ye Roapes | ... | ... | ... | 00 . 01 . 06 |
| May 29 | Paid ye: Ringers vppō. ye Kings Birth day & returne to England | } | } | ... | 00 . 05 . 00 |
| | namely Steph Chafe† Tho. Perry James ffish ffrā. Cock & | | | | |
| | John Hall | | | | |

* Henry Snelling, Sexton.

† The Chases were considerable people here in the seventeenth century. "Mr. Chase" has already appeared in the account for 1625, as one of the trustees of the stock of the poor. In the Inventory of Church Goods, made at the Visitation of Churches in 1637, is:—"There is 2 new silver Chalice with Covers ex dono Radolphi Chafe gen. These are still in use. A brass (which was destroyed with the old church) recorded that he died September 21st, 1644, aged 65, leaving his wife, Elizabeth, surviving. Stephen Chase married his wife, Jane, in 1647; he was churchwarden in 1653, and again the following year. He rented for 10s., from the parish, an acre of land in the Common field, lying "in A furlong called Lutman furlong," and owned land adjoining this on the east. He sold tiles, probably made on that land, which was close to, if not identical with, a brickfield still in use, and in which fragments of coarse, late Romano-British pottery occur. He also owned a sawpit. His signature appears regularly in the accounts until 1693; in 1699, he subscribed 5s. to a collection "for the Relief of ye Destressed Vadoy's Banished from Peidmount;" and died towards the end of 1700. His widow moved from Marlow to Great Brickhill, where she died 11th September, 1704, in her 79th year. The inscription on her monument there is quoted by Lipscomb, IV., 65. Elizabeth Chase, buried there in 1730-31, was perhaps a daughter. James Chase was one of the members of parliament for this borough, from 1690 to 1710 (p. 504). His name occurs in the churchwardens' and overseers' accounts, from 1684 to 1718; also Richard Chase, 1676-79; and Stephen Chase, *junior*, from 1681 to 1698. Other members of the family appear down to the middle of the eighteenth century (at least).

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--|-----|-----|-----|-----------------|
| Sept 22 th | paid W ^m Cock for mending y ^e Clock & for other work as
app ^{rf} by bill | ... | ... | ... | 00 . 08 . 08 |
| octobr 19 | paid snellinge for Ropes & oyle for half a yeare ended mic ^h as laft | ... | ... | ... | 00 . 05 . 00(?) |
| 27 octobr | paid Rob ^t Hobbes for Work about the Bells as by his bill app | ... | ... | ... | 00 . 15 . 00 |
| Nov. 5 | paid Wid ^d Shropshire for y ^e Ringers | ... | ... | ... | 00 . 05 . 00 |
| March 23 | paid W ^m Cock for Iron work about the bells & Clock as app ^{rf}
by bill | ... | ... | ... | 00 . 14 . 06 |
| Apr 5 th 1667, | paid Sil. Buy for Roapes as app ^{rf} by Bill | ... | ... | ... | 00 . 01 . 06 |
| 13 | Paid Hen. Snelling for oyle mending ropes & Nayles | ... | ... | ... | 00 . 05 . 00 |

From Lady Day 1667, to 1668 Paym^{ts}

| | | | | | |
|----------|---|-----|-----|-----|--------------|
| May 25 | pd to the Widdow Shrophire for y ^e Ringers | ... | ... | ... | 00 . 05 . 00 |
| July 28 | ffor ropes and oyle | ... | ... | ... | 00 . 06 . 00 |
| March 25 | ffor ropes and oyle | ... | ... | ... | 00 . 04 . 06 |
| | paid to Silvester Buy for a rope | ... | ... | ... | 00 . 03 . 00 |

From Lady Day 1668, to Lady Day 1669 Paym^{ts}

| | | | | | |
|----------|--|-----|-----|-----|--------------|
| Inprimus | paid to Mr: Knight* for Casting of y ^e Bells | ... | ... | ... | 13 : 00 : 00 |
| | paid to Mr: Knight for over weight for y ^e two Bells | ... | ... | ... | 06 : 13 : 00 |
| | paid for y ^e Carriage of y ^e Bells to william piggett to & fro | ... | ... | ... | 00 : 10 : 00 |
| | paid for Charges of y ^e Bel found ^r * his horfemeat & drink & all
other moneys to drink to y ^e ringers that tryed the bells & a rope | } | | | 01 : 12 : 08 |
| | paid for y ^e Hanging of y ^e : Bells & other work to y ^e other bells | ... | ... | ... | 01 : 04 : 00 |
| | paid to Henry Snelling for weighting upon him | ... | ... | ... | 00 : 04 : 00 |
| | paid to John Shipwash for Mending y ^e : old Clapper | ... | ... | ... | 00 : 14 : 00 |
| | paid to John Shipwash for y ^e new Clapp as by his bill Appears | ... | ... | ... | 01 : 17 : 06 |

(Six entries follow for work "as by his Bill Appears" which probably refer to the rehangng.)

| | | | | | |
|--|--|-----|-----|-----|--------------|
| | paid to y ^e Ringers on the 29 th of may | ... | ... | ... | 00 : 05 : 00 |
| | paid Henry Snelling his quarteridg for Midfommer, & for oyle
& ropes & for A Lettice for his window | } | | | 00 : 10 : 04 |
| | paid to Nicholas Cox for taking downe ye Bells | ... | ... | ... | 00 : 06 : 08 |
| | paid Henry Snelling for Michaelmas quarter Ropes & oyle | ... | ... | ... | 00 : 09 : 06 |
| | paid to y ^e Ringers for ye 5 th of Nouember | ... | ... | ... | 00 : 05 : 00 |
| | paid to Robert Hobbs for taking of 2 wheeles & fetting them on | ... | ... | ... | 00 : 02 : 00 |
| | paid Henry Snelling his quarter at St: Thomas day ropes & oyle | ... | ... | ... | 00 : 09 : 06 |
| | paid Henry Snelling his quarter for our Lady day ropes & oyle | ... | ... | ... | 00 : 09 : 06 |

Lady-day 1669, to Lady-day, 1670. paym^{ts}

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|-----|-----|--------------|
| pd: | y ^e Ringers for y ^e 29 th : of May 1669 | ... | ... | ... | 00 : 02 : 06 |
| pd: | Henry Snelling his half yeares wages due at Michalmas & for oyle
& ropes | ... | ... | ... | 01 : 00 : 00 |
| pd: | to Henry Snelling his q ^{rs} wages due at St: Thomas day
& for oyle & Ropes | } | | | 00 : 09 : 06 |

* Henry Knight II., of Reading.

| | | |
|---|-----|--------------|
| ƿd: Henry Snelling for his qr: Lady day (70) oyle & Ropes ... | ... | 00 : 09 : 06 |
| ƿd: Silvester Bye for A Clock-rope & other thing ... | ... | 00 : 03 : 06 |

Lady-day 1670, to Lady-day 1671, Paym^{ts}

| | | |
|--|-------|------|
| ƿd ye: Ringers upon Crownacon day ^o ... | ... | 5— |
| ƿd for A fett of New Belropes as p bill appearef ... | ... | 16 9 |
| ƿd ye: Ringers ye: 29 th of May ... | ... | 2 6 |
| ƿd Mathew Smyth for paving ye Belfrey & other Worke as his bill Appearef ... | 3 1 6 | |
| ƿd Snelling his Midfomer qr: & oyle & Naylef ... | ... | 8 9 |
| Octobr ^r 19 th 70. ƿd ye Ringers ye 5 th of November 1670 ... | ... | 5— |
| ƿd Snelling his Lady day's qr & for oyl and fplicing ropesf ... | ... | 9— |

Lady-day 1671, to Lady-day 1672. Paid

| | | |
|--|-----|-----------------|
| 1671: To ye Ringers ye 29 th : of may ... | ... | 00 : 05—00 |
| June 6 : 71. To John Hobbf for A wheele for ye Trebble & other work ... | ... | 00 : 16—06 |
| To Henry Snelling his Michaelmas quarter & oyle & fplicing ropesf ... | ... | 00 : 09—02 |
| To ye Ringers the 5 th : of November 1671 ... | ... | 00 : 05—00 |
| mar : 2 : To william Cock for worke done to ye Clock & dyall as hisbill app ^d ... | ... | 00 : 14 : 06 |
| 15 : To Henry Snelling his quarterf wagem due at Lady Day 72 & }
oyle & ropesf ... | ... | 00 : 08 : 08 |
| To ffrancis Cock for mending ye Gudgins of the Trebble ... | ... | 00 : 01 : 00 |
| To The Bell foundert as his bill Appeare ... | ... | 03 : 00 : 06 |
| To other Charges to a porter to Carry ye bell at redding. & barg }
carriage & y belfound ^r f man ... | ... | 00 : 03 : 06(?) |

May, 1673. Payments.

| | | |
|--|-----|---------|
| may 29 : ƿd to ye ringerf it being ye birth day of our Soueraig Lord ye King ... | ... | 5— |
| 72 paid to Henry Snelling his quarteridge & for oyle & hafser† to fplice a Rope ... | ... | 8 10 |
| Novb 5 : 72 gave to the Ringers ... | ... | 5— |
| paid Henry Small\|\| his q ^r f wages due at St: Thomas day & ffor oyle & ropesf as p bill ... | ... | 9— |
| paid William Syrman for mending ye Clock as his bill appeares ... | ... | 1 . 10— |
| pd to Henry Small his quarteridge & for oyle & other work as his bill appeares ... | ... | 9— |
| may 29 : giuen to the ringers ... | ... | 5— |

* *Viz*: April 23 (1661).

† No doubt Henry Knight II.

‡ Probably identical with the existing Thames bargee word *hanser* (at least so pronounced). This is small rope of peculiarly flexible hemp (? Manilla), and used primarily for taking a turn from head of barge-pole to belaying pin when mooring, or even checking the way of, a barge. It is generally used as an adjective with - cord, or - line. Does the name indicate that this rope was originally procurable only from the towns of the Hanseatic League? An older use of what appears to be the same word, occurs in the accounts of the Sacrist of Norwich Cathedral for 1432 (quoted, *Bells of Norfolk*, p. 169): "Paid Richard Roper for the bellropes hauncerys and lines 8s".

|| Sexton, 1672-1690.

May 1674 **Payments**

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|--------|
| To Henry Small a q ^r Wages due at Midfomer & for oyle | ... | ... | — 8— 4 |
| Novemb 1. paid to Henry Small A q ^r Rent due att Michaelmas & for oyle | ... | ... | — 8— 2 |
| To the Ringers the 5 th : of November | ... | ... | — 5— |
| January 25: paid Henry Small his q ^r Wages due at St: Tho: day: & for oyle | ... | ... | (torn) |
| Aprill 18 paid William Syrman for the Clock mending | ... | ... | — 1— |
| May 2: paid Henry Small his q ^r Wages due at Lady day laft paft & oyle | ... | ... | — 8 10 |

(End of the first volume of the accounts.)

Aprill, 1675, **Disburstm^{ts}**

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| 9 ber 5 To the ringers | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 05 00 |
| ... The yeare 1675 paised. ... May ... 1676. Disburstm^{ts} | | | | | |
| To William Syrman for mending the Clock | ... | ... | ... | ... | 000 04 00 |
| To the Ringers on the Kings Crownation day | ... | ... | ... | ... | 000 05 00 |
| Septemb 30 To Henry Small for $\frac{1}{2}$ a yeares looking to the Clock | ... | ... | ... | ... | 000 15 00 |
| paid for oyle | ... | ... | ... | ... | 000 01 00 |

1676 **Disburstm^{ts}**

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| Aprill 2 paid the Widow Bye for a Rope for the Tennor, or Great Bell | ... | ... | ... | ... | — . 4 . 4 |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------|

1680 **Disburstments**

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| Sept 12 th (1679). paid for nayles to mend the Bell-wheele | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 00 01 |
| paid John Thompfon for making A key & mending the lock | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 01 04 |
| of the Bellfery doore | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 01 03 |
| paid for Nayles, that nicholas Cox ufed about the bell wheelef | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 01 06 |
| April 21: 1680 paid to John Thompfon for mending the Clock | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 01 06 |
| in hand towards paying Nick: Cox: | | | | | 13 01 00 |

Soe that there will remaine due to Nicholas Cox ...
by reason that he was to haue 20^z for repairing the Spire/

(In another account for the year 1680 at the other end of the book, is:—)

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|
| May: 6: pd M ^r Garnett for Makeing Articles Concering }
Coullouring the Spire and for Makeing the Rates } | ... | ... | ... | ... | :0: :3: :6. |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|

1681.

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|
| [payd the widdow Bey for three Roppes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 : 09 : 11 |
| payd will Larrance for fiue matts* | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 : 05 : 00 |
| [payd John Shipwash for Mending y ^e Clapper of y ^e Bell | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 : 04 : 06 |

1682.

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|
| To Good Surman for mending the Clock | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 : 02 : 06 |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|

* Coming as this does between two undoubted Bell entries, leaves little room for doubt that these were mats for the bellropes to fall on.

1683.

| | | |
|---------|---|------------|
| Sept. 9 | To the Ringers 9 ^o Septemb ^r : for ye happy deliu ^o ance of our | } 00 05 00 |
| | Sou ^o aigne Lord the king from the then late horrid Conspiracy
of most despatly wicked & Treachorous men* ... | |

1684.

| | | |
|--------------------------|--|--------------|
| 29 ^o May | To the ringerf | 00 05 00 |
| Apr ^r : ye 22 | pd. to Richard & John Clarke for ye ringerf on p ^r claimeing ye | |
| 1685. | King† | 00 : 05 : 00 |

1685.

| | | |
|--|--|---------------|
| Gaue the Ringerf | May the 29 th | 00 . 05 . 00. |
| July ye 7 th 8 th & 11 th | gave the Ringerf † | 00 . 12 : 06 |
| Payd W ^m Lawrence | for bafses\|\| for Church & belfery | 00 : 04 : 10 |
| Gaue the Ringers | October the 14 th | 00 : 05 : 00 |
| (Novemb ^r) The 5 th | to the Ringers | 00 : 05 : 00 |
| (January The 6 th) | Then gaue to the Ringers | 00 : 05 : 00 |
| (May ye 27 th) | Then gaue to the Ringers | 00 : 02 : 06 |

1686.

| | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| (Octobr ^r) The 14 th | Gaue the Ringers | 00 : 05 : 00 |
| (Novembr ^r) The 5 th | to the Ringers | 00 : 04 : 00 |
| ffbruary ye 6 th | Gaue to the ringers | 00 : 05 : 00 |
| (March) To John Carter | for mending the Church Clock | 01 : 08 : 00 |

1687.

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| To the Ringers | Aprill ye 23 th § | 00 : 05 : 00 |
| [To the Ringerf | May ye 29 th | 00 : 05 : 00]¶ |

1688.

| | | |
|------------------------|--|--------------|
| To Thomas Hill | for the Ringers May ye 29 th | 00 : 05 : 00 |
| To Wiltm Pomfret | for the ringers at ye Queenes delivery | 00 : 05 : 00 |
| To the Ringers | at the kings hunting | 00 : 05 : 00 |
| To Capt Trufs | for ye Ringers at Princes byrth** | 00 : 07 : 06 |
| To Hen : Small | for Ringers on the kings byrth day | 00 : 05 : 00 |
| To him for the ringers | on Gunpowder-treafon day | 00 : 05 : 00 |

* The Rye-House Plot, discovered June 14th (1683). Later on in this account, is :—
 March 31 To John Gibbonf for the Cucking stoole by order of fessions ... 05 00 00
 † 16s. 6d. in various sums, was expended in drink on that day; the coronation of James II. and his queen took place the following day.

‡ The defeat of Monmouth's rebellion. || Bass mats?

§ Anniversary of the Coronation. ¶ Erased.

** The prince was "the old Pretender," or "Chevalier de S. George." He was born June 10th. The next entry :

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| To Charles Blewett | on the same occasion | 00 : 09 : 00 |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|

probably implies a general drink to the whole parish.

| | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| To Halloway for the ringers at ye Coronation | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| To Wid Loveioy for the ringers then | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| To Capt Trufs for Ringers at ye Princes coming in & pclayming Apr 18 th | | | | 00 | 10 | 00 |

1689.

| | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| To the Ringers the 5 th of November (= 1688) at Robert Woodens | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| ffebr-17. To Charges upon the Bell-founder | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 02 | 05 |
| Mar-5. To money paid to the Bell-founder | ... | ... | ... | 03 | 00 | 00 |
| 8 To John Hearne for Iron work for the Bells as by bill appears | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| To Robert Rance for nayles for the bells | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 00 | 06 |
| July 8 th : 89 To the Ringers at the Widow Bovingtons being the birth day of the Duke of Glocester | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 02 | 06 |
| April 11 To the Ringers at the Widow Bovingtons being the Kings Crownaçon | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 02 | 06 |
| 15 To the Ringers it being the Kings Birth day | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 02 | 06 |
| To James Small for two dayes work helping the Bell-founder | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 01 | 00 |

1690.

| | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| Sept: 8 - To the Ringers at the Widow Bovingtons at the Kings return from Ireland | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| Octobr: 25 - - To Henry Small for beer for the Ringers on the day of Thanksgiving† | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 06 | 08 |
| Novemb 5—To Richard Holloway for Beere for the Ringers | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| May 6: - - Spent at William Cock's upon the Ringers the 11 th of April | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |

1691 Disburstm^{ts}

| | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| Octobr: :14: To the Ringers for Ringing for the Surrendering of Limbrick‡ | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| November :4: To the Ringers for Ringing on the Kings birth-day | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| :5: To the Ringers for Ringing on the day of Powder Plott | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| :24: To a Matt for the Belfrey | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 01 | 00 |
| Octobr: 26 —To the Ringers on the day of Thanks giving for ye Reducing Ireland | ... | ... | ... | — | 05 | 00 |
| November 2 ^d To Ringers when ye King Came Home | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 06 | 00 |
| May ye — 2 ^d : (= 1692) To Mending the Clock | ... | ... | ... | 03 | 00 | 00 |
| 29 th : To the Ringerf | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| June To Ringers for the Victory at Sea\|\| | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 08 | 06 |
| Novembr: 4 th —To Rich ^d Cotrill for beer for the Ringers on ye Kings birth day | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |

* William and Mary were proclaimed Feb. 13th, and crowned April 11th (1689); probably "Capt." Truss was paid on the 18th for the two ringings which took place previously.

† No doubt for the Battle of the Boyne, July 1st, 1690, and other successes in Ireland, over James II.

‡ Limerick surrendered October 3rd.

|| The English and Dutch Fleets, under Admiral Russell, defeated the French, off La Hogue, May 19th (1692).

1692.

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|--|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| 5 | —To Rich ^d Halaway for beer for the Ringers | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 | |
| 29 | To Rich ^d Halaway for Beer for ye: Ringers ye Thanks-giving | | | | | | |
| | day | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 | |
| Aprill ye 11 th | (=1693) To Robert Jonfon for Beer for the Ringers | | | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| Jun ye 3 | To Richard Langley for mending the Clock weights | | | ... | 00 | 01 | 00 |

1693.

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|-----|-----|----------|----|----|
| Aug ^t 22 ^d | To John Carter for scowring & Mending the Clock | ... | ... | 00=03=00 | | |
| Novemb ^r 13 | To Money Pd ^d for ye Ringerf the 5 th Nov ^r ; | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| January the 3 ^d | To Wittm Bradfhaw for Beer for ye Ring ^r the Thanks giving | | | | | |
| | Day | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| 14 | To Wittm Lawrance for a Matt for the bells Ropes to fall on | | | 00 | 01 | 00 |
| Aprill 7 th 94— | To Rich ^d Cottrill for Beer for the Ringers the 11 th of Aprill 94 | | | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| Sept ^r ye 10 | To him Likewise which he Paid M ^{rs} Rivers for the Ringers | } | } | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| | after his Accompt ^e Paft | | | | | |

Disbursements: 1694-5

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| October—6 th | To In ^o Carter for mending the Clock | ... | ... | 00 | 02 | 00 |
| Novemb ^r the 5 | To Rich ^d Halloway for Beer for the Ringers | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| December 17 | To the Bellfounder* as p bill appears | ... | ... | 02 | 03 | 05 |
| | To Rich ^d Gibbons for bringing ye S ^{ts} Bell from Reding | ... | ... | 00 | 01 | 00 |
| | To John Piggott for Carrying the Bell to Reding | ... | ... | 00 | 00 | 06 |
| ffeb ^r ij 28 | To Jn ^o Carter for clenfing the Clock | ... | ... | 00 | 02 | 06 |
| Aprill — 3 ^d | To Thomas Gray for Beer for ye Ringers ye 18 th o November... | | | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| | To Nicholas Cox for Taking down & hanging the S ^{ts} Bell | ... | ... | 00 | 02 | 06 |

1695-6 Disbursements

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|-----|-----|---|---|---------|
| Sept ^r 13— | To 5 Matts for the Bell-Ropes & Bafsing the ffont | ... | ... | — | — | 14— 8 |
| 16 | To Richard Langley for mending the Clock | ... | ... | — | — | 2— 6 |
| Aug ^t 6 | To John Carter for Clenfing the Clock | ... | ... | — | — | 2— 6 |
| 22 | To Wine for ye Communion & beer for the Ringers | ... | ... | — | — | 3—14— 2 |

1696-7 Disbursements

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| October 8 th | To the Ringer for his Maties safe Return from fflanders | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| Novemb ^r ye 4 | To the Ringers being his Maties Birth-day | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| 5 | To the Ringers | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| May ye 8 | To making Priests wives grave & mending the Belfry | ... | ... | 00 | 01 | 06 |
| Aprill—13 th | To the Ringers being the Crowna ^o n day of his Matie | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| May—29 | To the Ringers | ... | ... | 00 | 03 | 00 |

1697-8 Disbursements

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|--|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| Sept ^r ye 16 | To Richard Holloway for Beer at p ^l aming ye peacet | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| 26 | for Oyle & a Glafs for the Clock when it was mended | ... | ... | 00 | 00 | 08 |

* Samuel Knight, of Reading.

† No doubt for the Ringers, judging by previous entries.

| | | | | |
|---------------|--|----|----|----|
| Octobr_ ye 30 | To Tho : Gray for Beer for the Ringers at Proclaiming the peace* | 00 | 06 | 00 |
| Novemb_ — 4 | To Rich ^d Snelling for Beer for ye Ringerf ye Kings Birth day | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| | To Silvr Bye for Bell Roppes | 00 | 17 | 04 |
| | To Henry Williams for mending the Clock as p bill Appearf | 00 | 15 | 00 |
| 5 | To Jn ^e Oxlade for Beer for the Ringers | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| 20 | To Mrs Rivers for Beer for the Ringers the Thanks giving day | 0 | 05 | 00 |
| Decr_ 29 | To Nailef to mend the Bellf & other things in the Church ... | 00 | 01 | 03 |
| May — 31 | To Mrs Pomfrett for beer for the Ringerf on ye 29 th of May ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| Augt 3 | To Henry Williams for mending a key & the Wire of the Clock ... | 00 | 00 | 04 |

1698 **Disbursements**

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|---|----|----|----|
| Novemb_ 4 th | To Robt_ Ionson for Beer for the Ringers being the Gunpowder Treafon | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| July — 14 th | To Oyle for the Clock when Clensed | 00 | 00 | 06 |
| | To Jn ^e Steevenf for the use of a Kittle & wood to Clense ye Clock | 00 | 00 | 08 |

1699-1701 **Disbursements**

| | | | | |
|--|--|-----------|----------|----------|
| 1699
9 ^{ber} 5 th | To Beer for ye: Ringers ye 4 th : & 5 th of 9 ^{br} | 00 | 06 | 00 |
| | | <i>li</i> | <i>s</i> | <i>d</i> |
| 1700
Novemb_ 4 th | To Beer for the Ringers | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| 5 | To Beer for the Ringers | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| 1701
May 17 | To Mr Millard for Collering the Steeple as p bill Appears ... | 04 | 10 | 00 |
| | To W ^m Buck for a bord to mend ye Steeple | 00 | 01 | 04 |
| June | To Mr Tyle for a Board for the Steeple Spire | 00 | 00 | 09 |
| | To Nailef for the Spire | 00 | 00 | 09 |

1701-3. **Disbursements**

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|----|----|----|
| 1701
May—9 th | To the Ringers | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| 9 ^{br} 4 | To the Ringers being the Kings Birth day | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| 5 | To the Ringers | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| Jan ^{rj} 1 st | To W ^m Anthony for mending the Wheels of the Bells ... | 00 | 02 | 06 |
| febr_ 7 | To Wid ^o Bye for a Tener Rope | 00 | 04 | 00 |
| March 20 | To the Ringers at proclaiming the Queen† | 00 | 10 | 00 |
| | To Thomas Seers for mending ye Bells fframef & Cock loft flower | 00 | 02 | 05 |
| 1702
Aprill 23 | To the Ringers the Queens Crownacon Day | 00 | 10 | 00 |
| May — 29 | To Wid ^o Bye for a new Clock Rope & Splicing the old one ... | 00 | 04 | 06 |
| | To the Ringers | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| Augt 4 | To Wid ^o Bye for 5 new Ropes for the Bells | 00 | 14 | 00 |
| 8 ^{br} 1 | To John Carter for Clensing the Clock | 00 | 02 | 06 |

* Peace concluded between England, France, and Spain, at Ryswik, October 29th (1697).

† Anne: William III. died March 8th, 1702.

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------|---|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| 9 ^{br} 1 | To the Ringers on y ^e news of taking Vigo* | ... | ... | 00 | 03 | 00 |
| 5 | To the Ringers | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| x ^{br} 3 | To the Ringer the Thanks giving day | ... | ... | 00 | 12 | 00 |
| ffeb ^{ri} j 8 | To the Ringers y ^e Queens Birth day | ... | ... | 00 | 08 | 00 |
| 1703
April 23 | To the Ringers the Queens Crownaçon day | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |

1703-4 **Disbursements**

(To the Ringers—1703—May 29; Novr: 4 & 5; ffeb^{ri}j 6, being the Queens birth day; March 8. 1704—April 23.)

(1703 Nov.) 27 To a Lattace for the Belfery 00 : 00 : 08

1704-5 **Disbursements**

(To the Ringers—May 29th; Sept^r 7th; Novr: 5th; ffeb^{ri}j 6th, the Queens birth day; March 8th. 1705—April 23^d; May 29.)

(1704) Oct^r 3 To John Carter for Mending & Clensing the Clock ... 00 : 10 : 00

(Nov. 5) To Rob^t Gray for 5 Straps to the Bells ... 00 : 00 : 10

(1705) July . 2 To Widdow Bye for a Rope ... 00 : 04 : 08

1705-6 **Disbursements**

1705 Aug^t 23 To Beer for the Ringers the Thanks-giving Day ... 00 09 00

Oct^r: 16 To John Carter for mending the Clock ... 00 01 06

Novr: 5 To Clensing the Clock ... 00 02 06

To the Ringers ... 00 05 00

1706
May—15 To Casting a New Bell ... 07 10 06

To Expences withe y^e ffounder† & a Jorney to Reading ... 00 04 06

1706-7 **Disbursements**

May 20th To Wid^o Bye for 2 New Bell Ropes & Peecing 1 old ... 00 07 03

29 To Beer for the Ringers ... 00 05 00

June 26 To Edward Drew for a Bell-rope ... 00 03 08

27 To the Ringer on the Thanks giving day for y^e Victory‡

31 To Edw^d Drew for a Bell-rope ... 00 02 08

Aug^t 20 To mending y^e Great Bell Wheel ... 00 01 00

Dec^r: 12 To John Carter for Clensing the Clock ... 00 02 06

(1706—To Beer for the Ringers—Sept^r: 21; Nov^{br}: 5; ffeb^{ri}j 6; March 8. 1707—April 23.)

(ffeb^{ri}j) 8 To Edw^d flight for a New Wheel for the Great Bell ... 01 02 00

To taking up the G^{tt} Bell & fastning the Boxes & Iron work ... 00 04 06

(1707 April 23) To Wid^o Bye for a Bell Rope ... 00 03 02

* The French fleet defeated by Admiral Rooke at Vigo, October 12th, 1702. 9^{br}, of course, stands for *November*.

† Evidently Sam. Knight.

‡ Marlborough's victory at Ramillies, May 23rd, 1706.

1707-8 **Disbursements**

(To the Ringers—May 29; Nov 5; febr̄ij 6; March 8th [=Accession]. 1708—April 23.)

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| June 14 | To Mr Robinson for nailes for y ^e Bell-Wheel | ... | ... | 00 | 00 | 10 |
| Aug ^t 19 | To Wid ^o Bye for Splicing the Clockline | ... | ... | 00 | 00 | 03 |
| 29 | To John Carter for Clensing the Clock | ... | ... | 00 | 02 | 06 |
| Nov ^r 3 | To Rob ^t Gray for Mending y ^e St ^s Bell Wheel & Window | ... | ... | 0 | 01 | 08 |
| 1708 April 1 st | To the Wid ^o Bye for a New Bell Rope & Splicing | ... | ... | 00 | 04 | 00 |

1708-9 **Disbursements**

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| 1708
May 29 th | To Beer for the Ringers | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| July 5 | To the Ringers on the News of the Victory in fflanders* | ... | ... | 00 | 06 | 00 |
| 19 | To the Ringers on the Thanks giving day ... | ... | ... | 00 | 07 | 06 |
| Oct ^r 19 (?) | To the Ringer ^f for the Surrender of Lilef | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| Nov ^r 5 | To the Ringer ^f | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| febr̄ij 6 | To the Ringer ^f for the Queens Birth-day ... | ... | ... | 00 | 06 | 00 |
| 17 | To the Ringers being a Thanks giving-day | ... | ... | 00 | 10 | 00 |
| March 8 | To the Ringers for her Matie ^f † | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| | To Henry Harrison for a Lattice for the Bellfrey Window | ... | ... | 00 | 00 | 06 |

1709-10 **Disbursements**

(Payments for ringing on May 29; Sept. 1, "for the Victory;" || 3^d, "for Taking Torney;" || Nov. 5; 22^d, "the Thanks giving Day;" § Feb. 6, "being the Queens Birth day;" ¶ March 8, "being the day her Matie was proclaimed;" Apr. 24, "being the Crownaçon of her Matie.") ..

1710-11 **Disbursements**

(Payments for ringing on May 29; June 6, "for the Surrender of Dowey;"** Sept. 6, "for the victory in Spain;" Nov. 5; 27, "being the Thanks-giving Day;" Feb. 6; March 8; Apr. 23)

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|--|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| (June 6 th) | To Henry Harrison for mending & Clensing the Clock | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| | To John ffastonidge for Bell-Ropes | ... | ... | 01 | 03 | 00 |

* Marlborough's battle at Oudenarde, July 11th, New Style; the ringing took place eight days later, *viz.*, on the 17th, N. S.

† Lisle capitulated to the allies, October 23rd, N. S.; the ringing took place on the 31st, N. S., or eight days afterwards.

‡ The anniversary of the Queen's Accession.

|| On Aug. 30th, New Style, the besieged in Tournay made a parley, and finally surrendered on Sept. 2: the ringings, therefore, took place about a fortnight after the events.

§ A general Thanksgiving was held on Nov. 7th, for the successes of the last campaign.

¶ "The Queen's birth-day, Feb. 6, was this year solemnized with extraordinary magnificence."—*Continuation of Rapin's History of England*, 1751, Vol. II., p. 196.

** The capitulation of Doway was signed on June 26th, N. S. (to take effect on the 29th; so that this ringing, even allowing the twelve days difference between the old and new styles, was apparently somewhat premature!)

1711-12 **Disbursements**

| | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| 1712
May 28 | To the Workmen for Hanging the Bells | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 15 | 00 |
| (Payments for ringing on Nov. 5; Feb. 6; March 8; Apr. 23; July 11.) | | | | | | | |
| July 11. | To Bell-Ropes | ... | ... | ... | 01 | 02 | 00 |
| | To more Bell-Ropes | ... | ... | ... | 01 | 00 | 06 |
| Memorandum 22 ^d day of July 1712 . . . that for the future all Communion Bread & Wine, & Charge of Ringing & Sexton's Sallery be allowed att the Parish Charge. | | | | | | | |

1712-13 **Disbursements**

| | | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|---|---|---|
| Oct: 29 th | To a Litle Bell-Rope | ... | ... | ... | — | 3 | — |
| (Payments for ringing on Feb. 6; March 8; Apr. 23.) | | | | | | | |

1713-14 **Disbursements**

("Beer" or "Drink" for the Ringers, on May 29; Nov. 5; Feb. 6; March 8; Apr. 23; May 29.)

1714-15 **Disbursements**

| | | | | | | | |
|---|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|
| (Payments for ringing, on Oct. 20, "at the Coming in of the King";* and "on the Day of Thanks giving"; and on Nov. 5.) | | | | | | | |
| (Novembr 5 th) | To John ffastonage for Bell Ropes | ... | ... | ... | = 0 | 17 | 06 |
| | To Richard Lane for mending the Claper of the Bell | ... | ... | ... | = 0 | 02 | = 6 |
| Memorand that in the passing of = Mr Smiths† Acc ^{ts} there was omitted Mr Rob ^t Grays Bill about the Bells & c: which bears Date Decemb ^r . 12 th , 1713 and should a been ſd by the M ^r . Smith which by Bill Appears to be—5 ^{li} . 13 ^s . 8 ^d | | | | | | | |

1715-16 **Disbursements**

| | | | | | | | |
|---|--|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| For worke don about the Bells | | | | | | | |
| | ... | ... | ... | ... | £ | s | d |
| | | | | | 05 | 13 | 08 |
| (Payments to the Ringers :—May 28 th , "being the Kings Birth Day;" 29 th , "being King Charles the: 2 ^d s Restoration;" Aug. 1 st , "being the day of his Maties Inauguration"; † Oct. 20, "being the Kings Coronation day"; Nov. 5. 1716—May 28, 29; June 7, "being the Thanks giveing day"; and "Pd more to the Ringers.") | | | | | | | |
| June: 4 th | To John Fastnage for : 3 : Bell Ropes | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 15 | 04 |
| July: 2 ^d | To Robert Gray Jun ^r for one daies work about the Bells | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 01 | 10 |
| Oct ^r : 8 th | To Stephen Gray for : 1 : daies Work about the Bells | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 01 | 10 |
| (May 29) | To John Fastnage for : 3 Bell Roapes | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 13 | 00 |

1716-17 **Disbursements**

(Payments for ringing—Aug. 1; Oct. 20; Nov. 5. 1717—May 28 and 29.)

* George I. crowned that day.

† One of the churchwardens since 1710-11.

‡ The Elector of Hanover proclaimed King, as George I., in London, Aug. 1st, the previous year (1714).

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|---|-----|----|----|----|
| Novr. 10 th | To Robert Gray Junr for : 3 : daies worke about the Bells | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| | To Stephen Gray for : 3 : daies worke about the Bells | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| (1717 May 29) | To John Fastnage for : 3 Bell Roapes | ... | 00 | 11 | 08 |

1717-18 Disbursements

| | | | | | |
|---|---|-----|----|----|----|
| July : 19 th | Paid John Buttler : 2 : daies worke mending the Bell Wheels | ... | 00 | 03 | 04 |
| | Pd Joseph Gray : 2 : daies mending the Bell Wheeles | ... | 00 | 03 | 04 |
| (Payments for ringing—Aug. 1; Oct. 20; Nov. 5.) | | | | | |
| Decr 3 ^d | Pd for a Letter from the Bellfounder* | ... | 00 | 00 | 06 |
| Febr : 15 th | To Mr Vasey of Wycomb for mending the Little Bells Clapper | ... | 00 | 06 | 06 |
| | Pd for Carryeing and bringing the Clapper home | ... | 00 | 01 | 00 |
| | Pd Henry Harrison for mending the Clock twice | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |

1718 Disbursements

(Payments for ringing—May 28 and 29; Aug. 1; Oct. 20; Nov. 5.)

Yeare ending Easter 1719.† Disbursements.

A Clapper key, 1^d (&c)Harrifson for mendg y^e Clock 1^s 6^d (&c)Mending the Steeple 9 foot of Elm board 18^d Work & nails 2^s 2^d ... 00 . 3 : 8

(Payments for ringing—May 28 and 29; Aug. 1; Nov. 5.)

The yeare ending Easter 1720 Disbursements.

| | | | |
|---|--|-----|------------|
| Two Clapper key 2 ^d | Cleaning y ^e Church Clock 2 ^s 6 ^d | ... | 00=02=8 |
| For mending y ^e Clock Clapper Grease & Ieling clock | ... | ... | 00=01=9½ |
| A leather Strap & buckle to y ^e S ^{ts} Bell & Crying y ^e Clapper | ... | ... | 00=00=7 |
| Pd Rd Lane for a New Clapper to the S ^{ts} Bell | ... | ... | 00=05 : 7½ |

(At the other end of the book is this Memorandum, dated April the 19th, 1720 :—)

I R Millechamp Viçr do nominate & appoint George Bruere Esqr^e Ch. Warden for the Town : there being the Acc^t of the Bells & many other things not yet adjusted.

1720-21.

(Payments for ringing—May 28, 29; Aug. 1; Oct. 20; Nov. 5).

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|--------------|
| For Seting Altering & mending the Clock at times. | ... | ... | 00 : 02 : 0 |
| Repaires In the Bellfry— | | | |
| Paid Gray for Elm boards & Deals | ... | ... | 01 : 06 : 06 |
| Paid for Workmanship | ... | ... | 00 : 06 : 08 |
| Paid at the Three Tunns when with Mr Phelps }
at his first comeing abt the Bells ... } | ... | ... | 00 : 11 : 6 |

* Evidently Richard Phelps.

† This and the preceding account seem to be for one and the same year; the latter date would be the more accurate description.

Mr. George Bruere & Mr W^m Blundell Ch: Wardens. Anno 1720.

Money Subscribed towards the New casting the Bells.

& paid to y^e afore^d Church Wardens.

| | £ | s | d |
|-----------------------------------|----|----|---|
| Madam Wallop* | 10 | 10 | 0 |
| S ^r John Guise | 15 | 15 | 0 |
| Lord Shelburne | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| M ^r Chase | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| Sir James Etheredge | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| M ^r Geo: Bruere | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| M ^r Millechamp | 2 | 2 | 0 |

(And sixty-three others, having the following surnames :) Manning, Harman, Fletcher, Webb, Winkles, Keen, Smith, Oxlad, Carter, Gage, Corbee, Kid, Phillips, Langley, Jones, Rolls, East, Lawrence, Hall, Law, Young, Pratt, Harris, Webb, Medulkin, Stennet, Lockwood, Curtis, Gibbons, Moor, Hollis, Newberry, Pudsey, Martin, Lane, Bird, Allwood, Bradshaw, Hutchenson, Bayly, Cock, Thompson, Burtenwood, Dean, Chown, Robinson, Sears, Beckford, Dormer.

Tot — 67 : 19 : 0

The aforesaid Subscription money disburs't as follows (Vizl).

| | £ | s | d |
|---|------------|-------|--------|
| 1720 Paid for a part of the articles... .. | 0 | 7 | 6 |
| Paid for Screws from London | 1 | 11 | 0 |
| Paid the three Williams's Bellhangers† | 9 | 1 | 6 |
| Paid Amb. Thompson | 2 | 7 | 0 |
| Paid Rich ^d Lane‡... .. | 1 | 14 | 6 |
| Paid Mr. Phelps | 0 | 10 | 6 |
| Paid Mr. Phelps, Ap. 29 1720 | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| Paid Mr. Phelps, May 14 1720 | 21 | 0 | 0 |
| Paid Mr. Phelps, Dec. 22 ^d 1720 | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| Paid Mr. Phelps, July 7 1721 | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| | <hr/> | | |
| | 52 | 0 | 6 |
| | <hr/> | | |
| | Tot. | 67 | 2 : 0 |
| | To Balance | 00 | 17 : 0 |
| | | <hr/> | |
| | | 67 | 19 : 0 |

* Madam Wallop was apparently the first wife of John Wallop, Esq., M.P. for Hants, 1714-20, who was created Baron Wallop and Viscount Lyvington in 1720, and Earl of Portsmouth in 1743. She was Bridget, daughter of Chas. Bennet, first Earl of Tankerville, and died 1738. I do not know what connection she had with Marlow. Sir John Guise, Bart., was M.P. for Marlow, 1721; and the Rt. Hon. the Lord Shelburne, in 1714. For Mr. Jas. Chace, M.P., see foot-note, p. 492. Sir James Etheridge, Knt., was M.P. for Marlow (with the last-named), 1698 to 1714. For Geo. Brewer, Esq., and the Rev. R. Millechamp, see p. 465.

† Of King's Sutton, Northampts (near Banbury, Oxon). Their work still exists at Chicheley, Bletchley, and probably Penn, and also Cookham (Berks), etc.; see p. 320.

‡ Blacksmith, of Marlow.

1722 Disbursements

(Payments for ringing, 1721—May 28, 29; Aug. 1; Oct. 20; Nov. 5.)

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| (1721) Oct. 16 th To Mr Phelps Bellfounder in full of all demands as p receipt appears | ... | ... | ... | ... | 43 | 13 | 00 |
| (Oct. 20) To the Widd Gibbons for carriage of the Bells to and from London ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 02 | 16 | 06 |
| March 25 th ; 1722 To William Rivers for Six Rolls for the Bells & a Chaire in the Vestrey | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 05 | 00 |
| Apr: 30 th Spent wth the Ringers in Receiveing their Subscriptions for the Bells | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 04 | 00 |

1723 Disbursements

(Payments for ringing, 1722—May 28, 29; Aug. 1; Oct. 20; Nov. 5. 1723—Apl. 25 "Being a Thankes giveing day.")

| | | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| (Aug.) To Henry Harrison for Cleaneing the Clock and mending the hand | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 03 | 06 |
| ffeb: 9 th To Tho: Lydall for 3 Bell Ropes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 07 | 00 |
| June: 1 st To John Gibbons for Clock Ropes and Bell Ropes as p Bill | ... | ... | ... | ... | 01 | 03 | 04 |

1723-24 Disbursements

(Payments for ringing, 1723—May 28, 29; Aug. 1; Oct. 20; Nov. 5.)

1724-25 Disbursements

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| 1724 Pd John Gibbons for a Bell Roape as p Bill | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 04 | 00 |
| May: 18 th Pd Thomas Lydall for Bell Ropes as p Bill | ... | ... | ... | ... | 01 | 00 | 08 |

(Payments for ringing, 1724—May 28, 29; Aug. 1; Oct. 30; Nov. 5.)

1725-26 Disbursements

(Payments for ringing, 1725—May 28, 29; Aug. 1; Oct. 20, 30; Nov. 5. 1726—May 28, 29.)

| | | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| April: 20 th 1726 Pd John Gibbons for Bell Ropes as p Acquittance | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 17 | 08 |
| Pd Ambrose Thompson for mending the Weather Cock | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 02 | 06 |
| Pd Stephen Gray for takeinge downe the Weather Cock | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 10 | 06 |

1726-27 Disbursements

(Payments for ringing, 1726—Aug. 1; Oct. 20, 30; Nov. 5.)

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| (Nov: 5 th) Pd for mending the Chaîne at the Church Gate and the Bell Clapper | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 04 | 02 |
| Pd John Gibbons as p Bill for Bell Ropes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 01 | 06 | 00 |
| Pd Henry Harrison for mending the Clock & Bafses as p Bill | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 | 08 | 06 |

1727-30 Receipts

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|---|---|
| Of the Church Warden for Old Bell Ropes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 | 2 | 6 |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|---|---|

Disbursements.

| | | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|----|---|
| (1727 Oct) Pd for Mending the Church = Clock | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 10 | 0 |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|----|---|

3 T

(Payments for ringing, 1727—Oct. 11. 1728—May 29; June 11 [=Accession]; Oct. 4, 30; Nov. 5; Jan'y 19; March 1. 1729—the 5th Nov. payment is "To Tho^s Hollis;" he was, with little doubt, the publican who supplied the beer for the Ringers on this Anniversary.)

Easter 1733, to Easter 1736 Disbursements

| | | | |
|--|-----|---|-----|
| 1733 June: 25 th Pd Henry Harrison for Cleansing and Mending the Clock | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| (Payments for ringing, 1733—Oct. 11, 30; Nov. 5; March 1. 1734—May 29; June 15; Oct. 11, 30; Nov. 5; March 1. 1735—May 29; June 15; Oct. 11, 30; Nov. 5; March 1.) | | | |
| (1733) Decr: 31 th . Pd In Law* for Bell Ropes Due St ^t Thomas Day | ... | 1 | 5 0 |
| Jan ^{ry} : 8 th Pd for Oyle | ... | 0 | 0 1 |
| (1734) Decr: 21 th Pd In Law for Bell Ropes | ... | 1 | 5 0 |
| (1735) June: 26 th Pd for Oyle | ... | 0 | 0 2 |
| Sept: 6 th Pd for Oyle | ... | 0 | 0 2 |
| Nov: 7 th Pd for Oyle & Nailles | ... | 0 | 0 4 |
| Decr: 27 th Pd In Law for Bell Ropes | ... | 1 | 5 0 |
| 1736 April: 24 th Pd for Oyle | ... | 0 | 0 2 |

1736-38 Disbursements

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|---|
| (Payments for ringing, 1736—May 29; June 11; Oct. 11, 30; Nov. 5; March 1. 1737—May 29; June 15; Oct. 11, 30; Nov. 5.) | | | |
| (1736) July 26 Pd for Oil for the Bells | ... | ... | 2 |
| Sept: 29 Pd for Oil for the Bells | ... | ... | 2 |
| (Oct: 11) Pd for Oil for the Bells & Nailles | ... | ... | 3 |
| Pd for mending the Lock of the Inner Bellfrey door | ... | ... | 6 |
| y ^e 18 Pd for mending the Lock of G ^t Door of the Bellfrey | ... | 1 | 6 |
| 20 Pd Jn ^o Law half Years Salary for Bell Ropes | ... | 12 | 6 |
| Decr: 28 th Pd for Oil for the Bells | ... | ... | 3 |
| Jan: 12 Pd Jn ^o Law half a Y ^{rs} Salary for Bell Ropes due at St ^t Tho ^s last | ... | 12 | 6 |
| 15 Pd D ^o for Beer for several mens Assistance in Screwing y ^e Bells | ... | 5 | |
| 1737 May 28 Pd for Oil for the Bells & Locks | ... | ... | 5 |
| Aug ^t : 13 Pd A Mefsender Going to Windsor to M ^r : Davis ab ^t the Clock | ... | ... | 1 |
| 25 Pd A Mefsender D ^o | ... | ... | 1 |
| Oct: 14 Pd for Leather for the Tennor Bell | ... | ... | 1 |
| 18 Pd Jn ^o Law $\frac{1}{2}$ A Y ^{rs} Salary for Bell Ropes | ... | 12 | 6 |
| (Nov. 5) Pd for Oil for the Bells | ... | ... | 2 |
| Decr: 26 Pd Jn ^o Law $\frac{1}{2}$ a Y ^{rs} Salary for Bell Ropes due at St ^t Tho ^s last | ... | 12 | 6 |
| 1738 May 5 Expences for the Assistance of Sev ^l men taking Down
& fixing up the Dial Plates belonging to y ^e Clock | ... | 2 | 6 |
| Expences w th M ^r : Davis & his Men at putting up the Clock | ... | 4 | |
| Pd M ^r : Davis for the Church Clock | ... | 31 | |

* The Sexton.

Easter 1738, to May 30th 1739.

| | | | | | | |
|------------------|--|----------|-----|-----|------|-----|
| June 11 | Pd the Ringers | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| 15 | Pd for Screwing up the Bells & Ringing | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| | Pd Mrs Law as p Bill for two days Ringing One for the Birth
of Prince George* & the other May 29 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Octr. 17 | Pd Jn ^o Law for Beer for the Ringers | Octr. 11 | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| 30 | Pd Tho ^s Hollis for Beer for the Ringers | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Novr. 5 | Pd Jn ^o Law for ditto | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| 1739
April 16 | Pd Hen : Carter for Beer for the Ringers | April 15 | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| 23 | Pd for Work done to the Bells | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| May 27 | Pd John Law Sexton for finding Bell Ropes a Yr. & a Qr. | ... | ... | ... | 1 11 | 3 |
| | Pd for Oil for the Clock & Bells | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 6 |
| | Pd Syl : Law as Ψ Bill for Beer for the Ringers for the
Prince of Wales's* Birth day & the 29 th of May | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10 |
| 30 | To Walter Batchellor for Beer for the Ringers | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |

May 1739, to May 1741 Disbursements

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| 1741
April 7 | Pd Mrs Eycott as Ψ Bills for Sacrament Wine and
Beer for $\frac{5}{7}$ Ringers (June 11 th 1739) | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 9 |
| | Pd Mr Davis's man for cleaning $\frac{5}{7}$ Church Clock | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10 |
| | Pd Jn ^o Law Sexton his Salary & for Bell Ropes for the Years
1739 & 1740 as Ψ Bills & Rec ^{ts} | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 17 6 |
| | Pd Syl : Law for Beer for the Ringers on the following
Days at $\frac{5}{7}$ each Day 1739 Octr. 11 th Novr. 19 th Jan ^y 20
1740 May 29 th June 13 Octr. 11 Novem 5 & Novr. 19 th | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| | Pd Walter Batchellor for y ^e Ringers Octobr. 30 th 1740 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| | Pd Hen : Carter Ditto for June 15 th Octobr. 30 Novr. 5
in 1739 & in 1740 Jan : 20 th at 5 ^s each Day | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| | Pd W ^m Harding for Beer for $\frac{5}{7}$ Ringers April 15 th 1740 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| | Pd Jn ^o Webb Ditto for May 24 th 1740 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| | Pd Chas Robinson as Ψ Bills & Rec ^{ts} & for two
Days Ringing money (Viz : Novr. 5 th 1739 & April 15 th 1741) | ... | ... | ... | 1 2 | 5 |

1741-2 Disbursements

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| May 29 | Pd Syl : Law for Beer for $\frac{5}{7}$ Ringers | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| June 15 | Pd D ^o for Beer for $\frac{5}{7}$ Ringers on Receiving $\frac{5}{7}$ News of
Admiral Vernons Succes at Carthageana | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Octr. 11 | Pd D ^o for Beer for $\frac{5}{7}$ Ringers | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| 30 | Pd Syl. Law for Beer for $\frac{5}{7}$ Ringers | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Novr. 5 | Pd Sam! Barney for Ditto | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| 19 | Pd W ^m Harding for Beer for $\frac{5}{7}$ Ringers | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Jan ^y 20 | Pd Sam! Barney for Beer for $\frac{5}{7}$ Ringers | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |

* Afterwards George III., born 4th June, 1738.

† Samuel Barney.

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|-----|-----|-----|---|---|
| ¹⁷⁴²
April 16 | Pd for a Line for one of $\frac{6}{7}$ Clock Weights | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 6 |
| May 29 | Pd Saml Barney for Beer for $\frac{6}{7}$ Ringers | ... | ... | ... | 5 | |
| | Pd D ^o * for Bell Ropes for one Year Due D ^o † | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 5 |
| | Pd for Oil for $\frac{6}{7}$ Clock & Bells for a Year | ... | ... | ... | 2 | |
| June 15 | Pd Walter Batchellor for Beer for $\frac{6}{7}$ Ringers | ... | ... | ... | 5 | |

June 1742, to Easter 1744 Disbursements

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|-----|-----|-----|---|-------|
| Oct ^r 11 | Pd Ditto‡ for Beer for the Ringers | ... | ... | ... | 5 | |
| 30 | Pd Sylv ^r Law for Beer for the Ringers | ... | ... | ... | 5 | |
| | Pd Jn ^o Bufson for D ^o for their taking up & Cleaning the Bells | ... | ... | ... | 5 | |
| | (“Pd Saml Barney for Beer for $\frac{6}{7}$ Ringers” 5s., on Nov. 5, 19; Jan ^{ry} 20.) | | | | | |
| ¹⁷⁴³
May 29 | Pd Jn ^o Bufson for Beer for $\frac{6}{7}$ Ringers | ... | ... | ... | 5 | |
| June 15 | Pd Saml Barney for Ditto | ... | ... | ... | 5 | |
| 24 | Pd Sylv ^r Law for D ^o after ye Battle of Dettingen\|\| | ... | ... | ... | 5 | |
| | Pd Sylv ^r Law a Y ^{rs} Salary as Sexton & a Y ^{rs} Bell Ropes | } | ... | ... | 3 | ” 7 ” |
| | both due Lady day last | | | | | |
| | Pd for Oil for $\frac{6}{7}$ Clock & Bells | ... | ... | ... | ” | 2 ” |
| Oct ^r 11 | Pd Saml Barney for Beer for $\frac{6}{7}$ Ringers | ... | ... | ... | ” | 5 ” |
| 30 | Pd Sylv ^r Law for Beer for $\frac{6}{7}$ Ringers | ... | ... | ... | ” | 5 ” |
| Nov ^r 5 | Pd S. Barney for Beer for $\frac{6}{7}$ Ringers | ... | ... | ... | ” | 5 ” |
| Jan ^{ry} 20 | Pd Jn ^o Phillips§ as Ψ Bill for Mend ^g ye First Bell & a New Stock | 5 | ” | 5 | ” | ” |
| | D ^o Pd Saml Barney for Beer for $\frac{6}{7}$ Ringers | ... | ... | ... | ” | 5 ” |
| Apr ^l 3 | Pd D ^o for a Years Bell Ropes | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 5 |
| | Pd for Oil for $\frac{6}{7}$ Clock & Bells | ... | ... | ... | 2 | |

Sept. 1744, to May 1745 Disbursements

| | | | | | | |
|---------|--|-----|-----|-----|---|------|
| Jan 4 | Pd W ^m Pudsey for Beer for $\frac{6}{7}$ Ringers $\frac{6}{7}$ Kings Coronation | } | ... | ... | 1 | ” |
| | Birth Day, Gunpowder Treason & Cleaning ye Bells | | | | | |
| May 3 | Pd W ^m Pudsey for Beer for ye Ringers on the Prince of | } | ... | ... | ” | 10 ” |
| | Whales's Birth Day & Ring ^g for ye Bishop of Lincoln | | | | | |
| June 11 | Pd Charles Robinson for Beer for ye Ringers | ... | ... | ... | 5 | |
| | Pd Sylv ^r Law Sexton his Salary & for a Years Bell Ropes | } | ... | ... | 3 | 11 |
| | for Oil & Mowing the Church Y ^d as Ψ Bill & Rec ^t | | | | | |

1745-6 Disbursements

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-----|-----|-----|----|------|
| Aug ^t 31 | Pd M ^r Snelling for $\frac{6}{7}$ new Weather Cock | ... | ... | ... | ” | 11 ” |
| Oct ^r 7 | Pd M ^r Lee for Cleaning $\frac{6}{7}$ Church Clock | ... | ... | ... | ” | 10 ” |
| 1746 Apr ^l 8 | Pd Daniel Walker Carpenter for Rebuilding | } | ... | ... | 42 | ” |
| | the Steeple as Ψ Contract | | | | | |

* Jn^o. Law, Sexton, who then apparently retired in favour of Sylvester Law.

† Lady Day, 1742. ‡ S. Barney.

|| Victory over the French, June 16th. § See the account for 1603, p. 473.

| | | | | | |
|--------|--|-----|----|---|------|
| | Pd Geo: Traff the Plumber & Painter as per Bill* ... | ... | 47 | 9 | '' |
| 23 | Pd Wm Pudsey for Beer for ye Ringers on the Kings
Proclamation, Coronation, Birth day & Gunpowder Treason | ... | 1 | | '' |
| May 29 | Pd two men for Cleaning the Bells ... | ... | | 3 | '' |
| June 7 | Pd for the Bond to Oblige Daniel Walker to Repair
the Steeple according to the Articles ... | ... | | 2 | '' 6 |

1746 Disbursements

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|-----|---|----|----|
| Oct ^r 22 | Pd for a Lock for $\frac{6}{7}$ inner Belfree Door ... | ... | 2 | 3 | '' |
| Nov ^r 15 | Pd Mr Lee for Work done to ye Church Clock ... | ... | | 1 | '' |
| ¹⁷⁴⁷
April 24 | Pd Wm Pudsey for Beer for 4 Ringing Days ... | ... | 1 | | '' |
| Aug st 4 | Pd Wm Pudsey for Beer for ye Ringers two Ringing days ... | ... | | 10 | '' |
| Oct ^r 15 | Pd for Beer for the Ringers on the Coronation day ... | ... | | 5 | '' |
| Nov ^r 5 | Pd for Beer for the Ringers ... | ... | | 5 | '' |

1748 Disbursements

(“To Beer for the Ringers”—May 29; June 15; Dec. 11, 30; Jan^{ry} 20.)

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|-----|---|---|----|
| ¹⁷⁴⁹
Ap ^l 26 | Pd for a Years Bell Ropes ... | ... | 1 | 5 | '' |
| | Pd for Oil for the Clock and Bells ... | ... | | 2 | '' |

1749 Disbursements

(“To the Ringers”—May 29; Oct. 11, 30; Nov. 5; May 29.)

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--|-----|---|----|------|
| (¹⁷⁵⁰
May 29) | Pd Jn ^o Lee for Cleaning & mending the Church Clock ... | ... | 0 | 10 | '' 0 |
| | Pd for a Years Bell Ropes ... | ... | 1 | 5 | '' 0 |

1750 Disbursements

(“To the Ringers”—June 15; Oct. 11, 30; Jan. 20.)

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|-----|---|---|------|
| May 10 th | Pd for a Years Bell Ropes ... | ... | 1 | 5 | '' 0 |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|-----|---|---|------|

1751 Disbursements

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|--|-----|--|---|------|
| May 24 | Pd for Beer for the Ringers (the P of Wales's Birth day) ... | ... | | 5 | '' 0 |
| Oct ^r 15 | Pd for Beer for the Ringers (Coronation) ... | ... | | 5 | '' 0 |

(To the Ringers, Nov. 5; May 24, 29; June 11.)

1752 Disbursements

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|---|-----|--|---|----|
| Oct ^r 26 | Pd Mrs Eycott Beer for the Ringers (the Kings Coronation) ... | ... | | 5 | '' |
| Nov ^r 5 | Pd Geo. Allum D ^o ... | ... | | 5 | '' |
| Nov ^r 10 | Pd Wm Menday Beer for the Ringers (the Kings Birthday) ... | ... | | 5 | '' |
| June 29 | Pd Wid ^o Biggs Ringing Money ... | ... | | 5 | '' |
| June 4 | Pd D ^o Ringing Money ... | ... | | 5 | '' |
| 22 | Pd Mr Dark Ditto ... | ... | | 5 | '' |

1753 Disbursements

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|---|-----|--|---|----|
| Sep ^r 22 | Pd Mrs Eycott for $\frac{6}{7}$ Ringers ($\frac{6}{7}$ Kings Coronation) ... | ... | | 5 | '' |
|---------------------|---|-----|--|---|----|

* No doubt for the Steeple, which was of wood.

† S. Law.

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|-----|-----|-----|---|------|
| Nov ^m 5 | Pd Robt Wright for Beer for the Ringers | ... | ... | ... | 5 | .. |
| 10 | Ditto Mr Law (the Kings Birthday) | ... | ... | ... | 5 | .. |
| ¹⁷⁵⁴
Ap ^l 24 | Pd Ditto a Years Bell Ropes | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 5 .. |

1754 Disbursements

("To the Ringers," May 29; Oct^r 22, "The Kings Coronation;" Nov. 5; and 10, "His Majesty's Birthday.")

1755

(To the Ringers, May 29; Oct^r 22; Nov. 5, 10.)

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------|--|-----|-----|---|---|----|
| Pd D ^o * | for a years Bell Ropes & Oil for Clock & Bells | ... | ... | 1 | 7 | .. |
|---------------------|--|-----|-----|---|---|----|

1757 Disbursements

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|--|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| May 23 ^d | To D ^o * for 2 Years Bells Ropes Due D ^o † | ... | ... | 2 | 10 | .. |
| | Oil for Clock & Bells D ^o | ... | ... | .. | 4 | .. |
| ¹⁷⁵⁸
April 5 | Jn ^o Hammerton for a Lattice in the Tower | ... | .. | .. | .. | 6 |

1758 Disbursements

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| ¹⁷⁵⁹
May 2 ^d | D ^o * Two Years Bell Ropes due Ditto‡ | ... | ... | 2 | 10 | .. |
| | D ^o Oil for the Clock and Bells 2 Years due ditto | ... | ... | .. | 3 | .. |

1759 Disbursements

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------|---|-----|-----|----|---|----|
| June 26 | Pd Geo: Allum for Beer for ye Ringers | ... | ... | .. | 5 | .. |
| Nov ^r 29 | Mr Dark for Beer for the Ringers The Thanks giving day | ... | .. | .. | 5 | .. |
| | Pd Mr Law Sexton his Salary 2 ^m 2 & a Yrs Bell Ropes [£] 1, 5 | ... | ... | 3 | 7 | .. |
| | D ^o for Parhment (<i>sic</i>) for engrofsing the Register }
& Oil for the Clock & Bells | ... | ... | .. | 4 | .. |

Disbursements

(Pd the Ringers, 1760—May 29; June 4; Nov^r 5, "Gunpowder Plott"; 30, "princfs Dowager's birth day." 1761—April 26, "Duke's birth day"; May 29; Sep^r 22, "being the day the King & Queen were Crowned"; Nov^r 5, 30, "P^{is} Dowager's birth day"; Jan^y 18, "Queen's D^o". 1762—April 10, "Duke of Cumberland's birth day"; May 29; June 4, "King's birth day"; Nov^r 5, 26. 1763||—Jan^y 18, "Queen's birth day"; Ap^l 26, "Duke's birth day"; May 29; August 12, "Prince of Wales's Birth day"; Oct. 25, "King's Accefsion"; Nov^r 30, "Princfs Dowagers birth day." 1764—Jan: 18, "Queen's D^o"; April 26, "the Duke's birth day"; 29.)

Cred^r

1764—June 4, By D^o§ to the Ringers, the Kings Birth Day; Aug^t 12, Prince of Wales;

* Sylv^r Law, Sexton. † Lady Day, 1757. ‡ Lady Day, 1759.

|| The churchwardens' year begins from this date with January, instead of April.

§ Cash paid.

Sept. 22, The Kings Coronation ; Oct. 25, The Kings Inaguration ; D^o. Proclamation ; Nov. 5, Gunpowder Treason. 1765—Jan. 18, The Queens Birth Day ; June 4, The Kings Birth Day ; Aug. 12, The Prince of Wales Born ; Sept. 22, The Kings Coronation ; Oct. 26, The Kings Proclamation ; Nov. 5, Gun powder Treason. 1766—Jan. 18, The Queens Birth Day ; June 4, The Kings Birth Day ; Sept. 22, The Kings Coronation ; Oct. 26, The Kings Proclamation ; Nov. 5, Gunpowder Treason. 1767—Jan. 19, The Queens Birth Day.

Cred. (By Ringing 1767—June 4, the Kings Birth Day ; Sept. 22 The Kings Coronation ; Oct. 26, the Kings Proclamation ; Nov. 5. 1768—Jan. 18, the Queens Birthday.)
 (1768) Feb. 18 M^{rs} Rolles for a Clack line 5 ...
 Cred. (By Ringing 1768—June 4, the Kings Birth day ; Sep. 22^d the Kings Coronation ; Oct. 26, the Kings Proclamation ; Nov. 5. 1769—Jan. 2^d, the Queens Birth day.)
 Cred. (By Ringing 1769—May 29th, King Charles's restoration ; Nov. 5 ; Oct. 25. 1770—Jan. 18, the Queen's Birth Day ; May 29, being the restoration of King Charles ; also on Gunpowder Treason. 1771—the Queen's Birth Day ; his Majesties Proclamation Day ; May 29, being the restoration of King Charles ; Sept. 22, the Kings Coronation ; Oct. 26, the Kings Proclamation. 1772—Jan. 23, the Queen's Birth Day.)

1773 To Lovenberry & Mills for two ringing Days — 10 —

Creditors

1775 Pd 3 ringing Days in 1771 to Clarke & Carter — 15 —
 To Clarke 1 ringing Day in 1771 — 5 —
 2 ringing Days in 1774 & 1775 to Clarke & Carter — 10 —
 (Paid the Ringers May 19, 29 ; June 4 ; Sept. 22 ; Oct. 25, 26 ; Nov. 5. 1776—May 29 ; June 4 ; Sept. 22 ; Oct. 25, 26 ; Nov. 5. 1777—May 29 ; June 4.)*

1777 Creditors

Oct. 25 & 26. Paid. Ringers „ 10 —
 1778 Feb. 17. M^r. Rolles. for. Clock. Line „ 5 —
 June 4 M^r. Thomas. a Ringing Day „ 5 —
 (On June 7, 1779, Rich^d Williams was paid a Bill for Ringing Days, £2.0.8. On July 21, 1780, for 8 ditto, £2 ; on May 28, 1781, for 5 ditto, £1 „ 5 „ 0 ; and on Sept. 7, 1782, for an unspecified number of ditto, £2 „ 6 „ 0.)
 1783 May 20. Cha^s Clark. a Bill for Repairing Bells c^r 6 19 9
 Oct. 20. Pd Tho^s Allen. for Beer. the Ringers had the 28th
 of May. for. Archdeacon c^r „ 5 „
 (Various persons were paid for beer for the ringers, viz : 1784—Jan. 28 ; Sept 16, for Workmen & Ringers. 1785—Jan. 22 ; Feb. 27 ; Oct. 7, for Men carrying Gravel & ringers ; another day in the same month ; Nov. 5 and 29.)
 (In the next account, 1786—a ringing Day paid for on July 5 ; the 3rd and 5th Nov. ; and two later.)

* The entries forming this paragraph come out of place in the middle of the 1783 entries ; and the last one (June 4) was also charged as " Omitted," in the 1778 account.

(In the next account, on Dec. 14th of the same year, two ringing days were paid for.)
 (In 1787—Bills for Beer for Ringing Days were paid on Janv 18; July 19, and for two days on the 20th; Nov. 5; Dec. 24. 1788—Janv 14, for two days; Oct. 27, 28. 1789—Janv 19, one day, followed by two more; March 7, for two days; and then :—)
 Mar: 23 Paid Mr Biddle a Bill for Beer on the Kings Recovery* ... „ 10 „
 (A Bill for Beer on May 29, and another on Oct. 27, were doubtless for the ringers; while on June 4, “Beer for the ringers” was charged. A similar bill was paid on Nov. 16; and in 1791, one on June 2nd, and others for three later days.)

(End of the second volume of the accounts.)

Many thanks to the various churchwardens, who have, at different times, allowed me to make these extracts, and to Mr. H. W. Badger, the parish clerk.

During the parliamentary election campaign of 1826, which lasted here for six weeks, the bells seem to have been rung most assiduously; and after it was over, eight (of the ten) ringers, who were Tories, presented their claim, for services rendered, to the elected Tory members—Messrs. Owen Williams, and Thos. Peers Williams (of Temple House, near Marlow), and to their joy, no less than to their surprise, received as *honorarium*, the sum of eighty pounds! The happy recipients then suggested to the two Whig members of the belfry, that they should likewise try their luck with the defeated Whig candidates (whose headquarters were at Harleyford, in this parish), and they in turn received twenty pounds. Truly, in spite of “Belfry Reform,” and the advance from “Stony,” to various methods of scientific “half-pull” ringing, the palmy days of ringing (and of parliamentary elections) are over!

Chapel-of-Ease—Holy Trinity Church, consecrated August, 1852, one small bell.
 Roman Catholic Church—S. Peter, consecrated 1846, one bell.
 A small bell over the Town Hall is used as Fire Bell.

MARLOW, LITTLE.

S. John Baptist.

I.

Rears & Stainbank, founders, London, 1873. (25 $\frac{1}{2}$)

2. THO^S ○ SWAIN ⚐ MADE ○ ME ✨ IN
 ⚐ J757 ○ ✨ (29 $\frac{1}{4}$)

3. THO^S : SWAINE ○ MADE : ME ○
TH^{OS} Swain Fecit. TH^{OS} Swain Fecit.

IN J777 ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ (34 $\frac{1}{2}$)
TH^{OS} Swain Fecit. T. Swain Fecit.

* No doubt for the Ringers. The indisposition of George III. commenced in October, 1788, and he was pronounced convalescent on February 26th, 1789.

Treble: by Mr. Robert Stainbank (p. 117). 2 and 3 (p. 141): the large circular stamp on both is fig. 51; the bell on 2, is fig. 50; the coin (? a half-crown) is $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches diameter. The four coins on 3, (crowns of George III., bust dexter, hair long) are $1\frac{9}{16}$ inches diameter.

The frame is not later than Swain's time, and probably dates from the earlier part of that century.

18 July, 1552, Lytle mloo . . . (*perished*) . . . oone Sanct₃ bell fold to Mr Clerc fr vjs. viij^d.

Aug: 1637, Marlow pva 3 Bells . . . the butterices of the steeple and allfo the steeple it felfe in the stone worke above [in decay].

1714. Marlow parva, 3 bells.

1797 (Langley's *Hundred of Desborough*, p. 323), two bells. (This seems obviously incorrect.)

A note by Mr. E. J. Payne, Recorder of Wycombe, dated 1864, states that the then-existing treble was by Henry Knight, 1608. The Rev. J. Baines, Vicar, in a sermon preached later on to collect funds for its recasting, said, "our treble bell, the oldest of our three, bearing date 1610, is cracked and useless. How it came so, we know not."

The Commissioners for the dissolution of the Nunnery of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Little Marlow (*Hist. of Abbies*, II., 29), in the Survey rendered c. 1537,* reported:—

That it was of the Order of St. *Benet*.

Bells, Lead, &c., worth by Estimation, 4*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.*

In the Record Office,† is:—

xij^m die m̄cij, 1555,

marloo { The Leade ther ... xxiiij^s viij^d } [There was no leade here as ys certefyed
The belle ther ... ij } by John Smyth. one of the Towne] (= *erased*)
Annfveryd A^o xxviiij^o H viij^{ui}

Death Knell: tolled for three-quarters of an hour at nine a.m., if possible on the morning that the death is announced. The treble is used for children; the second for young persons; the tenor for adults. Tellers at beginning: 3 × 3 = a male; 2 × 3 = a female.

On Sundays, for the Services, the tenor is first rung for five minutes, this is called Sermon bell; the bells are then chimed; and for the last five minutes, the treble is rung. When Holy Communion is celebrated after the Morning Service, the treble is rung for two minutes, between the prayer for the Church militant, and the beginning of the service of administration.

* The date is given *vide* W. de Gray Birch, Esq., see *Records of Bucks*, IV., 70.

† See p. ix.

The bells are rung for an hour, from midnight, on Christmas Eve; and on New Year's Eve, the old year is rung out, and the new year rung in. Wedding ringing by desire. Vestry meetings summoned by a bell.

The above usages remain as they existed at the appointment of the present parish clerk, about 1864.

Very many thanks to the Rev. A. S. Thompson, B.D., Vicar.

MARSH GIBBON.

[Assumption*] B. V. Mary.

1. **J : KILBY & J : JONES C^H WARDENS.** [Figure of a Cherub, with expanded wings.]
W : TAYLOR OXFORD FECIT. 1848. [Figure of a Cherub, with closed wings.] (30½)

2, 3, 4. RICHARD CHANDLER MADE ME 1670 (32, 35¼, 38)

5. J WARNER & SONS CRESCENT FOUNDRY
 LONDON 1854 (41)

S. HK (12¾)

Treble (p. 261): canons ornamented with acorns, oak-leaves, &c., on the front, and beaded down the sides. 2, 3, 4: by Richard Chandler III. (p. 227), inscribed in his one inch lettering. Tenor (p. 259): has flat canons. Saunce: evidently by Henry Knight I., probably cast before 1610 (p. 124); iron lever. All rehung by Bond, of Burford; 2 and 3 turned without breaking the crown-staples. Chiming apparatus.

5 May, 1553, Mrthe, they (the sayd churchwardens) have Allfo refeyvyd iij great belle & one faunfe bell.

11 July, 1637, Marsh. 4 Bells a St^s Bell & a Clock There is boards wanting upon the steeple windowes The fourth east piñicle downe, The north east piñicle a vane.

1714, 5 bells (saunce not mentioned, but evidently existing).

1755. On the Top of the Tower is a later Erection of Wood lathed and plaistered over to agree with the rest of the Building. This was erected to hold the Bells, which were formerly only three, but are now augmented to Five.

Lipscomb copies this account.

The Curfew continued to be rung every night at eight o'clock, until within living memory.

The Pancake Bell is still rung on Shrove Tuesday, on the fourth bell, from 11.30 a.m. to noon.

Death Knell as soon as death is notified, but not between sunset and sunrise; the tenor is rung or tolled, as may be requested, for twenty minutes. Tellers, both

* *Fide* Browne Willis.

before and after: 3 strokes = a male; 2 = a female. On the day of a funeral, the tenor is tolled fifty strokes at 9 a.m.; and for thirty minutes before the time of funeral. At the conclusion of the Service, the sex is marked as in the Knell. This is an old custom.

On Sundays, the sanctus is now chimed for five minutes, before the eight o'clock Celebration. The second is rung at 9 a.m. Before Morning and Evening Service, all the bells are rung (or chimed) for a quarter of an hour; the tenor is then rung for ten minutes, but this would be omitted if there was to be no sermon; the sanctus used for the last five minutes. Formerly, the treble was rung for about five minutes at 7 a.m., and again after Matins.

Ringling once or twice a week during the winter, beginning November 5th.

Ringling at 6 a.m., and in the evening, on December 11th (Old S. Andrew's Day, see p. 280), and on the 21st (the shortest day; but more probably as S. Thomas's Day, *ib.*). On Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, ringling at 7 p.m., and again from 11.30 until after midnight. On Christmas and Easter mornings, ringling at 7 a.m.

Ringling for weddings as ordered and paid for. The bells were formerly rung on a visit from the Bishop or Archdeacon, for which the churchwardens paid 5s.; but this has been discontinued since the payment ceased.

Very many thanks to the Rev. Edward M. Holmes, the late Rector.

MARSTON, FLEET.

S. Mary.

Single. IOHN WOODMAN CW EH I746 (15½)

By Edward Hall, in Richard Chandler III.'s 1.2 inch lettering (p. 236). Straps nailed; half-wheel.

No tower; turret rises about three feet above nave roof. There is no ladder in the church; I had to borrow two from Mr. Simons's farm at Berryfield, and have to thank him for kindly carrying one, and assisting me to raise and lower them.

23 July, 1552 Fleetmarston. Impine one lytle bell in the Steple.
If A handbell

14 July, 1638 . . . sometimes there was 4 bells one is now there—2 at Quarlington and the other at Lillies.

Quarlington = Quarrendon: one and a half miles distant. The Lees of Quarrendon, apparently also held the manor of Fleet Marston at the above date; and presented to that living between the years 1526 and 1642. They were also in possession of Weedon, a hamlet to Hardwick (two and a half miles from Fleet Marston), from shortly after 1372;* and Lipscomb says that about 1802, the then

* Lipscomb, III., 370. See also *Records of Bucks*, Vols. III. and IV.

owner of the manor of Weedon—Edward Nugent, Esq.—built a “commodious residence” on the site of the old Manor House, which he called *Lillies*, “in compliment, as is asserted, to the Royal Family of France, and originally intended for the residence of one of the French Princes, then in habits of great intimacy with the Buckingham family at Stowe.” It seems more likely that the name had no connection with the French royal *fleur-de-lis*, but was an old name revived. Otherwise, Lillies must be here taken to refer to Lilley in Herts, about twenty-two miles distant in a straight line.

1714, one bell.

The Rev. A. W. Howell, Rector, informs me that the bell is tolled at funerals.

MARSTON, NORTH.

B. V. Mary.

| | | | | | |
|-------|--|--------|-------|--------|---------------------|
| 1. | + SONORO ✻ | SONO ✻ | MEO ✻ | SONO ✻ | |
| | DEO ✻ | 1627 | | | |
| | | ✻ | | | (30 $\frac{3}{4}$) |
| 2, 3. | + ✻ | 1627 | ✻ | ✻ | (33, 35) |
| 4. | ===== RICHARD ===== CHANDLER ===== | | | | |
| | MADE ===== ME ===== 1699 ===== | | | | (37 $\frac{1}{2}$) |
| 5. | | | | | (43 $\frac{1}{2}$) |
| | ✻ LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FEGIT 1763 ✻ | | | | |
| S. | (Blank) | | | | (14 $\frac{1}{4}$) |

The upper three by Jas. Keene (p. 163). The letters used for his initials are on Plate XXVI., where the initial cross on each is No. 4, and the *fleur-de-lis*, No. 6. The first two are turned; treble has old stock and wheel, the latter keyed. 2: has old stock with keyed straps; eighteenth century wheel. 3: wheel, and some of straps, keyed. 4: inscription in Richard Chandler III.'s 1.2 inch lettering, down among the rims (p. 232). Saunce: perhaps seventeenth century; straps nailed; wooden lever. All the sliders slide from *both* ends, the stays being in the centre of the stocks.

23 July, 1552, northmarston, iiij gret bellē oone Sance bell & j hād bell,
Goodef folde by henry meveryll & Wiłm Ingram Churche warden
İfm to henry pyekin for A hand bell—iij^s vi (torn)

17 July 1638. Northmarston 5. Bells. clock St^s bell. . . . the steeple and the İles
of the Church want pgeting 14 pinnacles are wanting of the steeple the
Jomes of 2 windowes of the steeple in decay.

1714, 5 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

The inscriptions on the bells are given in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1820, Part II., p. 583.

Lipscomb also gives them (after a fashion), but while stating that the tenor was "recast in 1763," gives no account of the previous bell.

Death Knell tolled about twelve hours after the death. A bell tolled at funerals.

The somewhat unusual practice of a "Ringers' Sunday" has been established here, on which day the offertories, at both Morning and Evening Service, are "devoted to the parochial Ringers' Fund, and amounted (on 28th October, 1888) to £4 5s. 2d." For those two Services the bells are rung, instead of chimed. The sanctus is only used the last minute before the Sunday Services.

Ringling on Christmas Day. On New Year's Eve, the age of the century is tolled on the tenor; then a pause until midnight has finished striking, when the new year is rung in.

No churchwardens' accounts.

Many thanks to the Rev. S. B. James, D.D., Vicar.

MARSWORTH.

All Saints.

1. HENRY KNIGHT MADE MEE 1662 (29 $\frac{3}{4}$)

2. (32)

GEORGE CHANDLER MADE ME 1694

3. (33 $\frac{1}{2}$)
GEORGE CHANDLER MADE ME 1702

4. GEORGE CHANDLER MADE ME 1682 (37)

5. (*The former bell:*) (41)

ANTHONY CHANDLER PRAISE THE LORD 1679

(*The present bell:*)

RECAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1887:

(*On Waist:*)

ANTHONY CHANDLER—PRAISE THE LORD 1679

RECAST 1887 (c. 40)

S. 1767 (17 $\frac{1}{2}$)

Treble: by Henry Knight II.; lettering $\frac{9}{10}$ inch high (p. 130). 2: by "the firm" (p. 232); the only known occurrence of this lettering—the large, ornamented set on Plate XXXIII.; the figure 4 is plain, and seems to belong to George Chandler's plain $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch set; one pair of canons broken. 3: the first known

example by George Chandler after an interval of nineteen years (pp. 230 and 233); lettering $1\frac{2}{8}$ inch high. 4: one of George's early bells (p. 230), in his father, Anthony's lettering of two sizes (the larger of which is the smallest set on Plate XXXIII., where the very broad *fleur-de-lis* is also figured); iron baldrick to clapper. The crown-staples of treble, 2, and 4, are broken; probably in each case this was done not later than early in the eighteenth century. Tenor: the old bell was one of the latest by Anthony Chandler (p. 227); at the time of my first visit (July, 1886), it was cracked, and had quite recently been removed from the bell-chamber to the ground; four small holes had been drilled in the bell, just above the clapper-scar. Sauce: evidently by Lester and Pack (p. 100); new half-wheel. This is even now, perhaps, the most interesting extant series of bells from the Drayton Parslow foundry, notwithstanding the loss of the old tenor. Frame, seventeenth century, "restored" in 1886, by a carpenter named Montague, from the neighbouring parish of Cheddington. Some of the cross-struts are chamfered, and are older than the chief parts of the cages. The wheels are the old ones repaired.

23 July, 1552, Maffeworth. Iīm iij belle Iīm ij hane-belle

(Another indenture of the same date, agrees as to the number in the ring, but there follows:—) Iīm j handbell.

July, 1637, Mafworth 4. Bells Sts belle . . . The Bellfry unpaved and the Ropes in decay and some feats allfo. The Bellfry dore wants hinges so that it stands on ye ground . . . The steeple greatly in decay in the stone worke and it wants a fane on ye top. . . . The battlem^s of the steeple and Church and staire case and stone worke of the windowes in decay.

1714, 5 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

Cole (MSS. in the Brit. Mus., No. 5840, and quoted by Lipscomb, III., 412), says that Richard Pierson, who was collated Vicar here 8th February, 1531, by his will dated 9th October, 1538 (and whose successor was instituted on the 28th of the same month), appointed to be buried in this church, and gave an acre of wheat towards buying a Saint's bell. Cole also states that in the registers of the Arch-deaconry is a commission, dated 1662, to take down the chapel of Tiscote, in "Massworth" parish, but in the county of Hertford, where there was returned to be only one house, and to bring away the bell to "Masworth" Church, by the assent of Sir Tho. Hyde, Bart., and John Hooker, who was Vicar of "Masworth" from 1660 to 1684. It seems likely that that bell was recast into the present treble.

In renewing the decayed flooring of the bell-chamber, in the autumn of 1888, a hole for a bell-rope was found which did not correspond with the present position of any of the bells, but must have been in use before the augmentation of the ring to its present number.

At Ivinghoe (two miles distant), is a tradition that a bell was exchanged with this parish.

old family of yeomen living on the borders of this parish and Hambleton. The Register supplies the date of his burial :—

1695 Henricus Dean sepultus fuit vicefimo primo die jan

William Blundell is buried immediately outside the east end of the church ; his tombstone records that he died December 17th, 1726, aged 76. A namesake appears on the seventh bell at Gt. Marlow, as churchwarden there in 1719 ; quite possibly he was the same individual, or at any rate related, the two churches being only three and a half miles apart. 2 : by Ellis Knight (p. 126). The letters T, H, and the figure 1, are $1\frac{1}{8}$ inches, the rest being under one inch. This bell is called "the Communion Bell," and though the old usage is lost, it is revived at the present day by its being chimed for early Celebrations. Tenor : probably by Henry Knight II., and Ellis Knight II. (p. 132) ; the shield bearing the latter's initials, and the "churchwarden" figure between the letters C W, are on Plate XXII. ; the figure here is left-side down—feet to C, head to W. In the Register is :—

1672 Johannes Keene sepultus fuit Decemb. 8^o

The name, Jeremy Briden, appears in the Great Marlow churchwardens' accounts for 1615-6, and 1621-2.

The clappers have iron baldricks, and busk-boards. 2 : has iron stay, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, and horizontal iron bolt-like slider. Frame : late seventeenth, or early eighteenth, century ; the lead on the roof of the tower is dated 1706, which possibly shows the date of a "restoration." The wheels, which are all of the same size, were renewed, as appears by the churchwardens' accounts, in 1750, 1762, and 1766 ; and constantly repaired since. There is a fourth cage, beyond the present tenor, fitted even to the rope-hole in the floor. The widths of the cages are : I, $30\frac{1}{2}$ inches ; II, 32 ; III, $33\frac{1}{2}$; IV (empty), 38.

18 July, 1552, Medmēham. Item iij Bells w^t a hande bell

(From a duplicate Indenture the list is gone.)

12 Aug : 1637. 3 Bells. The Tower of the Steeple wth in fide in decay ; there wants ropes for the bells.

1714, 3 bells.

The Commissioners in Henry VIII.'s reign, returned concerning the Abbey here,* that :—

. . . this Monastery was of the Order of St. Bernard, . . . Bells, &c., worth 2l. 6s. 8d.

In the Record Office, is :—†

* Browne Willis, *Hist. of Abbies*, II., 29 (quoted by Langley, *Hist. Desb. Hund.*, p. 341).

† See p. ix.

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------|
| April 8 th | pd Ringing money | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 : 10 : 6 |
| | pd Edward Richardson his bill for Making a New
bell wheel of his own Stuff & New hanging the bell &
for repairing the bell wheeles | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 : 16 : 9 |
| April 8 th : 1751 | pd to John Nibbs* for beer had when the bells was hung | | | | | 0 . 1 : 0 |

1751

("pd Ringing Money" on Jan^y 29, 1751[2], and July 20, 1752.)

1753

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|
| April 26 th 1753 | pd for three New Bellropes and Tuffing* them | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 : 10 : 06 |
| Decem ^r 26 | pd to Edward Richardson for a Stay & Clog† for one of
the Bells | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 : 00 : 06 |
| October 23 ^d | pd Ringing money | ... | ... | ... | ... | 00 : 10 : 06 |

1754

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------|
| Oct : 14 th : 1754 | pd to Mr: John Wilkins for puting in a New Ground
Staple to the little Bell and Other work
thereunto belonging | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 : 2 : 0 |
| October 16 th | paid Ringing Money | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 : 10 : 6 |
| | paid for three New Bell Ropes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 : 10 : 6 |
| April 26 th : 1753 | allowed Edward Richardson his bill for work dune
about the Bells and finding Nailes & Stuff to
mend the wheeles and for Beer | ... | ... | ... | ... | 01 : 0 : 0 |

1755

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------|
| | pd Ringing Money | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 : 10 : 6 |
| May 20 th : 1755 | pd Edward Richardson his bill for work about the bells | | | | | 0 : 5 : 6 |

1756

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------|
| | for Ringing on the prince of Whales Birthday | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 : 3 : 0 |
| | pd to John Webb for three New bellropes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 : 10 : 6 |
| | (1756 pd Ringing Money [no date]; and Apl 20, 1757) | | | | | |

1758

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------|
| Decem. 26 | pd to Mr John Gibbons for three New bell ropes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 : 10 : 6 |
| | pd Ringing money | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 : 13 : 0 |

1759

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------|
| ¹⁷⁶⁰
April 24 | pd Ringing Money | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 : 13 : 6 |
|-----------------------------|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------|

1760

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| July 6 th | pd for three New Bellrops | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 : 7 : 6 |
|----------------------|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------|

* Working in *tufting*, or *sallies*.

† Evidently a *slider*.

1761

pd to Mr Jeffery* Hackshaw for three new Bell ropes... 0 : 10 : 6
 April 12th: 1762 pd wringing money 0 : 10 : 6
 pd to Edward Richardson for mending a bell wheel }
 work & Stuff } 0 : 1 : 9

1762

Sept 30 pd to John Sawyer for Beer for the Ringers on a }
 Reioyceing day taking the Havana } 0 : 1 : 6
 Decem 27th pd for 3 New bell ropes 0 : 10 : 6
 pd wringing money 0 : 10 : 6
 pd Edward Richardsons bill for making a bell }
 wheel & for Ironwork thereunto belonging } ... 1 : 4 . 0

1763

Novem̃ 12 pd wringing money 0 . 13 . 0
 Decem̃ 26 pd for 3 new bellropes 0 : 10 : 6

1764

pd wringing money 0 : 10 : 6
 April 5[†] pd to John Hackshaw for three new Bellrops ... 0 : 10 : 6

1765

April 13 pd to John Wilkens his bill for driling the Great }
 Bell and Other work thereunto belonging in the } 3 . 8 : 0
 year 1764 }
 pd wringing money 0 : 10 : 6

1766

Sept 7th—pd to Edward Richardson for Making a New Bell=
 wheel of his Own Stuff & other work in the Church } 2 : 7 : 7
 Noveñ 27—pd Mr Webb for three New Bell rops 0 : 8 : 8
 pd John Nibbs Senr wringing money 0 : 5 : 6
 pd him the Expence of mending the Bell=wheel ... 0 : 0 : 8
 pd to Edward Sawyer & Thomas Osbourn wringing }
 money } 0 : 5 : 0
 pd to John Stevens the Smith for Ironwork for ⁶/₇ Bells 0 . 4 : 1

1767

June 7 ãd him † for Beer for ⁶/₇ Ringers Kings Birth Day 2 . 6
 Decr 26 ãd for a Sett of Bellropes—21 at ^{lbs} - - 8 p lb 14 .
 1768
 April 4 ãd Nibbs Ringing Money 5 . 6

* Of Gt. Marlow ; see the Hambleden accounts from 1742/3.

† = 1765.

‡ = (Thomas) Osborn.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|-----|-----|-----|--------------------------|
| | Ƴd Osborn for Ringing Money ... | ... | ... | ... | . 4 . 2 |
| | Ƴd Edwd Richardson Mendg Bell Wheel ... | ... | ... | ... | . — . 6 |
| 1768-9 | | | | | |
| 1769
March 27 | Ƴd Richardson Mending $\frac{e}{y}$ Ring of $\frac{e}{y}$ Bell Wheel }
& Frame & Mendg $\frac{e}{y}$ Church Ladder } | | | | . 6 . 1 |
| | Ƴd John Nibbs for Ringing ... | ... | ... | ... | . 2 . 6 |
| | Ƴd Tho ^s Osborn for Ringing ... | ... | ... | ... | . 5 . 6 |
| | Ƴd [<i>blank</i>] Johnson for Ringing ... | ... | ... | ... | . 2 . 6 |
| 1770
Ap ^l 15 | Ƴd Tho ^s Osborn for Ringing, Killing }
Sparrows & Hedge Hoggs &c. } | ... | ... | ... | 1 . — . 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ |
| | Ƴd John Johnson a Bill for Ringing }
Killing Badgers & Hedge Hoggs. } | ... | ... | ... | . 8 . 6 |
| 18 | Ƴd John Collins for Bell Ropes weighing 20 ^{lbs} & $\frac{1}{2}$ at .. 8 p lb. | | | | . 13 . 8 |
| 1770 | | | | | |
| Nov ^r 8 | to Mr Mason for Bell Ropes ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 9 3 |
| April 3 ^d | to John Johnson for Sparrows & polecats }
& hedghogs & ringing mony } | | | | 0 9 3:2 |
| April 5 th | to Tho ^s Osborn for ringing Mony & Sparrows | ... | ... | ... | 0 4 6: $\frac{3}{4}$ |
| 1771 | | | | | |
| April 3 ^d | pd for Bell Ropes ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 10 6 |
| | pd for Rining Days ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 10 6 |
| 1772 | | | | | |
| June 4 | pd for Beer on Rining Day ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 3 0 |
| Oct 25 | pd for Beer on Rining Day ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 2 6 |
| | pd for mending the Bell Wheele ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 0 6 |
| 1773
April 12 | pd Johnson for Rining polecats Sparrows &c | ... | ... | ... | 0—10 5 |
| | pd for mending a Bell Wheel ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 2 6 |
| | pd John Steevens for mending the Bell ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 3 0 |
| 1773 | | | | | |
| 1774
Jan ^r y 29 th | pd for Bell Ropes ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 10 6 |
| | pd for mending the Bell Wheeles | ... | ... | ... | 0 . 3 0 |
| 1774 | | | | | |
| May 29 | pd for Ale on Rining Day ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 3 0 |
| Aug ^t : 13 | pd for 3 Bellropes ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 8 3 |
| Sep: ^{br} 22 ^d | pd ale on Rining Day ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 2 6 |
| Oct 25 | ale on Rining Day ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 2 6 |
| 1775
Ap ^l 17 | pd J. Johnson a bill for Rining, Sparrows, Badgers }
polecats &c ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 16 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ |

1775

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| May : 29 th | Rining Day | ... | ... | ... | ... | — 3 |
| July : 27 th | pd for 3 Bellropes | ... | ... | ... | ... | —12 |
| Sep : 22 ^d | ale on Rining Day | ... | ... | ... | ... | — 2 6 |
| Oct : 25 | Rining Day | ... | ... | ... | ... | — 2 6 |
| ¹⁷⁷⁶
April 8 | pd John Johnson for ale on Rining Days | ... | ... | ... | ... | — 5 |
| May 29 | Ale on Rining Day | ... | ... | ... | ... | — 3 |
| | pd Jo ⁿ Steevens for Repairing the Bells | ... | ... | ... | ... | — 1 6 |

1776

(Ale on Rining Day—may 29; June 4; Sep^{br} 22; Oct^{br} 25; Nov^{br} 5.)

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Oct ^{br} 25 | pd for 3 Bell Ropes | ... | ... | ... | ... | —12 — |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|

1777

(Ale on Rining Day—May 29th; Sep^{br} 22; Oct^{br} 25 :)

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| ¹⁷⁷⁸
April 8 | pd for 3 Bell Ropes | ... | ... | ... | ... | —12 |
| 20 | pd Johnson 2 Rining Days | ... | ... | ... | ... | — 5 |

1778-9

| | | | | | | |
|---------|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------|
| 28 Oct. | pd Johnson Rining Days Sparrows &c | ... | ... | ... | ... | —12 10½ |
|---------|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------|

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| ¹⁷⁷⁹
May 29 | Rining Day | ... | ... | ... | ... | — 3 |
|---------------------------|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

1779-80

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Oct ^r 11 th | paid Tho ^s Osborn one Rining Day | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 2 6 |
|-----------------------------------|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|

| | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| ¹⁷⁸⁰
Jan ^y 27 | paid for Bell Ropes | ... | ... | ... | ... | — 11 — |
|--|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|

| | | | | | | |
|----------|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| March 28 | paid for one Rining day | ... | ... | ... | ... | — 2 6 |
| | paid Iohn Iohnson 2 Rining days | ... | ... | ... | ... | — 5 0 |

MENTMORE.

S. Mary.

| | | | |
|-------|------------------|------|------------|
| 1, 4. | CHAUDLER MADE ME | 1668 | (25¼, 32½) |
| 2, 3. | (Ditto) | 1668 | (27, 29½) |
| 5. | (Ditto) | 1669 | (35½) |

A nice ring by Anthony Chandler (p. 226), in its original, left-handed frame, on which are carved the initials of the bell-hanger, I C 1668. It seems not improbable that he may have been one of the Chandler family. The stocks of treble, 2, and 4, appear to be new; those of 3 and tenor, original; on these two, nearly all the straps are keyed; on the others, chiefly bolted. The gudgeons of the upper three are at the top of the stocks. Wheels, all this century, but of peculiar pattern. All clappers old, perhaps original.

23 July, 1552, mentmor,
If in the ftepell iiiij belle
If on hand bell

(On the back :—) this Invytoꝝ wanteth a handbell

July, 1637, 4. Bells & a S^{ts} Bell.

1714, 5 bells (the sanctus had probably been melted with the other bells in 1668).

The Rev. C. S. Grubbe, Vicar, kindly informs me that the Death Knell is not tolled after sunset, or on Sundays.

MILTON KEYNES, more correctly, Middleton Keynes.

All Saints.

1. **NEWCOME** **MADE ME 1614** (32)
2. ANTHONY CHANDLER MADE ME 1675 (32½)
3. **RICHARD CHANDLER MADE ME 1704** (35¼)
4. (*Recast by Gillett, June, 1887*)
5. (*Blank*) (14¾)

Treble : probably cast at Bedford, by one of the sons of Edward Newcombe I. (p. 156). 2 : Anthony's Christian name was only added on bells after his son Richard came into the business (p. 227); straps fastened in each way—nails, keys, and nuts. 3 : inscribed in Richard Chandler III.'s 1.2 inch lettering, but below usual place, down among the rims, so perhaps by Richard II. (p. 234); straps keyed and bolted. Tenor : the new bell was to be fetched from Bletchley railway station the day after my visit, *viz.*, on June 14th, 1887. The Rev. the Hon. W. S. T. W. Fiennes, the Rector, informed me that the old bell was inscribed, "Newcome of Leicester made me A D 1614" (see p. 156), and that the new bell was to bear, "Gillett of Croydon remade me A D 1887 In Mem. Jub. Vic. Reg. Fiennes Rector, Payne Churchwarden." Mr. C. W. T. Fiennes has since informed me that this duly appears on the bell. Saunce : probably seventeenth century; straps nailed; wooden lever; piece of cord for baldrick. Horizontal wooden bolt-like sliders to all.

All rehung later on in 1887 by Gillett and Co., in the seventeenth century frame, and it is intended to add a fifth bell.

July, 1637, 4. Bells. S^{ts} Bell. The Bellfry window exceedingly in decay and flopt up wth boards . . . ye bellfry walls [wants pgeting].

1714, 4 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

Death Knell : as soon as the death is communicated to the sexton; the tenor is *rung* for twenty minutes. Before funerals, the tenor is chimed for half an hour, stopping on arrival of the procession at the church gates.

On Sundays, two bells are rung at 9 a.m., to remind people, it is said, that it is Sunday. Bells rung up and down for Morning and Evening Services. The saunce, which is considered a very old bell, has not been used since the bells were rehung in 1887; but now, instead, the treble is rung for the last five minutes, after the bells are down.

Ringling once a week for a month before Christmas, and every night during the last week. Ringling for Wednesday Evening Services in Advent, as on Sundays. Chiming for Services during Lent. Midnight ringling on New Year's Eve. Ringling on the Queen's and Prince of Wales's birthdays, and on the Queen's Accession Day; and after all weddings.

There is a tradition that two bells originally belonging to the tower, lie buried in what was once the moat of the old Manor House at the back of the church.

Many thanks to Caryl W. T. Fiennes, Esq., son of the Rector.

MISSENDEN, GREAT. SS. Peter & Paul, *or*, S. Mary.*

1. 1 6 9 2 (34½)
2. **THIS BELL WAS MADE**
1603 R E T H I U C (37½)
3. **LOVE GOD 1640** (41¾)
4. ∞ T. MEARS OF LONDON FECT 1824. ∞∞∞∞ (44⅝)
5. **LET YOUR HOPE**
BE IN THE LORD
1623 G*W H*H H
E*K (49½)
6. THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1840
(*On Waist:*) REV^D RICHARD MARKS VICAR
ROB^T DOUGLAS } CHURCH WARDENS (53¼)
JAMES POTTER }
- S. 1782 (16½)

Treble: undoubtedly by Richard Keene (p. 170). 2: by Joseph Carter (p. 87); the capital letters formerly belonged to John Saunders (upper set, Plate XX.), the smalls are the ancient Wokingham set; the stop has the arms of the See of Winchester (fig. 37); and the shield is a reproduction of the Brasyer ermine shield

* The former is probably the correct dedication; the Abbey here was dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, and this perhaps, after the dissolution, was gradually confused with the Church.

(fig. 55), but with Carter's initials added on the field, on either side of the lower bell (besides the same letters on either side of the shield, forming part of the inscription); the other initials are probably those of the churchwardens. 3 and 5: by Ellis Knight, near the end, and at the beginning, of his career, respectively (pp. 128 and 126); letters on third, up to $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches; on the fifth, up to $1\frac{3}{8}$ inches high; the large *fleur-de-lis*, and the stop resembling a silk-winder more than anything else I can think of, are shown on Plate XXII. G. W. and I. I. were probably the churchwardens. 4 and tenor: by Thos. Mears II. (p. 105). The Rev. Richard Marks was inducted 23rd May, 1820, and died 1852 (?); Mr. J. Potter was still living (between here and Chesham) in May, 1886 (when I first visited this tower); he was reported to be then aged "nearly 100." Saunce: evidently by Chapman and Mears (p. 103). The frame is probably not later than the date of the saunce bell, but more likely older. The tower (E.E.; with later alterations), is a very large, roomy oblong; with a long drop from the bells to the ringing-chamber on the ground level.

The Monastery of Missenden was surrendered, according to Browne Willis (*Hist. of Abbies*, II., 30, 32), in 1539:—

... at which time the 5 Bells hanging in the Abbey-Steeple were removed to the Parish-Church, and the Tower of the same enlarged to hold them; they are of late made into 6, on account of the Tenors having been crack'd, which was so big, notwithstanding a Treble was taken out of it, that 'tis still the largest Bell in the County: Before the re-casting, it had this Inscription upon it, *Dulcis instar melis Campana vocor Gabrielis*.

From this we may infer that the tenor of Browne Willis's time (recast by Mears, 1840), was, like the existing treble, by Richard Keene. Lipscomb* copies the above account, adding that the tenor "is reported to have been originally brought out of Normandy; and reduced from 50 cwt. to 30 cwt." In B. Willis's MSS., xxxviii., 2, its weight is recorded as "3100." The weight of the present bell, according to the scale in Messrs. Mears and Stainbank's 1891 Catalogue, might be anything between $27\frac{1}{2}$ and 36 cwt., depending of course on its thickness; but the lesser weight is probably not far below the mark. It is no longer the largest bell in the county, being exceeded in diameter by the modern tenor at Wing.

8 March, 1555† The Late Monastery of Missenden The lead ther (&c.)

The Belle — were sold to John A marlo for lxxiiij*li*. xiiij*ss* of which some the kyng was Annsweryd in the Accompte of John Doyly. as pceeds of the said some of cccviiij*li* xiiij*ss* ut sup̄.

As the Abbey bells are said to have been removed to the Church, John a Marlowe (p. 467) perhaps simply acted as middleman between the Commissioners, and either the Vicar and churchwardens of this parish, or some private benefactor.

* II., 380.

† See p. ix.

23 July, 1552, Myffend Magna (*also* greate myffend)

Itē in the steple v grete belle & j fanct; bell

Aug: 1637, Mifsenden maga 5 Bells S^{ts} Bell. A clock there hath beene. The Bellfry porch to have a dore.

1714, 6 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

Death Knell ; as soon as the sexton receives notice.

On Sundays, a bell is rung at 7 a.m. Bells chimed for Services ; saunce for last three minutes. Until recently the bells were *rung* for Service in November and December ; but the belfry being open to the church, the noise made by the ropes, and calling of the changes, was considered too great ! and now they are only chimed. This seems a great pity, and I would venture to suggest that all the gear, especially the ground-trucks, should be overhauled and lubricated ; then when that disagreeable and wholly unnecessary noise was improved away, the conductor would not be obliged to call so loud, and perhaps the bells could be again put to the most legitimate of all their uses.

Ringing on the Queen's Birthday ; Oak-apple Day (29th May) ; Gunpowder Treason (5th November) ; and New Year's Eve ; and for weddings when desired. A bell rung for Vestry Meetings.

A good cartload of rubbish was taken from the tower in the spring of 1888 ; the accumulation of jackdaws', owls', and pigeons' nests. The windows are now properly wired, so that the larger birds, at any rate, can no longer get in.

Many thanks to the Rev. C. E. Story, Vicar.

MISSENDEN, LITTLE.

S. John Baptist.

1. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1881
(On Waist:) DONOR, JAMES HENRY BIRD

OF HAMMERSMITH
W+LL+AM FEOLH+OFF. B. H—V+CAR
W+LL+AM OLL+EE } CHURCHWARDENS
JOHN S+BLEY }
1881

(29)

2. + A V E ; M A R I A (30³/₈)

3. ✠ Sancta Margareta Ora pro
nobis + U (34)

4.  I&R  I&R
This Bell WAS MADE
1603 I U E (37)

5. ROBERT

FEELD

CHVRCH WARDEN

(On Waist :)

H U K 1663

(40½)

Treble : has flat canons ; it is an addition to the ring, not a recast. The Rev. Wm. folliott, B.A., was presented by Earl Howe in 1879. Mr. Wm. Olliff is a farmer, and Mr. Jn. Sibley, a miller. 2 : probably by John Rofford, in the fourteenth century (p. 10) ; there are similar bells at Ravenstone and Stoke Hamond ; the cross and lettering are the upper set on Plate IV. 3 : by John Danyell, in the fifteenth century (p. 33) ; the initial cross and capitals are on Plate XII. ; the small cross at the end is fig. 22 ; the shield, fig. 23. 4 : by Joseph Carter (p. 86) ; the lettering and shield are similar to those on the second, of the same date, at Great Missenden ; the royal monogram in the upper line (on the edge of the crown of the bell), is shown as fig. 41. Tenor : by Henry Knight II., and Ellis Knight, probably also the second of the name (p. 130) ; the latter's shield (between Henry's initials) is on Plate XXII.

Rehung by Warner in 1881 ; the canons of all the old bells more or less broken ; and the inscriptions much abraded. Chiming apparatus.

23 July, 1552, Myffenden pua, In þ̄mis iij bellē & a litle bell comēly called ye fayncte bell being w̄in ȳ steple ther

15 Aug: 1637. Miffenden pva : 5 Bells S^{ts} bell the steple Church and chañ wants pgeting

1714, 4 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

MOULSOE.

Assumption B. V. Mary.

1.

1640

(On Waist :)

IK (28½)

2.

TAYLOR OXFORD 1839

(29)

3. W: & J: TAYLOR BELL FOUNDERS OXFORD 1839. (32½)

4. W: & J: TAYLOR BELLFOUNDERS OXFORD &

LOUGHBORO 1839.

(35½)

Treble : by James Keene (p. 165), the figure 4 is of a heavier set than the other figures ; his initials are shown on Plate XXVI. ; turned ; canons all off. 2 : two extra straps through the crown. 3 : several canons broken.

22 July, 1637, Moulshoe 3 Bells . . . The Steeple the Church and Chanc : want pgeting

1714, 4 bells.

Lipscomb (IV., 255), Four bells, of which, three are modern ; the tenor inscribed, " Sit nomen Domini benedictum."

Death Knell: on tenor, an hour after death, unless the sun is down, in which case it is tolled early the following morning. At the commencement, the age is tolled on each of the four bells. One bell tolled at funerals.

On Sundays, bells usually chimed for (? Early Celebration of) Holy Communion, but rung on great Festivals. Chimed for Matins. Rung for Evensong. The Sermon Bell is rung on the tenor.

Ringling at midnight on New Year's Eve is an old custom. Formerly, the bells were always rung at 4 a.m. on S. Thomas's Day (December 21st).

Many thanks to the Rev. D. T. W. Elsdale, Rector.

MURSLEY.

S. Mary.

- 1, 4. JOHN: BRIANT. HERTFORD. FECIT. 1814. (28, 32)
2. ‡ J: BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1814 (29)
3. + JOHN BRIANT. HERTFORD. FECIT. 1814. + (31)
5. JOHN BRIANT. HERTFORD. FECIT. 1814. (34)
6. ‡ JOHN BRIANT. HERTFORD FECIT. 1814.
- ‡ T: DEVERELL. & J: BRADBURY. C.W. (38)

For Briant, see p. 106. 2: all canons broken off. The ornaments on 2, 3, and tenor, are Calvary crosses, and crosses *fitchées* (see p. 394).

23 July, 1552, Morryfley, If iij Gret bells in the Steple & a Sancte bell.

18 July, 1638, Mursly. 4 bell & a new S^{ts} Bell becaufe there hath beene one formerly, the butterices both of Church and Chan: all in decay the steeple allfo and want pgeting.

1714, 5 bells (saunce not mentioned. This continued to be the number until after 1750, at any rate.)

Lipscomb (III., 429), Six bells, re-cast in the last century. (Whether this is a fact, I do not know.)

In the Record office:—*

xij^{mo} die m̄cij 1555, Murfley {The leade ther (&c.)} Annsweryd. A^o xxvij^{uo} H vijjui.
 {The Belle ther — ij}

This refers to the Monastery of Mursley, *alias* S. Margaret's Priory, *alias* Muresley Priory, a Nunnery of the Order of S. Benet (Benedict), which was not in this parish at all, but in the hamlet of S. Margaret, some sixteen miles away, in the parish of Ivinghoe, but about five miles from that village, and three-quarters of a mile north of Nettleden. It was also commonly known as "The Priory of Ivinghoe."†

* See p. ix.

† See p. 435; also Lipscomb, III., 399.

NETTLEDEN.

S. Lawrence.

1. G C I7I4 (26 $\frac{1}{4}$)
2. RICHARD CHANDELER * I636 * □ (29)
3. * ⊕ Sancta Haterina Ora Bro Dobis (33 $\frac{3}{4}$)

Treble : by George Chandler in his 1 $\frac{2}{3}$ inches lettering (p. 234); canons nearly all broken. 2 : a most interesting bell by Richard Chandler I. (pp. 221 and 55), with the later lion's head stamp (fig. 33) from the Wokingham foundry, which here makes a solitary reappearance after an interval of about a century; having, as I believe, been first used by John Michell in the latter part of the fifteenth century, and last by an unknown founder on a bell at Harpsden, Oxon (foot-note, p. 93); the other stops are figs. 77 (twice), 78, and 79; iron baldrick; loose on stock. Tenor : probably by Thomas Harrys, of London, c. 1478 (p. 41); the *fleur-de-lis* and capital letters are the upper set on Plate XIV., the reversed capitals being here used the wrong way up; the groat stamp resembles one used by the Wokingham and Reading founders, but is probably not identical. Curious modern frame, probably local manufacture, on much the same principle as that at Loughton.

July, 1552, Chapell of faynt laurence in nettleden

Iī iij Belle in the steple

29 July, 1637. Nettleden. St Lawrence. 3 Bells. The butterices of the Church & Steeple in decay & the Steeple wants pargeting & pointing. . . . The windowes of the Steeple to be iron bard & glafed. Rubbifh upon the steeple & a tree growing there.

1714, 3 bells.

Lipscomb, III., 448, Three small bells, two of them very ancient; one dedicated to St. Lawrence, the other to St. Katharine, and the last having thereon an impression of one of King Edw. III.'s shillings.

I suppose this is an unacknowledged quotation from Browne Willis, and that the S. Lawrence bell was recast into the present treble, which was in existence nearly a century before Dr. Lipscomb was born.

Death Knell : tolled for half an hour, after which the age is tolled, irrespective of sex. Minute tolling at funerals.

Bells chimed for Sunday Services; the tenor alone for the last five minutes.





For Services in Advent and Lent, used as on Sundays. Ringing for weddings.

No old churchwardens' accounts.

Many thanks to the Rev. R. T. Ogden, Vicar.

NEWNTON LONGVILLE.

S. Faith.

1.  RECAST BY THE MUNIFICENCE OF GILBERT FLESHER ESQR WHO ADDS HONOUR TO THE HONOUR OF HIS ANCESTORS
 OF A:D 1066. THE NOBLEST MOTIVE IS THE PUBLIC GOOD. (30½)
2. W: & J: TAYLOR OXFORD FEC=T. 1824. (30¾)
3. W: & J: T: OXFORD. FOUNDERS. 1824. (33)
4.  1824  (34½)
5. JOHN BRIANT HARTFORD FECIT 1800. (37)
6. R. TAYLOR & SONS FOUNDERS OXFORD. MDCCCXXVI (40)

Treble: tuned away from lip; a canon broken off, hangs by the straps; extra straps much needed. Gilbert Flesher, Esq., was of Towcester, Northampts; he is mentioned by Lipscomb, under Stony Stratford (IV., 368), as being very active towards improving the roads of the neighbourhood, and as descended from "a follower of the Norman Duke;" also, that "at the solicitation of the inhabitants, who had long been celebrated for the harmonious ringing" of their five bells, he "consented to bear the expence of re-casting the old bells into six, which was accordingly effected by Taylor, Bell-founder at Oxford, for about 80*l.*; the new bell being gratefully inscribed with the name of the donor, and Mr. Flesher's high spirit of generosity placed on record," &c., &c. 3: a small crack by the canons. 4: the last two figures of the date are actually illegible, but are doubtless the same as the others by Taylor. On either side of the date is a winged animal, unknown to either nature or heraldry, with fore quarters resembling those of a cat, and hind quarters something like those of a seal. Some of the canons are broken, but still hang by the straps; extra straps through the crown. Bolt-like slider of wood and iron. 5: was the second of the old ring. The former tenor weighed sixteen cwt., according to Briant's List of Bells, printed in *Bells of Herts* (p. 66), but the bell was not by him. All have small round canons. Frame, probably eighteenth century; altered from five pits, to hold the present six smaller bells.

j^o Aug: 1637, Newton longvile 4. Bells. S^{ts} Bell & a clock. The steeple windowes want boarding . . . The bellfry dore in decay.

1714, 5 bells: sanctus not mentioned.

The Pancake Bell is still occasionally rung on Shrove Tuesday.

Death Knell: tolled on the day of death, if there is time before sunset; the mode varies according to age and sex.

On Sundays, the bells are rung at 9 a.m.; also after Morning Service, if there is to be a Sermon later in the day.

Extra ringing in Advent.

Thanks to the Rev. H. C. Blagden, Rector.

NEWPORT PAGNELL.

SS. Peter and Paul.

1. AT PROPER TIMES MY VOICE ILE RAISE AND SOUND TO MY
SUBSCRIBERS PRAISE <~~~~~>

T † LESTER FECIT J749 (30½)

2. THOMAS LESTER MADE ME J749

(*Incised on crown* :) WT 7 2 22 (32½)

3. JN. PURATT & JN^O SMITH CH. WARDENS OF LESTER &
PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1769 <~~~~~> (33½)

4. J749 THO^S LESTER ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ (*Incised* :) ROBERT
PERROTT PHILOMUSICUS AUDITU DIGNUS

(*Incised on crown* :) WT 8 3 J5 (35½)

5. J749 T : LESTER OF LONDON (38¼)

6. XX > THOMAS LESTER MADE ME J749 ☼ ✠ ✠ ☑
<XXX (40½)

7. THE REV^D CHARLES KIPLING VICAR WM WHITE
EDWD CLEAVER CHURCH WARDENS 1816 ~~~~~
~~~~~

T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT (45½)

8. NUNTIA SUM CCEPTÆ PERITURÆ PRÆVIA VITÆ. ET  
MODO TRANSACTÆ VOX EGO CERTA TUÆ. THE REV<sup>D</sup>  
CHARLES KIPLING VICAR.

WILLIAM WHITE EDWARD CLEAVER CHURCH WAR-  
DENS 1819 T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT. (50½)

S. A C 1671 (15½)

*Clock-Bell (Extra semitone, for chimes:*) CAST BY GILLETT & CO CROYDON  
(*On Waist* :)

THE EIGHT OLD BELLS THAT HANG AROUND  
INVITED ME TO ADD MY SOUND  
THE NATIONAL ANTHEM HELP TO PLAY  
WITH OTHER TUNES BOTH NIGHT & DAY  
AND THUS VICTORIAS JUBILEE  
REMEMBERED EVERMORE MAY BE

PRESENTED BY F. J. TAYLOR OF  
NEWPORT PAGNELL ON THE  
CELEBRATION OF THE JUBILEE  
OF QUEEN VICTORIA  
JUNE 20 1887.

(On Crown :)

980

(32¼)

Treble: much tuned from lip (p. 99). 2: large chip out of lip. 3: the R in PURATT is incised (p. 100). 4: the coins are alternately 1½ and 1 inch diameter (crowns and shillings of George I.?). first four, obverses, bust dexter, "GEORGIVS . . ."; the last crown, reverse, arms arranged crosswise. In Marshall's *History of Woodstock* (p. 147 *et seq.*), is the following:—

1550. Some land in Woodstock was in the possession of Robert Perrot, who died on Apl. 20<sup>th</sup> in this year. He was founder of the family of the Perrots of North Leigh, a branch of the family of that name in Pembrokeshire; and of him Wood (*Fast. Oxon.*, Vol. I., col. 656, Lond., 1691) has this notice: "1515, Robert Perrot, Bachelor of Music, and about this time organist of Magdalen College, supplicated in this faculty. He was the second son of George Perrot, of Haroldston, near Haverfordwest, of an ancient and knightly family, living there, was an eminent musician of his time, and did compose several Church Services and other matters, which have been long since antiquated," etc., etc. His effigy, in stained glass, was formerly in a window of S. Peter in the East, Oxford. His wife was Alice Gardiner, widow of Jn. Kete or Kele, ob. 1588.

The family appears occasionally in Lipscomb's *Bucks*, but I can find no connection between Robert and this town, beyond the possibility that "Jn<sup>o</sup> Puratt," who, as the third bell informs us, was churchwarden in 1769, perhaps wished to honour an ancestor. 5: large chip out of lip. 6: the five large stamps are shown on Plate XXI. (p. 99). 7 and Tenor (p. 105): the Rev. C. Kipling, LL.B., was instituted 14th February, 1810; he was also Vicar of Stony Stratford, to which he was presented the preceding year by the Crown. He resigned Newport Vicarage in 1822, on being presented to the Rectory of Colston, co. Leicester, but retained Stony Stratford until his death. Browne Willis (MSS. cix., 30), quotes the Latin elegiac as on the previous tenor (*i.e.*, probably by Lester in 1749), and (xxiv., 57) records its weight as 2,200 lbs., which is the same (he says) as the (former) fifth at Buckingham. The weight of the present tenor is given as 22 cwt. in Messrs. C. and G. Mears's List of 1852; and in Messrs. Mears and Stainbank's, of 1891, as 23 cwt. Saunce: by Anthony Chandler (p. 226); clapper hooked on, canons and crown-staple broken (Mr. Tyssen has a note that they were so in August, 1858); iron lever. Extra Clock-Bell: hung rigid, without gudgeons or clapper; square canons; much tuned from lip (p. 264). Large tower; bells hung "left-handed," presumably by, or in the time of, Lester.

Mr. Tyssen has noted the following heights for the bells: Treble, 24 inches; II. and III., each 27; IV., 28; V., 30; VI., 31; VII., 33; Tenor, 39; and Sanctus, 13 inches.



Richard Potter, of Newport Pagnell, in his will (at Somerset House) dated 10th May, 1520, left:—

Iſ to the bellys iiiij*℥*.

Lipscomb (IV. 256), records that in 1542, John Bryer, of Moulsoe, willed a Legacy towards making a steeple at Newport Church.

In *A History of Newport Pagnell*, by J. Staines (1842, p. 40), it is stated that the tower—

was designed for a Spire, and the scaffold holes yet remain round the tower, but the reformation coming on, the steeple was never completed. In 2 Edw<sup>d</sup> VI. [=1548-9] Mr. W<sup>m</sup> Stokes of "Mulsoe," left the sum of £20 for the purpose of being "ymployed towards the fynishynge of Newport Steple, and the amendinge of highwayes there."

11 Oct. 1637, Newport. some of the butterices in decay but especial those of the steeple & the steeple round about the upp pt of the stone worke.

Lipscomb (IV., 287) states that the steeple "contained five bells, which were (with some additional metal) recast about 1752,\* into a new peal of eight; the old tenor having weighed about 2,000 pounds; the new one, 2,200 lbs." This would mean the bell referred to by B. Willis, not the present one.

This was the fourth tower in the county which became possessed of a ring of eight bells (Denham was the first, High Wycombe the second, Bletchley the third).

Tickford Abbey, or Priory, was in this parish, and adjacent to the town on the east. In the Survey of the Priory, *temp.* Henry VIII., now in the Chapter House at Westminster,† is:—

It<sup>m</sup> a litle bell in the chapell eend.

The following appeared in the *Northampton Mercury* of August 17th, 1793:—‡

TO THE PRINTERS.—We cannot refrain from communicating to the public, with contempt, the erroneous paragraph which made its way into the *Buckinghamshire Herald*, on the 10th of August instant, under the signature of "A Constant Reader," dated Newport Pagnell, August 2nd, 1793, wherein it sets forth that a Mr. Botham, banker, in this town, on receiving the news of the surrender of Valenciennes to the British arms, ordered the bells to be rung, and gave a very handsome present for that purpose. We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, the ringers in and of the said parish, do declare to a man, we know no such person as Mr. Botham, and upon the strictest enquiry cannot learn who he is. And we also declare, and wish it to be made publicly known through the channel of your paper, that on every occasion that does honour to our King and Country, we come forward as Britons, without any solicitation whatever, and the gentlemen in our own parish, without the assistance of any other

\* Obviously from Browne Willis's List (MSS., xxiv., 2), quoted p. xiv.

† Lipscomb, IV., 294.

‡ Quoted in *Bell News*, Vol. X., No. 475, May 9th, 1891.

person or persons, cheerfully second our endeavours, and give us every gratification we wish for. Witness our hands this 8th of August, 1793.

Edward Simcox, Wm. Pearce, Charles Brandon, Thomas Harvey,  
Samuel Smith, George Nickleton, Joseph Joyce (the X of),  
William Joyce, B. Trulove.

The fifth bell is rung every week-day at 5 a.m. from 1st March to 1st November (temporarily discontinued in the summer of 1887), and at 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. every week-day throughout the year.

Death Knell: as soon as notice is given. One of the smaller bells used for children. Tellers:—3 × 3 = a male; 2 × 3 = a female.

On Sundays, a Sermon Bell is rung at 7 a.m. For the Services (11 a.m., 3 and 6 p.m.), the bells have been rung since about 1870, or shortly before; they were previously chimed. The saunce for the last five minutes.

Chimed for early Celebrations on week-days. Ringing at midnight on Christmas and New Year's Eves. Also ringing on Queen's and Prince of Wales's Birthdays. For Weddings when arranged. Single bell tolled quickly for Vestry Meetings. The saunce was formerly used as a Fire Bell.

Many thanks to the Rev. C. M. Ottley, Vicar.

### NEWTON BLOSSOMVILLE.

S. Nicholas.

1. THOMAS † RVSELL † MADE † 1719 † † ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○  
○ ○ ○ ○ (26)

2. I o H N † H o D S o N † o F † L A N D o N † M A D E † M E E  
† 1628 † (28)

3. REV<sup>D</sup> BEAUMONT DIXIE RECTOR: JOHN LAUGHTON TH<sup>O</sup> HAITT  
CHURC WARDENS (*sic*) 1769 ::

Treble: broken in two, the line of fracture being across nearly the middle of the crown, straight down through the shoulder, and then nearly horizontally across the waist; also a large piece out of sound-bow. Russell was of Wootton, Beds (p. 254); the coins are sixpences (over  $\frac{1}{2}$  of an inch diameter) of Anne, bust sinister; the stop somewhat resembles a small t sprouting into leaf; straps keyed. 2: the date is, no doubt, 1653, which is the earliest known date for John Hodson (p. 250); the letters are even more irregular in size than as printed; very large, wide-spread canons. Tenor: is, I have no doubt, by Joseph Eayre, of S. Neots, Hunts (p. 115); it has a peculiar, high, round shoulder; the canons moulded.

The joists of the floor of the bell-chamber are rotten, and some of the frame timbers also; altogether in a miserable state. Second and tenor have been rehung since the treble broke (probably about the 'sixties?) and are now again badly in need of restoration.

1714, Newington Blossomville, 3 bells.

Death Knell : rung (?) for half an hour, preceded by the tellers : each bell tolled three times = a male ; twice = a female. Afterwards the age is tolled in scores. A bell tolled for half an hour previous to a funeral.

On Sundays, a bell is rung at 8 a.m. Bells chimed for the Services ; one bell for the last five minutes.




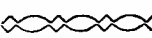
Ringing on Christmas and New Year's Eves, and at weddings.

There are supposed to have been six bells here at some time.

Many thanks to the Rev. W. Toovey, Rector.

### NORTH CRAWLEY.

S. Firmin.\*

- I. (33)  
 ✠ GOD SAVE OVR KING 1638 
2. WM NASH WM BREWER CH WARDENS 1813 T.  
 MEARS OF LONDON FECIT  (33½)
3. CHANDLER MA DE ME ✠ 1652   ✠ (35¾)
4.  T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1824.   
 (On Waist:) WM NASH } CHURCH WARDENS. (39)  
 WM BREWER }
5. NEWCOMBE OF LEICESTER MADE  
 ME . A ° 1613 (43½)

Treble : by James Keene (p. 165) ; the initial cross is No. 2, on Plate XXVI., where the lettering used for his initials is also shown ; crown-staple broken, and replaced by a very rough practitioner ; turned. 2 and 4 : both by the second Thomas Mears (p. 105) ; on the transom of the wheel of the latter is carved, W B J775. 3 : by Anthony Chandler (p. 224) ; the stop is fig. 77 ; the pattern which occurs twice after the date, is fig. 81, and the *fleur-de-lis* is fig. 78 ; turned. Tenor : probably cast at Bedford, by one of the sons of Edward Newcombe I. (p. 155) ; cracked in 1886 ; it had recently been quarter-turned, regardless of the fact that the clapper was now made to strike on the place previously worn thin by the clock-hammer ; but, before the inevitable consequence of this had time to develop, the clapper happened to break, and the bell being struck on this thin spot by the broken clapper held in hand, was at once split ; but the bell is so good, that there was still, at the time of my visit (June, 1887), much resonance in it ; extra straps

\* First Bishop of Amiens (France), martyred A.D. 287 ; festival, September 25th ; supposed to be the only Church with this dedication in England.

through crown. Left-handed, seventeenth century frame, entirely keyed, in a bad state of neglect, but the bells are rung twice every Sunday!

The bells are only divided from the sky by a few loose boards; there is no lead, or any permanent roof of any description on the tower!

In Browne Willis's time, "the elevation bell" (= the sanctus) existed in a niche, apparently in the chancel, though the position is not clear from Lipscomb's account (IV., 131).

1714, 5 bells (the sanctus not mentioned).

## OAKLEY.

S. Matthew.

- |           |              |                |             |             |
|-----------|--------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1.        | <b>HENRI</b> | <b>KNIGHT</b>  | <b>MADE</b> |             |
|           | <b>MEE</b>   | <b>I 6 2 2</b> | <b>◇</b>    | (30½)       |
| 2.        | <b>HENRI</b> | <b>KNIGHT</b>  | <b>MADE</b> |             |
|           | <b>MEE</b>   | <b>I 6 2 1</b> | <b>◇</b>    | (32)        |
| 3.        | <b>This</b>  | <b>Bell</b>    | <b>was</b>  | <b>made</b> |
|           | <b>1601</b>  | <b>✠</b>       |             | (35)        |
| <b>S.</b> |              | <b>1664</b>    |             | (12½)       |

Treble and 2 : by Henry Knight I. (pp. 124, 125); lettering  $\frac{13}{16}$  and  $\frac{9}{16}$  of an inch, respectively; 2 turned. 3 : by Joseph Carter (p. 86); the shield is a reproduction of fig. 55, with the addition of Carter's initials on either side of the lower bell; canons moulded, several broken; turned. Saunce: by Richard Keene (p. 168); original stock, keyed; wooden lever. The exterior sanctus-cot remains, but the bell is in the tower with the others. All rehung by White, of Appleton (Berks).

23 July, 1552, Okeley

Ifm iij great Bells

Ifm one Saincte Bell

Ifm one handbell

16 July, 1638 Oakely. 3 bells Sts Bell . . . the foundacon of the steeple is somewhat in decay.

1714, 3 bells (saunce not mentioned, but no doubt existing).

Death Knell tolled for forty minutes, directly after the death, if it occur between sunrise and sunset. The tenor used for men, the second for women, and the treble for children. Tellers, both before and after the knell: 3 × 3 = a male; 2 × 3 = a female. Tolling, with the tellers, is repeated immediately on conclusion of the funeral Service.

On Sundays, a bell is rung at 8 a.m., to give notice that Services will be held.

For the Services, the bells are chimed, then the Sermon Bell is rung, and the saunce used for the last two minutes. These are old usages.

Ringin on Easter Day (morning and evening); November 5th—recently revived (? about 1887), having been discontinued since 1843; Christmas Eve and Day; and New Year's Eve (at midnight). Also occasionally for weddings. One bell rung for Easter Vestry.

In the churchwardens' accounts there are various entries connected with the bells, of which the following are a summary :—

RINGING : From 1780 to 1827, the bells were rung for "the King's Crownation;" and until 1843, on 5th November (now revived); and at Christmas (still kept up). In 1826, June 1829, and 1832, the bells were rung "when the Archdeacon came." Payment of the Ringers ceased in 1853; up to that date the regular pay was 2s. 6d. for each occasion. In 1781 there is an entry, "Beer for ringers & others £1—9—10."

REPAIRS : 1805, small bell, 3s. 6d. Clappers and wheels of others, 29s. 1807, Iron work for bells, £4 ,, 10. 1810, 18s. 1811, 19s. 1812, Iron Work, 19s. 1815, 26s. 1817, £2 ,, 1 ,, 8. 1819, £3 ,, 15 ,, 4. 1820, £2 ,, 16. 1831, Two Pins for bells, 18s. 6d.

NEW ROPES : In 1784, by Gibson, 13s. In 1792, by Thomas Elliot, 15s. 3d. In 1809, the price was 36s.; in 1815, 36s. 6d.; in 1881, 30s. They were formerly supplied about every three years.

The following entry is in the Parish Vestry Book :—

The Bells having been taken down and  
thoroughly repaired were this day re-hung  
R Tetley } Churchwardens  
T Mortemore }  
Edwrd Boys, Vicar.  
March 1, 1876.

Many thanks to the Rev. W. Greenwood, Vicar.

## OLNEY.

## SS. Peter and Paul.

1. (Pl. XXXII., No. 1.) GOD (Do., secs. H, I.) SAVE (Do., secs. I, K.) THE (Do., sec. E.) KING (Do., secs. A-F, reverse way up.) HENRY (Do., sec. L.) BAGLEY (... Do., secs. G-L.) MADE (Do., sec. D.) MEE (... reverse way up.)  
1682 (Do., sec. B) ○

(On Sound-bow :) ⊕ ○ ○ ⊕ ⊕ ○ ○ ⊕ (35)

2. □ G O D □ S A N E □ T H E □  
1599 (35½)

3. THOMAS (*Fig. 72, 1/4 in.*) MARTAINE (*Do.,*) AND (*Do.,*) RICHARD (*Do.,*) PHE-  
ASANT (*Do.,*) CHVRCHWARDENS (*Do., 1 1/8 in.*) HENRY (*Do., 3/8 in.*) BAGLEY (*Do.,*)  
MADE (*Do., 1/2 in.*) MEE 1699 (*Do., 1/8 in.*) (40)

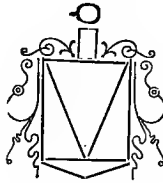
4. ROBERT ATTON OF BYCKINGHAM MADE ME 16-  
31 (44)

5. IOHN MARKES AND THOMAS OSBORNE CHVRCHWARDENS  
THOMAS RVSSSELL OF WOOTTON MADE MEE 1733 (47 1/4)

6. MATHEW PYE ARTHVR BVCK CHARCHWARDENS (*Do., 2 in.*)  
11 in. . . . .) 1682 (*Do., 1 fl. 9 3/4 in.*)

INSIGNIA THOME O IOHNSON  
(*Do., 2 1/2 in.*) ARM (*Do., 4 fl. 6 1/2 in.*)

(*Low on Waist:*)



(*On Sound-bow:*)



(52 1/4)

Treble: cast during the lifetime of the first Henry Bagley, and probably at Chacombe; the lettering is about .6 of an inch high, or slightly smaller than his usual small set (p. 216); the coins are shillings (1 1/4 inch diameter), Obv: (= O) bust dexter, CAROLVS II. DEI GRATIA; Rev: (= ⊕), arms? 2: probably cast at Bedford, by a Newcombe and a Watts in partnership (pp. 153, 154); the inscription seems to be formed from worn-out stamps, the two last figures of the date are very doubtful; the initial stamp is a tiny shield (about 3/4 inch diameter), charged with a bell, too indistinct to be worth attempting to figure; of the three stops between the words, the last is fig. 57, and the first is probably identical, while the second is fig. 58; the stamps are much trimmed and reduced from the perfect condition figured; some of the letters are shown as fig. 56; for D an inverted E is used, and both T's are inverted; turned; crown-staple broken. 3: probably by the Henry Bagley who was working, at the date this bell was cast, at Ecton (pp. 214 and 217); the lettering is about 5/8 of an inch high. Thomas Martaine's wife is buried in the north aisle of the church, one

of the pillars of the gallery resting on the stone; and a daughter of Richard Pheasant is buried in the south side of the churchyard. 4 (p. 207): samples of the lettering, and the pair of stops, are figured at the bottom of Plate XXXI.; the rose is No. 10 on the preceding plate; and the large shield is fig. 70; much tuned at lip; the canons were very high. 5 (p. 254): the coins are (?) shillings (1 inch diameter); the first six and last two are obverse, bust dexter, GEORGIVS D G M BR FR ET HIB REX FID; the seventh and eighth are reverse, arms arranged crosswise. Lipscomb, IV., 310, mentions a stone on the floor of the church, to Thomas Osborne, who died 4th June, 1763, aged 61; he may be assumed to have been the son, if not the churchwarden himself; much tuned from lip; had large canons. Tenor: by one of the Bagleys, at the same date as the treble, but evidently not by the first Henry, though cast in his lifetime; the lettering is  $1\frac{3}{16}$  inch high, of a rather more flourished style than the ordinary sets from this foundry. The canons were ornamented by chevron moulding; several were broken off, but still hung by the straps; the clapper bore the name J. Wykes. The large shield on the waist, surmounted by helm and crest, together measure  $4\frac{3}{8}$  inches in height; the mantling is adjusted so as to constitute an Achievement of Arms. The Arms are: a pile, charged with three bears' heads erased; in base a barrulet. Crest, a bear's head erased. The coins ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch diameter) are obverse, bust dexter, CAROLVS II. DEI GRATIA. Lipscomb, IV., 305, states that:—

In 1642, Sir Robert Gorges conveyed the Rectorial Tithes and the Advowson of the Vicarage to William Johnson, Esq. of Milton Briant, Co. Northampton; who, coming to reside here, re-built the greater part of the parsonage-house, which had been the ancient residence of the Rectors, and died in 1669,\* aged eighty years.

He was the father of Thomas Johnson, Esq., the donor of the tenor, who died 1696. The ancient house above mentioned, has been recently pulled down; it stood between the east end of the church and the mill which still exists. There is a stone in the chancel wall, to the memory of Thomas's daughter Catherine, who died 1680, in her tenth year. A pedigree of the family is given in Dr. J. J. Howard's *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica*, N.S., p. 414.† Arms granted 1632.

31 Aug. 1552, Inp<sup>r</sup>mis in the steple. v. bells And one fanctz bell  
1714, 6 bells.

Hung left-handed; apparently rehung in 1829 in the old cages, for under that date there is, among the parish accounts, an "Estimate . . . To rehang the Bells on a new principle with new stocks & wheels, so as that changes may be rung on them with ease." Rehung in (?) 1893 by Mr. Blackbourn, of Salisbury, who,

\* His memorial stone says, "obiit quinto die 7<sup>bri</sup> Anno Dom. 1667, æt. suæ 80."

† *Ex inform.* H. Gough, Esq.

excellent bellhanger though he is, has cruelly mutilated this fine ring, by breaking off all the canons.

Browne Willis (MSS. xxxviii., 2), gives the weight of the tenor as "2,600."

Lipscomb (IV., 308) says :—

. . . six large tuneable bells, of which the tenor weighs 28 cwt. The tenor, as well as the rest, were re-cast since 1611, when there were only four bells. On the great bell, before it was re-cast, was inscribed, *Ora pro nobis virgo Maria.*

(More probably this was, + *Sancta Maria Ora Pro Nobis.*)

The third is rung daily at 1 p.m., as "Dinner Bell."

The Gleaning Bell was rung during harvest for some thirty or forty years, at 7, a.m. and p.m., the third bell being probably the one used. This practice ceased about 1885, or 1886.

The Pancake Bell is rung at noon on Shrove Tuesday; the second and fourth are used, to imitate the sound "Pan-cake."

Death Knell: tenor used for adults, the fifth for children under fourteen. Tellers: three blows on each bell = a male; two on each = a female. The age of the deceased is tolled in scores; that is, a pause is made at the end of each score completed; and, if the odd number over, exceed ten, another pause is made at the completion of the last ten (*e.g.*, 73 = 20, 20, 20, 10, 3).

On Sundays, the second and third are rung at 8 a.m. Half an hour before the Morning Service the treble is chimed for a few seconds, and the second and third before the Afternoon and Evening Services; after which all the bells are chimed for fifteen minutes; then, while chiming is continued on the other bells, the tenor is raised as Sermon Bell, and rung with the others for ten minutes; for the last five minutes the treble is rung alone.

Ringings at Christmas, Easter, and Whitsuntide; also at Harvest Thanksgiving, Choral Festival, and Queen's Birthday; midnight ringing on New Year's Eve. Also ringing after weddings, if allowed, and paid for.

Many thanks to the Rev. J. P. Langley, Vicar.

	<i>OVING.</i>		All Saints.
1. +	16	2	IK (30 $\frac{3}{4}$ )
2. + GOD ✻		SAVE	✻ OVR
✻ KING	✻ 1627	IK	(33 $\frac{3}{4}$ )
3. R	A		1617 (34 $\frac{1}{2}$ )
S.		1854	(15)

Treble and 2: by James Keene (p. 163), his initials are in the lettering shown on Plate XXVI., where the initial cross on both bells is No. 4, and the *fleur-de-lis*, No.



6. Tenor : by Robert Atton, in the large lettering shown on Plate XXXI. Saunce : evidently by C. and G. Mears (p. 116).

All rehung by Warner in June, 1887, commemorating the Queen's Jubilee ; previously, the frame and hangings were seventeenth century, except the stocks of the second and tenor, and some of the straps ; most of the straps and all three wheels, were keyed. 2 : was turned, and its crown-staple broken. All three had iron baldricks. The saunce is a recast ; hung by the old nailed straps ; wooden lever.

23 July, 1552, Ovyngc. If in the Steple iij Great bells & a Santis bele.  
1714, 3 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

Death Knell : tolled an hour after the death ; tenor used for all over sixteen years ; second, for from eight to sixteen years ; treble, for under eight years.

On Sundays, before Morning Service, the bells are chimed for fifteen minutes ; the tenor is then rung for ten minutes, and the saunce used for the last five minutes. During the first quarter of an hour preceding the Afternoon or Evening Service, the bells are sometimes rung instead of chimed.

Ringling on 5th November and Harvest Festival. The New Year was rung in, for the first time, so far as known, in 1888-9. Ringling for weddings when desired.

Many thanks to the Rev. Isaac Hill, Rector.

### PADBURY.

[Nativity of]\* B. V. Mary.

- |    |                   |          |       |      |                                                                   |
|----|-------------------|----------|-------|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. | JOHN BRIANT       | HERTFORD | FECIT | 1806 |                                                                   |
|    | *    †   *   *    | *   †    |       |      | (29)                                                              |
| 2. | JOHN BRIANT       | HERTFORD | FECIT |      |                                                                   |
|    | *   †   *   †   * | †        |       |      | (30)                                                              |
| 3. | JOHN BRIANT       | HERTFORD | FECIT | 1806 |                                                                   |
|    | †                 | *   †    |       |      | (31 $\frac{3}{4}$ )                                               |
| 4. | JOHN BRIANT       | HERTFORD | FECIT | 1806 | †                                                                 |
|    | *   †   *   †   * | †   *    | †   * |      | (33)                                                              |
| 5. | JOHN BRIANT       | HERTFORD | FECIT | 1806 | *   †                                                             |
|    | *   *   *   †   * | †   *    | *   † |      | (35)                                                              |
| 6. | JOHN BRIANT       | HERTFORD | FECIT | 1806 | THE REVD WM:<br>EYRE VICAR: T: FLOWERS: &: WM: HORWOOD: C WARDENS |
|    | *   †   *         |          |       |      | (39)                                                              |

For John Briant, see p. 106. The ornaments are a double triangle, or six-point

\* Browne Willis (*Hist. Buck. Hund.*).

star, and Calvary cross. Tenor: the Rev. William Eyre, M.A., of Lincoln College, Oxon, was instituted 22nd February, 1786; he was also Minister of Biddlesden; died at Buckingham, 18th March, 1830, æt. 76. He was preceded by the Rev. James Eyre, and succeeded by the Rev. William Thomas Eyre; presumably his father and son, respectively. In the List of the Bells cast by Briant, published in *Bells of Herts*, p. 65, the weight of this tenor is given as 10 cwt.

All rehung by White, of Besselsleigh (now of Appleton), Berks, at the time of the restoration of the church, which was reopened September 20th, 1882. Kept in good ringing order.

5 May, 1553, paddbury . . . they (the feyd churchw̄dens) have Allfo re<sup>e</sup>yved iiij great bells & one faunfe bell.

10 July, 1637, 4 Bells. St<sup>s</sup> Bell . . . the Steeple p̄geting. . . .

1714, 5 bells.

1755, six Bells cast out of five in the Year 1716, which five Bells were cast out of four, about the Year 1680, and being very untuneable were new-run again, and made six.

These six bells apparently continued for ninety years, until they were once again recast, into the present bells, at a loss of weight (see below) of 1 cwt. 1 qr. The ring of six, cast in or about 1716, was by one of the Bagleys, according to the Catalogue published by H. Bagley of Witney, in 1732.

The Pancake Bell used to be rung on Shrove Tuesday, within the memory of the present clerk; the second or third was rung about noon, after which boys were allowed to jangle the bells anyhow.

Death Knell: tolled for about half an hour, on the tenor, about an hour after the death, or as soon as the clerk is informed; except after sunset, in which case it is tolled early next morning; after the tolling, the same bell, if an adult—or the fourth, if a child—is *rung* for about five minutes; then the tellers are chimed on the treble, *viz.*,  $3 \times 3 =$  a male;  $3 \times 2 =$  a female.

On Sundays, the second bell is rung at 8 a.m., and formerly (within the memory of the present clerk) at 9 also. For Services, treble and second are chimed for a few minutes, followed by the ringing of the tenor, if there is to be a sermon; then some, or all, of the bells are chimed until just before the commencement of the Service, when the treble is rung. The chiming of treble and second, and the ringing of the treble, have been introduced in recent years (before 1876).

On Christmas and New Year's Eves, the bells are rung for about an hour during the evening, and again at midnight. Before the midnight ringing, a special form of prayer (different on the two Eves) is monotoned by the Vicar on A♯, the keynote of the bells. Ringing before Service on Christmas Day, and latterly (since the present Vicar came) on Easter Day; also when possible, on Ascension Day and Whitsun Day. On Good Friday there has latterly been a single bell chimed, or the tenor tolled; in 1889, the third, fourth, and fifth bells (D♯, C, and B♯, the end of the minor scale descending) were slowly chimed.





Knight's bell up to London, and the present bell back from Swain's Foundry, belonged to a very old family in this parish, formerly considerable landowners. Lipscomb (III., 292) mentions a slab (which still exists) in the pavement of the south aisle, recording, "Jonathan Grove, of this Parish, who died Nov<sup>r</sup>. the 9<sup>th</sup> 1731, aged 87 years and 7 months." The present representative of the family is Thomas B. Grove, Esq., of Waterstock, in this parish. 4 : was unfortunately split in 1892 ; the clapper broke in ringing, and the severed portion, flying out, jammed between the cage-timbers and the revolving bell, with the result of breaking the latter ; a new bell from the Whitechapel Foundry was substituted in 1894, thanks to the care of Mr. Grove, who is churchwarden.

In the Register Book of Births is the following entry :—

The five bells in Penn Church were cast by Samuel Knight of Reading in Berkshire on the 29<sup>th</sup> Day of December, in the year 1702 : They were Hung up the 5<sup>th</sup> of January following, John Bennet being then Vicar and Thomas Winter and William Wingrove Churchwardens.\*

They are hung left-handed, and "on the cross," or diagonally to the walls of the tower ; I fancy I recognise the work of the brothers Williams, of King's Sutton, near Banbury. See pp. 320, 504, &c.

On a board in the ringing chamber, probably early eighteenth century, is painted :

My friends, if here you please *to* ring  
 Keep time, and order, for the thing  
 Its to be brief, without demurs  
 Pull *off* your hats, your belts, & fpurs  
 Take then a bell, ring while you can  
 Silence is best, for every man  
 For if you fwear, or do amiſ  
 Or turn a bell, the rule is this  
 For each offence, we do insist  
 You shall pay sixpence, or be dismiss<sup>d</sup>  
 God bless the King, in every thin<sup>g</sup>,  
 The realms and all who here shall ring.

The last line was broken off the board and lost ; but Mr. Grove has recently caused it to be restored.

The Rev. J. Grainger, Vicar, kindly wrote :—

"The bells are rung in the usual village fashion of the last 30 years for the 2 Sunday services, and funerals. We very seldom have a Marriage of any consequence, so as to

\* Also mentioned in the *Records of Bucks*, V., 276 (1883), in a paper on Penn Church, by the Rev. J. Grainger, Vicar.

require a peal. The old ringers have died out; and the young men do not practice as they ought. They generally, however, ring on Christmas Eve, and at midnight of the last day of the year."

18 July, 1552, Penne, iij<sup>or</sup> bells and o faunce bell.

(It is a question whether this "o" means "one" or "none"; I think the former, and that the letter "n" [= "on"] is omitted.)

16 Aug: 1637, Pen 3. Bells St<sup>s</sup> Bell . . . The butterices & corners of the steeple in decay & the steeple Church and Chañ wants pgeting

1714. 5 bells (the sanctus was probably broken up with the other bells in 1702).

*PENN STREET.*

Holy Trinity.

Three bells by C. and G. Mears, cotemporary with the church, which was opened in May, 1849. Tenor called 10 cwt. in Messrs. Mears and Stainbank's List. There is no means of access to the bells,\* except by procuring (from some little distance) *three* ladders—one long and two short, wherewith to get up from the outside, which, for three modern bells, maker and (approximate) date known, was not worth the time and trouble.

Death Knell: "soon after the death." Tenor used for an aged person, second for a young person, and treble for an infant.


On Sundays, one bell for five minutes at 8 a.m. For the Services, bells chimed for twenty minutes, followed by a single bell for the last ten minutes.

Ringin' (?) from 6 to 7 a.m., on New Year's Day, Easter Day, Ascension Day, and Christmas Day.

Thanks to the Rev. J. J. Lindeman, Vicar.

*PITCHCOT.*

S. Giles.

1. CHANDLER MADE ME 1686 (24)
  2.  (27½)
  3. G C I 7 I 7 (29½)
- S. (*Blank*) (10½)

Treble: by "the firm," in Richard Chandler III.'s 1.2 inch lettering (p. 231); inner straps nailed, the outer keyed. 2: a very interesting bell, being probably the joint production of the partners, Robert Newcombe III. and Bartholomew Atton (p. 197); the lettering is shown on Plates XXVIII. and XXIX., the large cross is

\* The tower was built with a spiral staircase, but was so unsuccessfully constructed, that it was found necessary to build up the entire space with a solid mass of brickwork.



8 March, 1555, The Late howffe of affherydge. The Leade (&c).  
 The belle — vj whiche were fold fr  
 iij<sup>xx</sup> ij *l.* to John a Marlowe of whiche some  
 the kynge was annweryd as pceed<sup>e</sup> of  
 the faid some of cccvij<sup>ii</sup> xij<sup>j</sup>/charged in  
 the Accompte of Doyle aforfaid as  
 apperyth by the accompt of the good<sup>e</sup> Aforfaid

In the *History of the College of Ashridge*, by the Ven. Archdeacon Todd (1823), p. 65, is an account of furniture at the time of some alterations to the old Mansion, c. 1606, or 1607\* ; among the items, is :—

A Hand bell for the Chapell, 8s.

*PRESTON BISSETT-CUM-COWLEY.* S. John Baptist.

*Single.* 1788 (27)

S. ∴ R : CH+LTEN . T : ARCHER . C : WARDENS.  
 E : HEM+NS B+SS+TER FEC+T J J 28. ∴ ∴ ∴ (12)

The “big” bell is evidently by W. and T. Mears (p. 104). Saunce : by Edward Hemins, of Bicester, Oxon (p. 257) ; canons broken.

There is a tiny sanctus-cot on the east gable of the nave, and the present bell was perhaps cast to fit it ; but it has hung with its larger companion, in the tower, as long as anyone now living can recollect. The cot is mentioned in *Records of Bucks*, IV., p. 269 :—“this consists of a pointed arch, cut out of a single block of stone.” Its date is probably about 1350.

5 May, 1553, Preston. ij Great belle on fantis bell hanginge in the steple ore els where in the faid church.

7 July, 1637, Preston 3 Bells. 3 bells they have.  
 1714, 2 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

It is interesting that the tradition of the former existence of three bells here, survives ; it being said that in former times when there was no resident rector, the bells were not rung for a year and a day, and an adjoining parish took away one of them.

Death Knell : tolled as soon as possible after the death ; apparently no tellers. Tolling for half an hour before funerals.

On Sundays, the large bell is rung at 9 a.m., and (?) chimed half an hour before Morning and Evening Services. The saunce for the last ten minutes.

Ringing (?) on Christmas and New Year’s Eves ; and for weddings when desired. No old churchwardens’ accounts.

Many thanks to the Rev. C. Bolden, Rector.

\* Quoted by Lipscomb, III., 443.



*PRESTWOOD.*

Holy Trinity.

Modern parish ; church consecrated 1849. One bell.

*QUAINTON.* B. V. Mary,\* *or* Exaltation of the Holy Cross,  
*or* Holy Cross and the Blessed Virgin.

1. ◇ **THINKE NO COST TO**  
**MVCH H ∞ K 1621** (34)
2. ◇ **THAT YOY BESTOW OF**  
**ALL H ∞ K 1621** (35½)
3. ◇ **TO BRINGE TO PAZ**  
**H ∞ K 1621** (39½)
4. ◇ **SO ∞ GOOD ∞ A ∞**  
**THING H ∞ K 1621** (43)
5. (*Incised:*) I EEL<sup>ES</sup> & W TOM<sup>ES</sup> CH WARD<sup>IES</sup> J745 T LES-  
TER OF LONDON MADE ME (47½)
- S. X t e (16)

The upper four are by Henry Knight I. (p. 125); the S-like scroll is shown on Plate XXII.; it was perhaps cut out of tin or zinc, or some such thin substance, and was used *reversed* on the treble and fourth. The inscriptions seem to be intended as an encouragement to the parishioners not to grudge the expense of recasting. 5: has much larger canons than Knight's bells; the inscription-band looks as if the original inscription had been cut off, and this one incised in its place. The first four clappers are cased in wood, which means the old clappers with iron baldricks; the straps of all are keyed, and all have old stocks and wheels. The (left-handed) frame is probably older than the existing ring, and was evidently altered when the ring was augmented from four to five in 1621. Saunce: I have figured the ornament on this bell (fig. 83), although the impression is so imperfect; as it is probably a unique example by Thomas Eldridge of Wokingham, the first bellfounder of his family; date between shortly before 1565, and 1592 (p. 242); straps nailed; gudgeons half-way up stock; half-wheel; iron baldrick.

23 July, 1552, Quaynton. iiij great bells. oon Sanctus bell

[Goode stollen fithe the making of th inventory . . . . . ij hand bells.]†

At the time of the death of Henry Knight I., in January, 1622-3, "Qaynton in the County of Buck" owed him £19 12s. (see p. 125)

\* Lipscomb, I., 424, from Ecton's *Thesaurus*.

† Erased.

July, 1637, 5 Bells and a S<sup>s</sup> Bell . . . No ringing on the kings holy daies.\*  
 1714, 5 bells (sanctus not mentioned, but no doubt existing).

The Pancake Bell was formerly rung at 11 a.m. on Shrove Tuesday, the fourth bell being used.

Death Knell: about an hour after death (? by day-time). Tenor for adults; one of the first four bells for children under fifteen. Tellers, both before and after: 3 strokes = a male; 2 = a female.

On Sundays, the treble is rung at 7.30, and the second bell at 8 a.m.; chiming for Services, but ringing on the great Festivals. The saunce used for last five minutes. These are ancient usages.

Ringng twice a week during Advent; midnight ringing on Christmas and New Year's Eves. Ringng at daybreak on Easter Day and S. Thomas's Day (p. 280). Ringng for weddings when requested. No bell used for Vestry Meetings.

Many thanks to the Rev. P. L. Cautley, Rector.

*QUARRENDON.*

(S. Peter.)

The chapel was desecrated in the eighteenth century, and is now merely a ruin. The parish is attached for ecclesiastical purposes to Bierton.

14 July, 1638, Quarlington 2 bells. . . . The churchyard hath no mounds and all other matters concerning the church are deficient.

These two bells are stated in the same visitation to have been brought from Fleet Marston (*quod vide*).

1714, Quarendon no Bells.

They perhaps disappeared at different times, as Lipscomb (II. 407, footnote) reports "the bell" to have been carried to Bierton.

*RADCLIVE.*

S. John the Evangelist.

1. (*Blank*) (27 $\frac{3}{4}$ )

2.  Sancte □ George □ ora ○

 V (30 $\frac{1}{2}$ )

\* The 5th November seems to have been the only King's Holy Day universally observed at this date; the Coronation Day, which was, perhaps, the other Holy Day here referred to, was apparently only observed in a few parishes; though in Elizabeth's reign, the anniversary of the accession, and in James's, that of the coronation, were certainly observed. The 29th May, included on p. 279, had, of course, no special event connected with it at this date, and was not observed until 1660.





The Pancake Bell was rung here until about 1857, and the Gleaning Bell until about 1854.

Death Knell: tolled as soon as possible, for half an hour. Tellers: 3 strokes = a man; 2 = a woman; 1 = a child. A bell tolled for half an hour before a funeral.

On Sundays, ringing in the "early morning"; and "ringing and tolling" for Services.

Ringling in the evenings during Advent; also ringing on Christmas and New Year's Eves; and after weddings by consent of Vicar. A bell rung for Vestry Meetings, and in cases of fire.

Many thanks to the Rev. H. Allan, Vicar.

*RISBOROUGH, MONKS'.*

S. Dunstan.

1.	WARNER ET FILII EJUS ME RECERUNT AMICI ME DEDERUNT A. D. 1885 LAUDATE DOMINUM IN SONO CAMPANÆ	(30½)
2.	HOPE IN GOD	£637 (31½)
3.	FEARE GOD	£636 (33¼)
4.	HONOR GOD	£637 (36)
5.	HONAR GOD	£636 (39)
6.	PRAYES YE LORD £636	THE (43½)

Treble: small, flat canons. The five lower bells are by Ellis Knight (p. 127); turned, and holes bored in their crowns for extra straps. 2: much tuned from lip. 4: a rather large chip out of lip. 5: piece out of lip; two rectangular holes through crown, where extra straps passed through, previous to quarter-turning, which operation has involved the boring of more holes. Tenor: tuned afresh on addition of the new treble. All rehung by Warners, when they added the treble.

23 July, 1552, monken Resborowe (*also* Rysebooro moacoř)

In pimis iij belle hangiage in the steeple If j handbell  
1714, 5 bells.

Death Knell: by order of the Rector, as soon as information of the death is brought to him, usually after an interval of some hours; no tellers.

On Sundays, chimed or rung for Services. Early ringing on the great Festivals. Wedding ringing when desired.

No old churchwardens' accounts.

Thanks to the Rev. Canon Evetts, Rector.

Owlswick, a hamlet in this parish, had formerly a Chapel (dedicated to St. Peter), which was desecrated and destroyed in the civil war; some indications only of the site now remain, contiguous to the Manor-House.\*

There is now a modern School Chapel there.

26 July, 1552 Hulfwyck (*or* ulswyke) It in the Steple ij bells

*RISBOROUGH, PRINCE'S.*

S. Mary.

*Single.*

(34½)

CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1861,

(*On Waist:*)

PRESENTED BY SARAH NORRIS  
TO THE PARISH CHURCH OF RISBOROUGH  
IN MEMORY OF HER HUSBAND  
JOHN LOVEGROVE NORRIS ESQ<sup>R</sup>  
WHO DIED A D 1838.



PATENT

————— \* —————  
THE REV<sup>D</sup> CHAS E GREY MINISTER  
ABEL ROGERS }  
CHARLES BROWN } CHURCH WARDENS

S.

1805

(14½)

The "big" bell has flat canons; it must soon crack if not looked to, owing to the straps having been allowed to slacken unevenly, so that the lip binds hard against the frame on one side, and a very heavy clock-hammer strikes on it. Saunce: no doubt by Thomas Mears and Son. It is completely hidden behind the clock, and my attention was only called to its existence, by noticing the rope.

23 July, 1552, prynce Ryfborowe

Iin . v . great Belle

17 July, 1637, Rifborow prin: 5. Bells. S<sup>ts</sup> Bell. a clock . . . the top of y<sup>e</sup> Steeple leading up to y<sup>e</sup> leads in decay.

1714 (and until 1752 or thereabouts at any rate), 5 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

Lipscomb, II., 436:—

. . . a square tower (containing six bells, re-cast out of the former peal), and surmounted by an octagon spire of stone, 100 feet in height, . . . The old spire fell down in 1803, and considerably damaged the fabric of the Church, as well as destroyed the bells.

I suspect the six bells here mentioned, are on the authority of Browne Willis, and that they were the bells destroyed in 1803. The present spire is of wood.

*S. LEONARD'S.*

*Single.*

CHANDLER MADE ME 1702

(23)

\* Lipscomb, II., 425.

There are only three other bells in the county on which this set of lettering and figures ( $\frac{1\frac{5}{8}$  inch high) are used ; all by "the firm," see p. 233. Iron baldrick ; iron lever instead of wheel ; the central straps keyed, the others nailed. The timbers of the small turret come down to the floor of the nave, as at Hoggeston and Saunderton.

In 1714, one bell.

Death Knell : as soon as the sexton has the opportunity, but if after 6 p.m., not tolled until the next day.

Tolling at funerals.

On Sundays, chimed for five minutes, half an hour before the Services, and again during the last ten minutes.

There is a tradition that there was a bellfoundry in the parish, and it is said that the spot is well known, and that ashes can still be found there. The bell of this church is supposed to have been cast there.

No churchwardens' accounts.

Many thanks to the Rev. H. G. Watson, Vicar.

It seems likely that one of the Chandler firm came over from Drayton Parslow, about fifteen miles distant, and cast (more probably recast) this bell on the spot ; it is very improbable that a bellfoundry was ever established here.

This is an ancient chapelry ; formed into a parish distinct from Aston Clinton, in 1860.

### SAUNDERTON.

S. Mary.

1.  $\text{H}^{\dagger} : \infty : \infty : \text{ALEXANDER} : \text{RIGBY} : \text{MADE} : \text{ME} : \text{J}699$   
 $:\infty:\infty:$

2.  $\text{H}^{\dagger} : \text{ALEX} : \text{RIGBY} : \text{MADE} : \text{ME} : \text{J}699 : \text{JOHN} : \text{DAVIES} : \text{M} : \text{A} : \text{RECTOR}$

3.  $\text{ALEX} : \text{RIGBY} : \text{MADE} : \text{ME} : \text{J}699 : \text{HENARY} : \text{NEWELL} : \& : \text{JOSEPH} : \text{FRANSIS} : \text{C} : \text{W} :$  (29 $\frac{1}{8}$ )

A pretty and resonant little maiden ring (p. 247). Large, roughly-made wheels, with the garter-hole at the top ; no stays, sliders, or ground-trucks. Hung in a small boarded turret, in which there would be no room for another bell ; apparently a bell-turret was not part of the original church (Decorated), as it is supported by oak beams inside the nave walls, springing from the floor, as at S. Leonard's. The original clappers, with wooden copses substituted for baldricks, fastened to the clappers by long wooden pins or trenails. The balls are very small, and the flights very long—treble 5 $\frac{1}{8}$  inches, and second 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches. In 1887, the church was pulled down and rebuilt on the old plan. The bells were rehung in the old frame, which was repaired, as it was broken in the general demolition.

July, 1552 (the inventory is fragmentary, the actual list gone).

17 July, 1637, 2 Bells.

1714, 3 bells.

Death Knell: only between 8 a.m. and noon; but, within those limits, as soon after the death as possible. Tenor used for adults, one of the smaller bells for children.

On Sundays, the bells are chimed for Service; single bell for last five minutes. These are old uses.

Chiming before Christmas, and on Christmas and New Year's Days. Also after weddings. A single bell for Vestry Meetings.

Many thanks to the Rev. O. J. Grace, Rector, who found no trace in the churchwardens' accounts for nearly a hundred years, of any repairs to the bells, and only the following item referring to them:—

May 8<sup>th</sup> 1839. Paid Ringers for ringing at Parochial Visitation, 4s.

The old parish books were burned a few years ago.

















### SEER GREEN.

Holy Trinity.

Modern parish (formerly a chapelry of Farnham Royal). Church built 1847. One bell.

### SHABBINGTON.

S. Mary Magdalen.

1. (23 $\frac{3}{4}$ )  
MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON, 1881.
2. PROSPERITY TO THIS PLACE  A Æ R 1718 (25 $\frac{3}{4}$ )  

3. PEACE & GOOD NEIGHBOVRHOOD    1718 (26 $\frac{1}{2}$ )  
Æ A Æ R Æ  
4. ABR · RVDHALL OF GLOVCESTER BELLFOVN- (27)  
DER 1718   
5. WILLIAM ADAMS & EDWARD BURNARD CH:  
WARDENS 1718  (29 $\frac{1}{4}$ )
6. THE REVEREND WILLIAM MUSSON VICAR  (32 $\frac{1}{2}$ )  
 A Æ R 1718   



S.

1794

(11)

Treble: by R. Stainbank (p. 117). The lower five are by one of the two Abraham Rudhalls (p. 110). 2: pattern, fig. 46, twice, and the second half again repeated; the bell-stamp on 2, 3, and tenor, is fig. 49. 3: pattern, fig. 48, for  $4\frac{1}{8}$  inches, and then for  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches. 4: ditto, for  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches. 5: ditto, for  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inch. Tenor: fig. 46, reverse way up, twice; and the first half, still the reverse way up, again repeated. Canons of the two lower bells moulded; lettering as usual on Abraham Rudhall bells, except that the larger set used on the tenor at Bletchley and Chicheley, is not used here. Saunce: no doubt by Thomas Mears I. Rehung in left-handed frame, by F. White, of Appleton (Berks), who turned the lower five. Most of the bells and wheels are quite loose on the stocks.

23 July, 1552, Shobyndon iij grett bells j factus bell j hand bell  
1714, 5 bells.

On a board in the ringing-chamber (floor level):—

THIS PEAL OF FIVE BELLS  
WAS NEW IN THE YEAR MDCCXXVII  
REV<sup>D</sup> WILLIAM MUSSON VICAR  
EDWARD BURNARD SEN<sup>R</sup> } Church Wardens.  
EDWARD BURNARD JUN<sup>R</sup> }

Lipscomb, I., 453, gives the inscriptions on the lower five bells (the entire ring until 1881); but as usual, inaccurately.

On Sundays, a bell is rung at 8 a.m. For Service, bells chimed, followed by the ringing of the tenor: saunce for last few minutes.

Thanks to the Rev. A. Bros, Curate in charge.

### SHALSTON.

S. Edward the Confessor.

1. **G. Mears. and Co., Founders, London, 1862.**

(On Waist:) **Alfred.** (28 $\frac{1}{2}$ )

2. (On Shoulder: ditto)

(On Waist:) **Maurice.** (29 $\frac{1}{2}$ )







3. **G. Mears and Co. Founders London 1862.**

(On Waist:) **Purefoy** (32)

4. (On Shoulder: ditto)

(On Waist.) **Robert** (33 $\frac{1}{2}$ )



5.   **Missi**  **De**  **Celis**  **Abeo**  
 **Nomen**  **Amen**  **Gabrelis** † ⊕ (47½)  
 S. (*Blank*) (13½)

Treble and 2 : probably cast at Bedford, by one (or all) of the sons of Edward Newcombe I. (p. 156) ; the treble has iron baldrick and wooden splints ; 2, tuned from lip. 3 (p. 198) : the initial cross is on Plate XXVIII., and the capitals on that and the following plate ; the other ornaments are Nos. 3, 4, and 1, on Plate XXX., with the ornate cross on Plate XXIX. between the two impressions of No. 4 ; on the next line, the ornaments are No. 4 on Plate XXX., on either side of fig. 66 ; the letters, T. B., are perhaps the initials of a churchwarden—they are not those of either patron or rector. The coins are impressions of sixpences. Sad to relate, there are two large pieces out of the lip of this bell, one supposed to have been broken out in ringing, and the other to have been broken out purposely, to balance the defect ; turned some years ago, and ignorantly rehung. 4 (p. 202) : the inscription is in B. Atton's "modified" lettering—a set of the same size as that used on the third bell, but much plainer (Plate XXXI.) ; the ornaments are : No. 11 on Plate XXX. ; then, between christian name and surname, No. 7 on that Plate ; fig. 67 ; Nos. 8 and 9 on Plate XXX. ; after the surname, No. 7 twice, the first time the reverse way up ; after MADE, Nos. 8 and 9 again ; and after ME, No. 11 again ; all on the same Plate. Tenor : this grand bell is probably by Robert Burford (p. 23) ; the large and handsome capitals, and the two crosses, are on Plate X. ; the smalls are a thick set,  $1\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{8}$  inch high, which does not occur elsewhere in the county ; the coin, probably a groat, is about 1.2 inch diameter ; this bell also, was turned some years ago, and very ignorantly rehung ; it took two men to ring it up or down, as it (like the third) was rehung far out from the stock. Ringing was attempted on the occasion of the Queen's Jubilee, but the would-be ringers were obliged to give up the attempt. The saunce is most likely seventeenth century ; crown-staple broken ; iron baldrick. The massive frame is probably seventeenth century, and was in a much-neglected condition ; but in 1893, the bells were rehung in the old frame, by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, who have sadly mutilated the fine tenor, in accordance with the miserable fashion of the day, by knocking off its canons.

(? 1) Aug: 1637, Shenly. 5 Bells. st<sup>s</sup> bell clock A new Bellfry dore . . . the Isle on the north side of the Bellfry ptly dambd up.  
 1714, 5 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

Lipscomb, IV., 329 :—

... five large bells, the largest weighing 20 cwt. 2 qrs. ; the 4th, 16 cwt. ; the 3rd, 11 cwt. ; the 2nd, 9 cwt. 3 qrs. ; and the treble, 10 cwt.

He gives the inscription on the tenor, but with his invariable lack of accuracy.

Capt. A. P. Moore, one of the founders of the well-known Redenhall Foundry, rang here, about 1854, and describes these bells as "a fine peal of five, tenor just over 19 cwt., always called 27."\*

The day of the month is tolled on the tenor every morning, after chiming for 8.45 Service.

Death Knell on tenor, as soon as notice of death is received. Tolling for funerals

On Sundays, the bells are chimed for Services ; the tenor is rung up and down after Morning Service. Saunce for last few minutes before all Services.

Ringing for Weddings and Festivals.



There is a tradition that the bells were brought from somewhere over the sea, and that one was thrown overboard on the way ; and it is pointed out that there is a space in the frame where a cage for a sixth bell (a treble) could be fitted.

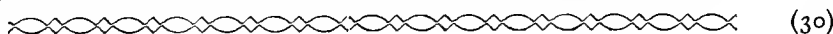
Many thanks to the Rev. E. A. Milne, Vicar.

It is hardly necessary to note that all the existing bells are English, and that if there is any truth in the tradition, it must refer to bells older than the existing tenor, which was probably cast not later than 1418.


SHERINGTON.











S. Laud.

1. THO.<sup>S</sup> ROGERS & JN.<sup>O</sup> STUBBS CHURCH WARDENS  PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1773 




2. (32)

U GABRIEL           

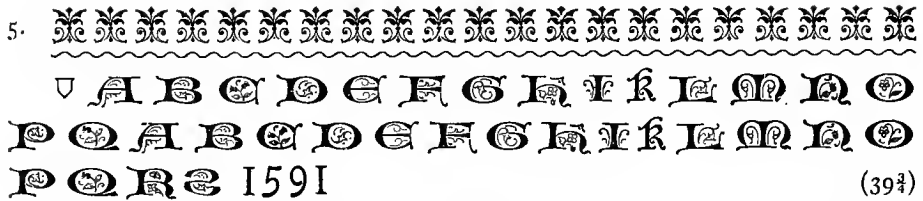
3.  IOHN  BABINGTON  AND (XXXII., No. 2,  $\frac{2}{2}$  in.) THOMAS  MERSHALL  
 CHVRCH WARDENS  + 672 (XXXII., No. 1,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  in.)    

(Underneath:)  (33 $\frac{1}{2}$ )

4. I 59 I                

 a a b c d e f g h i k l m n o p q r r s t b u r x y z [?] [?] w a  
a b c d e f g h i k l m n o p q r r s t b u r x y z [?] [?] w a a b c d e f g h i  
k l m n o p q r r s t (35 $\frac{3}{4}$ )

\* *Bell News*, Jan. 3rd, 1891, Vol. IX., No. 457.



Treble (p. 101): much reduced by tuning. 2, 4, and tenor: by one of the Watts family (of Leicester), probably either William, or Francis I., and cast at Bedford (p. 149); the shield on 2 and tenor, is fig. 54; the cross on 2, the p z and three following letters on 4, and the running pattern on all three, are on Plate XXIII. The cross on 4 is extremely indistinct, but appears to be a smaller edition (which occurs in Norfolk) of the cross on 2. The beautiful capitals on 2 and 5 are shown on Plates XXIV. and XXV.; the peculiar figures are about 1 $\frac{3}{4}$  inch high. 4 is much reduced by tuning; tenor has crown-staple broken. High canons to all three, and the old clappers. 3: by Henry Bagley I. (p. 216); the ornaments not specified above, are a rose; the stops Nos. 4 and 5 on Plate XXXII.; and the Attons' running pattern, fig. 69, of which the three single *fleurs-de-lis* are portions; the coin is a groat,  $\frac{1}{20}$  of an inch diameter; large canons. Frame, seventeenth century, keyed. On the wheel of 2, is  $\frac{1 \diamond P}{J 766}$  and on the tenor's, is  $\frac{RW}{1839}$  the date on the latter, repeated on the other side.

1714, 5 bells.

Lipscomb, IV., 336: five bells, cast in 1577.

Browne Willis, MSS., xxxii., 51, quotes:—

Testamentum M<sup>ri</sup> Roberti Kencock Rectoris de Sherington 1535 . . . . . Item to ther bells vj $\frac{d$  . . . . . Item to y<sup>e</sup> ringers at my buriall & at my monyths mynd to have every tyme xvj $\frac{d$  . . . . . Proved 11 May, 1535.

Lipscomb spells the name Kencot or Kencok, and states that he was collated to this living 28th May, 1529.

One of the bells from Filgrave Church is said to have been brought here; see under Tyingham, also Stoke Goldington.

The second is rung daily at 1 p.m., as "Dinner Bell."

The "Pancake Bell," on Shrove Tuesday; and the Gleaning Bell, during harvest; were formerly rung, but are now discontinued.

Death Knell: as soon as possible. Tellers: 3 strokes = a man, 2 = a woman.

Single Bell tolled at funerals, except for old ringers, when the bells are rung muffled.

On Sundays, a bell is rung at 8 a.m. For Services, the bells are chimed, and

a Sermon Bell is rung, which is omitted when there is Holy Communion instead of Sermon. These are all old customs.

Ringings on Christmas and New Year's Eves; on the Queen's Accession; and for weddings, if paid for; formerly on 5th November. A bell rung for Vestry Meetings, and in cases of Fire.

In the churchwardens' accounts, "An<sup>o</sup>" 1690, 1692, and 1693, "P<sup>d</sup> for a sett of Bell ropes," the price on the earliest occasion being 15s., and on each of the two latter, 16s.




Many thanks to the Rev. E. Elton, Rector.

*SIMPSON.*

S. Thomas.

1. CHANDLER MADE ME 1620  (28)

2. RICHARD CHANDLER MADE ME  
1694 (30½)

3.    \* SAYE \* KING \* I AM -  
ES † AME † † 6 0 4 (32½)

4. † GOD SAVE OVR  
KING 1630 (36)

Treble: the first known bell by Anthony Chandler (p. 223); the ornaments are figs. 81 and 78; very long, small-waisted, proportionately small at the sound-bow, and large and rounded at the shoulder, out of all proportion; something like an *exaggeration* of the ancient bell at S. Lawrence, Norwich, figured in *Bells of Norfolk*; original stock and wheel; one pair of straps nailed, others renewed. 2: by Richard Chandler III., in his 1.2 inch lettering (p. 232); wheel original, or renewed on the old pattern; bell hanging quite loose on the stock. 3: by Bartholomew Atton, or just possibly, by Robert Atton in partnership with him (p. 199); the first word is in the large capitals on Plates XXVIII. and XXIX., the others are in the small set on Plate XXX.; the ornament (used three different ways up) is No. 5, and the small cross *patée*, No. 1, on that Plate; crown-staple broken; original stock and wheel; straps nailed, the central pair keyed. Tenor: by James Keene (p. 164); the initial cross is No. 4 on Plate XXVI.

Hung left-handed. On the tenor's gage is carved:—

1623 IOHN · IEFS  
MADE ME

For other frames by him, see Adstock (p. 296).

1714, 4 bells.

## SLAPTON.

Holy Rood.

1. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1852 (32)  
 2, 3. GEORGE CHANDLER ✠ MADE ME 1681, (33½, 36)  
 4. G C 1715 (37½)  
 5. GEORGE CHANDLER MADE ME 1703 (42)  
 S. (*Blank*) (12¾)

Treble: (p. 116). 2 and 3: two of George Chandler's earliest bells (p. 230), in his father (Anthony)'s lettering; the broad *fleur-de-lis* is shown on Plate XXXIII. 4: by George Chandler, in his largest set of letters, 1¾ inch high (p. 234). Tenor: lettering 1⅝ inch high (p. 233). 3 and tenor cracked. The straps of 2 and 3 keyed; those of the other bells bolted. Saunce: probably seventeenth century; straps nailed; half-wheel. Hung left-handed: were not ringable for many years, and the tower was in a ruinous state, until, in 1889, the two cracked bells were "recast," and all were rehung.

23 July, 1552, Slapton,

If iij belle & a lytyll bell w̄ a hand bell.

(*On the back, erased:*) this Invyt . . (*torn*) wanteth a handbell

31 July, 1637, 4. Bells S<sup>ts</sup> bell.

1714, 5 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

Lipscomb, III., 453:— five bells, re-cast circ. 1680, out of four.

Death Knell: as nearly as may be, twelve hours after the death. Tellers: *after* the tolling, 2 strokes = a male, 3 = a female.

On Sundays, three bells chimed for each Service. Saunce for the last few minutes.


Thanks to the Rev. H. Anstey, Rector.

(*SLOUGH—see Upton*).









## SOULBURY.

All Saints.

1. ROBERT  LOVETT ✠  
 Esq +66+ H∩K (31½)  
 2. CHNDLER MADE ME 1697 (33½)  
 3. R+CHARD ALLEN C∩  
 W +66+ H∩K (36)

4.  **Sancte**  **Martine**  **Ora**  
**Pro** **Nobis** □ ⊕ (38½)

5.  **Sancta**  **Margareta**  **Ora**  
**Pro** **Nobis** □ ⊕ (42½)

6.  **FRANCIS** /<sup>+</sup>  /<sup>+</sup>   **LO-**  
**VEYER**   /<sup>+</sup> 1592  \* A \*  /<sup>+</sup>

s. R C MADE ME I714 (15)

1 and 3: are by Henry Knight II. and Ellis Knight (? II.) in partnership (p. 130); the dragon-and-oak-leaf border on the treble is figured on Plate XXII.; I do not know of its occurrence elsewhere; the tiny, four-petal rose is on the same plate; as are also the "churchwarden" figure on the third, and the shield on both. 3, is cracked, a large piece broken out of the lip; no doubt from the abominable practice of clapping; and, not content with breaking one good bell by this means, it is still persisted in with the fifth and tenor. Robert Lovett was descended from Richard de Lovet, who came to England with William I. The manor of Soulbury (and others), together with the advowson, were acquired by members of the family very early in the fourteenth century, and still continue in possession of their descendants, the seat of the family being Liscombe Park, in this parish. Robert's immediate ancestors (beginning at the fourteenth generation, in a direct line, from Richard), were\* :—

Lawrence Lovett = Elizabeth Williams.  
 |  
 Francis Lovett = Anne Crisp.  
 (Probably the donor of the tenor.)  
 |  
 Susan Pate = Sir Robert Lovett, = Anne Saunders.  
 Ob. July, 1609. Knt. (High Sheriff of Bucks, 1608.) |  
 |  
 Penelope = Robert Lovett = Elizabeth,  
 Ayloff, Ob. 11 Aug. 1699, dr. of — Bulkeley,  
 Ob. 1688-9. Æt. 76. wid. of John Bradshaw,  
 Æt. 52. (Prob. the donor of the treble.) Ob. s.p.

\* Lipscomb, III., 457, etc.

† Lipscomb states that the younger Robert was the issue of the first marriage; but the first wife, Susan, died fifteen years before he was born.



2 : by "the firm" (p. 232), in Richard III.'s 1.2 inch lettering; the A is omitted from the name; clapper with iron baldrick, cased in wood. 4 and 5 : by a predecessor, whose name is unknown, of Roger Landen, of Wokingham, during the first half of the fifteenth century (p. 52); the crowned cross and capitals are on Plates XV. and XVI.; the rectangular stamp is fig. 32, and the circular stamp is the reverse of a groat; old clappers, with iron baldricks. Tenor : by Bartholomew Atton, of Buckingham (p. 198); the lettering is on Plates XXVIII. and XXIX.; the little A, near the end, belongs to the set on Plate XXX.; the ornaments (taken in order) are : the large ornate cross (which occurs three times), on Plate XXIX.; the small sprig and the small cross *patée* (each of which occurs four times) are Nos. 2 and 1 on Plate XXX.; the shield is fig. 66, and the saltire charged with a cross (which comes on either side of the small A) is No. 3 on Plate XXX. Saunce : by Richard Chandler III., in the same lettering as the second; original stock; inner straps nailed, outer straps keyed; wooden lever; the clapper hangs by a hook, made something like a swivel.

Lipscomb (III., 460) gives (inaccurately) the inscriptions on the two "ancients," which he rightly designates the fourth and fifth, and continues, "The fifth bell was cast in 1529, being purchased with a legacy bequeathed by John Tomkins for that purpose. The largest bell weighs about 18 cwt." It seems probable that the last two figures of the above date are transposed, and that the tenor is referred to; its reputed weight is probably slightly too high.

Frame and hangings, seventeenth century; the latter repaired in places. All stays at wheel end of stock.

23 July, 1552, Sulberye (*also* Sulberie) vj belle wth ye fannce bell in ye steple, ij hande belle.

(*On the back*.) this Invetory lackrethe . . . . [ij handbelle]\* . . . . .

This was the only tower in the county credited in Edward VI.'s Return with so many as six bells; as, however, it is also the only tower in which the expression, "*with* the sanctus bell," is used, it is just possible that it means "6 bells, *including* the sanctus bell," but I do not think so.

31 July, 1637. Solbury. 5. Bells S<sup>ts</sup> Bell. clock.  
1714, 6 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

Death Knell : tolled as soon as notice is given to the sexton (? no tellers).

On Sundays, chiming for Services; the saunce for the last five minutes.

Ringin twice a week during Advent.

Thanks to the Rev. C. E. Dandridge, Vicar of Linslade with Soulbury.

\* Erased, which probably means they had re-appeared.

Private chapel in the parish :—

Liscombe Park.

*Single. (Blank)*

(12½)

An old bell, probably seventeenth century, or possibly older. The chapel (which appears to date from the fourteenth century) has long been disused, and is in a more or less ruinous condition.

Very many thanks to Mr. John McGauran, estate bailiff, for his kindly assistance in getting up to, and into, the (modern) bell-cot.

*STANTONBURY* (*more correctly Stanton-Barry.*) {SS. Peter  
and Paul.

*Single. (Blank)*

A very small bell ; probably not later than seventeenth century, and very likely much older. It hangs inside the nave at the west end, near the gable. The ladder I had brought from a neighbouring farm did not reach quite up to it, and a tie-beam immediately under the bell is so completely rotten and worm-eaten, that discretion prevented my trusting the twelve stone odd which I own, on it, so could not measure the bell.

1714, one bell.

This ancient (partly Norman) church has been closed for Services, and only used for funerals, since the erection of its modern representative :—

New Bradwell

S. James.

Built 1859 ; one bell, by Warner ; weight about 4 cwt. The small turret in which it hangs was added in 1883.

Death Knell : tolled at 8 a.m. for a death during the night ; in other cases as soon as notice is received. Tellers, before and after : 3 × 3 = a male, 2 × 3 = a female. Tolling for funerals.

Chimed for all Services. Generally rung at midnight on New Year's Eve, and sometimes rung half-way up for a wedding.

Many thanks to the Rev. A. C. Woodhouse, Vicar.

*STEWKLEY.*

S. Michael.

- |    |   |          |      |            |     |           |
|----|---|----------|------|------------|-----|-----------|
| 1. | ❖ | RICHARD  | ❖    | CHAUNDELER |     |           |
|    |   |          | ❖    | 1636       | *   | (31¼)     |
| 2. | ‡ | W        | K Γ  | V          | E E | И         |
| Д  |   | V        | Г O  | V          |     | (33)      |
| 3. |   | CHANDLER | MADE | ME         |     | 1661 (34) |

4. **EDWARD HALL MADE ME J735** (37)

5. J: WOODMAN C: WARDENS. w: & J: TAY-  
 W: TOMES  
 102 BELLEPOUNDER'S OFFORD: 1837. (41½)  
 S. 1686 (16¼)

Treble: one of the very few bells remaining by Richard Chandler I. (p. 221); the stop on each side of the christian name is fig. 77; before the date, 78; and after it, 79. 2: date, second half of sixteenth century; founder doubtful, but perhaps Lawrence Wright (p. 47); the cross is fig. 31; canons broken; much tuned from lip. 3: by Anthony Chandler (p. 224); much tuned from lip. 4: inscription below the usual place, in Richard Chandler III.'s 1.2 inch lettering (p. 236). Tenor (p. 260): angular canons. Saunce: from the Drayton Parslow Foundry (p. 231); the figures belong to Richard Chandler III.'s earliest set, 1 inch high; straps keyed; iron baldrick. All rehung somewhere about 1870, in the massive old frame.

23 July, 1552, Stukeley, Impimis iij belle, one fañce bell, ij hande belle  
 1714, 5 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

Death Knell: as soon as notice is received; the second is used for children under two years; and the tenor for all above that age. Tellers: 3 × 3 = a male; 2 × 3 = a female. Tenor tolled for about twenty minutes before a funeral.

On Sundays, bells chimed for the Services; saunce for about last seven minutes. Formerly "the clerk used to chime at 8" a.m., "partly, it is thought, to let people know the time," but of late years, since a Celebration at that hour became more frequent, this has been discontinued, and only the saunce is used before that Service.

Ringling for Morning and Evening Service on the great Festivals, and for some of the Sunday Evening Services in Advent. Practice during Advent for Christmas ringling. Midnight ringling on Christmas and New Year's Eves. 5th November ringling discontinued about 1860, or before.

Very many thanks to the Rev. H. G. J. Meara, the late Vicar, and also for allowing me to make the following:—

## EXTRACTS FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS.

1671	l̄fm to John Meade for Leather for the Bells	...	00	:	02	:	06	:
1672	l̄fm for keying vp the Bells	...	...	...	00	:	04	:
	l̄fm to John ffofkett* for shooting the Ropes	...	...	...	00	:	00	:

\* A John Foskett was appointed by the Inhabitants, to the office of Registrar, 19th Nov., 1653. In one of the Registers, quoted by Lipscomb, III., 476.

1673	Imprimis for the Tower repaying payde to Robert Holland	...	...	...	06 : 06 : 09 :
	Iłm for Belropes	...	...	...	00 : 16 : 06 :
1677	Iłn for mending ye beles & diall	...	...	...	0 . 13 . 8
1678	Iłm for bell Ropes	...	...	...	00 . 15 . 6
1689	(sic) Iłm for belropes	...	...	...	00 . 14 . 4
	Iłm to Wittm: bull for bell roles	...	...	...	00 . 2 . 6
1680	Iłm for a ladder for the steeple	...	...	...	00 . 2 . 6
	Iłm for keyes for the bells	...	...	...	00 . 0 . 6
	Iłm to John ffofkett for fhooting of the bell ropes	...	...	...	00 . 2 . 0
1681	Iłm for a matt for the belloft	...	...	...	01 . 0 . 0
	Iłm for a quarter of greafs for the Roles	...	...	...	00 . 0 . 1
	Iłm for one plate 7 keyes 1 firill 1 staple	...	...	...	00 . 1 . 2
	Iłm to Wittm: bull for 5 dayes work & 6 stayes	...	...	...	00 . 6 . 10
	Iłm for mending an Iron stay	...	...	...	00 . 0 . 2
	Iłm for 13 Rounds for the steeple lader	...	...	...	00 . 1 . 1
	Iłm for a fett of bell ropes	...	...	...	00 . 14 . 6
	Iłm for a badrick for the bell	...	...	...	00 . 2 . 7
	Iłm for 5 leathers for the bells & a penyoth of tall	...	...	...	00 . 2 . 7
1682	Iłm to Georg. Chandler for brafsing ye bells	...	...	...	02 . 5 . 0
	Iłm to Hugh Willis for Iron work	...	...	...	00 . 13 . 0
	Iłm for bear to the work men y brafsd ye bells	...	...	...	00 . 1 . 0
1683	Iłm for bell Ropes	...	...	...	00 . 10 . 0
	Iłm for making & Mending ye bell wheels	...	...	...	00 . 17 . 4
	Iłm spent on the wheel right	...	...	...	00 . 1 . 2
	[ffor Goeing to fetch ye bell wheele from Soulbury	...	...	...	00 . 02 . 06
	ffor ffour keys & keybolts and a new key	...	...	...	00 . 00 . 08
	Item for a hundred of fixes & a 100 of ffourpenny Nayles	...	...	...	00 . 00 . 10
	Item for nine new stayes for the wheeles	...	...	...	01 . 00 . 00
	[And a plate for ye wheele	...	...	...	00 . 00 . 06
	Paid for ye Bell ropes	...	...	...	00 . 04 . 06
	Paid for mending ye Steeple dore Locke	...	...	...	00 . 00 . 10
1686	Iłm for oyl & nailes for the bells	...	...	...	00 . 0 . 8
	Iłm spent at leighton with the bell founders and Mr ffrancks*	...	...	...	00 . 0 . 6
	Iłm for beere at draughton when the bells were fot† away	...	...	...	1 . 0
	Iłm for beere when the bells were drawed vp	...	...	...	00 . 3 . 8
	Iłm for beere when the bells were rehong vp ye laft time	...	...	...	1 . 0
	Iłm bear for the Carpenters when ye hung the bells	...	...	...	1 . 6
	Iłm spent at Leighton	...	...	...	00 . 0 . 06
	Iłm for taking down of the bells	...	...	...	00 . 3 . 6
	Iłm spent at the bells Weighing	...	...	...	00 . 1 . 0

\* Leighton Buzzard (Beds) is  $4\frac{1}{4}$  miles E. by S. The Bellfounders were doubtless the Chandlers of Drayton Parslow, 2 miles NN.W. of Stewkley. It seems likely that Mr. Francks may have been a bell-hanger living at Leighton. † *Fetches*; still used.

	I <sup>tm</sup> spent when the bells came whom	...	...	00 . 3 . 0
	I <sup>tm</sup> for beer when the bells were rung	...	...	00 . 5 . 6
	I <sup>tm</sup> for new bell ropes	...	...	00 . 16 . 6
	[ I <sup>tm</sup> to John Cuttler for Carrying the bells	..	...	4 . 0
	I <sup>tm</sup> spent	...	...	00 . 0 . 8
	I <sup>tm</sup> spent when the bells were weighed	...	...	2 . 6
	I <sup>tm</sup> to the men which hung y <sup>e</sup> bells	...	...	4 . 0
	I <sup>tm</sup> to the Ringers	...	...	00 . 2 . 6
	[ I <sup>tm</sup> wood for the roles	...	...	00 . 2 . 0
	I <sup>tm</sup> to Richard Chandler	...	...	02 . 0 . 0
1687	I <sup>tm</sup> spent on y <sup>e</sup> towns men & belfounders	...	...	00 . 2 . 0
	[ I <sup>tm</sup> Paid to Richard Chandler towards the bells	...	...	10 . 10 . 00
	I <sup>tm</sup> Paid to Richard Chandler at } another time towards the bells }	...	...	4 . 14 . 00
	[ I <sup>tm</sup> to hugh willis for worke	...	...	00 . 14 . 8
	I <sup>tm</sup> for a Role	...	...	00 . 0 . 6
	I <sup>tm</sup> for beer when the bells were paid for	...	...	— 2 . 0
1688	I <sup>tm</sup> to John Mead for 5 leathers for y <sup>e</sup> bells	...	...	00 . 2 . 6
	I <sup>tm</sup> for 5 new bell ropes	...	...	00 . 15 . 0
	for new Rolls & the 4 <sup>th</sup> bell wheel mending	...	...	8 . 0
	to the Ringers on the thanks giving day	...	...	00 . 2 . 0
1689	Item a matt for the bell loft	...	...	00 . 14 . 0
	I <sup>f</sup> laid out about the bells	...	...	00 . 18 . 0
1690	I <sup>tm</sup> for new bell ropes	...	...	00 . 14 . 6
1692	I <sup>tm</sup> to Tho: Baker for wood & work about y <sup>e</sup> Saints bell	...	...	2 . 5
1693	I <sup>tm</sup> spent abying the bell roopes	...	...	00 . 1 . 0
	I <sup>tm</sup> for new bell ropes	...	...	00 . 12 . 0
	I <sup>tm</sup> for new Leathers for the bells	...	...	00 . 2 . 8
1694	I <sup>tm</sup> to the ringers	...	...	0 . 1 . 0
1695	for bell Ropes	...	...	— 14 . 6
	for making a belfree and bafses	...	...	01 . 8 . 6
1696	for new bell Ropes	...	...	— 16 . 6
	to william Chesheir for a new bell wheell and Roles & mending the old ones	...	...	01 . 12 . 6
	to hugh willis for keyes for the bells	...	...	2 . 0
1697	I <sup>tm</sup> spent on the men y <sup>t</sup> mended y <sup>e</sup> bell wheel	...	...	1 . 0
Oct <sup>r</sup> 4	[ spent on the ringers at the proclamation of peace	...	...	0 . 3 . 0
	for new leather for the bells	...	...	0 . 3 . 0
	for keyes & stays & kottrells and for putting them in	...	...	0 . 3 . 6
	for boards & nails & a plate } & for mending the bell wheele }	...	...	0 . 3 . 6
	to the ringers at the boote* when the orders were made	...	...	0 . 5 . 0

\* There is no public-house with this sign at Stewkley at the present day, but there is one two miles away—at Soulbury, at which village the bell wheels were made in 1683, and probably “the orders were made” there again now.

1698	to wittm Chefheir for hanging ye faints bell	...	0 . 9
	to John Daniell Towards the belropes	...	6 . 6
	to Joseph Willis for a latch and Catch and 6 keys for the bells	} ...	1 . 6
	to John Daniell for new bell rop's	...	7 . 0
1699	to wittm : Chefheire for mending the bell wheel	...	1 . 0
	spent on the Ringers on the 5 <sup>th</sup> of novem̄br	...	2 . 6
	[to Joseph willis for a badrick	... ..	— 2 . 0
	and for keys for the bells & half a [ busshell of coal & a staple & nailes	} ... ..	— 2 . 0
	To hugh Willis for mending 3 bell clapers	...	— 12 . 0
	for a new fett of bell ropes	...	11 . 6
	for Leathers for the bells	...	3 . 0
1701	[to goodman Daniell for a fet of new bell ropes	...	12 . 0
	and spent on him & other at the sam time	...	0 . 6
	to Joseph Willis for 8 ferrills for the bells & two Joynts and 2 plates & revetts for the Chest in the church	} ... ..	5 . 0
	to willm Chefheire for work & a board	...	— 2 . 0
	[for a little plank vsed about the bells	...	0 . 6
	to willm Chefheir for 6 roles for the bells	...	— 3 . 0
	To hugh willis for mending the bell	...	01 . 0 . 0
1702	for bear for the Ringers at the boot on Gunpouder treafon	—	2 . 6
	to Willm : Shockley for beer for the ringers on the Thanks giving day	} ... ..	2 . 6
	to willm Chefheire for work & boards amending the bell wheels	} ... ..	— 4 . 8
	to hugh willis for keys for the bells	...	0 . 6
	to the Ringers at willm smiths on the Crownation day*	—	6 . 0
	[spent at the boot on gunpowder treafon	...	— 2 . 6
	[to Peter hewitt for Cotterells for the bells	...	3 . 0
	to Jo: willis for 6 keys for the bells	...	— 0 . 6
1703	Īm for new bell ropes	...	— 7 . 6
	Īm to John Daniell for new bellropes	...	— 7 . 6
	Īm spent on the Ringers on the thanksgiving day	...	3 . 6
1704	Īm to willm Chefheir for a stick† for the bell claper	...	0 . 2
	Īm for a new baderck for the great bell	...	2 . 6
	Īm for 6 keyes for the bells	...	00 . 0 . 6
	[Īm to Peter hewitt for Leathering the bells	...	4 . 0
	Īm for Leathering the great bell afterwards	...	0 . 6
	[Īm spent at Roes when the leathers were putt on	...	00 . 1 . 0
	Īm spent on the ringers on ye thanksgiving day	...	6 . 0
	Īm spent on the Ringers on Gunpouder Plot	...	5 .
	for mending the Great bell clapper	...	00 . 1 . 6

\* Queen Anne crowned April 23, 1702.

† To make a Busk-board, or Splint.











1705	l̄im Given to the Ringers	...	...	...	00 . 5 . 0
	l̄im for a new fett of bell Ropes	...	...	...	00 . 14 . 0
	l̄im for a matt for the bellfree	...	...	...	01 . 1 . 6
	l̄im to nicholls Roe for the Ringers	...	...	...	00 . 5 . 00
1706	l̄im to willm : Chefheir for 5 roles for ye bells	...	...	...	2 . 6
	and for a dayes work to do them	...	...	...	— 1 . 4
	and for a pound of nailes	...	...	...	— 0 . 4
	to the Ringers for the great victory } over the ffrench forces* ... }	...	...	...	3 . 0
	for wood for the bell wheels	...	...	...	— 0 . 4
	to Joseph willis for keyes for the bells	...	...	...	1 . 0
	and for putting them in & for bear	...	...	...	0 . 6
	l̄im to Peter hewitt for leathering the great bell	...	...	...	0 . 9
	l̄im to the Ringers	...	...	...	00 . 2 . 6



Chapel-of-Ease, Holy Trinity : built 1866 ; one bell.




### STOKE GOLDINGTON.

S. Peter.

1. THOMAS HODGKIN WILL WARRING CHVRCHWARDENS  
HENRY PENN MADE ME 1707 ○○○ (32½)

2.   GOD   SAVE   KYNG   
 CHARLS   1625 (34½)

3. 4.   GOD SAVE KYNG  
CHARLS 1625 (36½, 41)

5.   GOD SAVE KYNG  
CHARLS  1625 (42½)

Treble (p. 247) : the two sizes of lettering are apparently identical with sets used by Henry Bagley (*e.g.*, in 1682 and 1699, on the treble and third at Olney); the three coins, .8 inch in diameter, are illegible. One pair of straps keyed, the others bolted. A mural tablet, on south side of chancel,† records that : “Near this place lye the Bodies of Thomas Hodgskins, of this Parish, Gent. who was buried Sept. 25, 1720; Sarah his wife . . . and . . . their youngest daughter.” The four lower bells are by Robert Atton (p. 205); the lettering is the large set on Plate

\* Marlborough’s victory at Ramillies, May 23, 1706.

† Lipscomb, IV., 358.

XXXI.; the ornaments are Nos. 11 and 7 on Plate XXX. 2 and 3 : tuned from lip ; inner straps nailed and keyed ; the others on 2 are keyed, and on 3 are bolted ; the latter has its original stock. 4 : stock and straps renewed. Tenor : central pair of straps nailed, on new stock ; crown-staple broken ; very large canons.

Hung left-handed ; on the frame, opposite the third, is cut : 1625.

1714 5 bells.

Death Knell : generally on morning after the death ; tenor for adults, treble for children ; no tellers. No bell used at funerals (?).

On Sundays, a bell is rung for a few minutes at 7 a.m., and again at 8. Ringing and chiming for Services.

Ringing on Christmas and New Year's Eves. After Service on Easter and Whitsun Days. Not usually rung for weddings.






















No churchwardens' accounts existing.

Many thanks to the Rev. C. Jerdein, Rector.

There is a tradition that one of the bells comes from the dismantled church of Filgrave (now included in Tyringham parish\*), if so, the treble must show the date of its removal (and recasting), although Filgrave tower was not pulled down until eighty-three years later.

STOKE HAMOND.

S. Mary.

1.									(33½)				
													
	(On Waist :) † 590												
	(On Sound-bow :) ○												
2.									(36)				
	+	A	V	€	:	Ω	A	R	I	A			
3.									(38½)				
	RECAST BY	JOHN TAYLOR & CO	LOUGHBOROUGH	1882.									
	(On Waist :) SANCTA TRINITAS ORA PRO NOBIS.												
S.													(14¼)

Treble (p. 197) : lettering on Plates XXVIII. and XXIX ; the ornate cross is on the latter ; the shield is fig. 66 ; three of the coins are sixpences, the other one probably a groat, about ½nd over and under an inch, respectively ; all canons off, previous to the rehangng ; crown-staple broken. 2 : probably by John Rofford, Royal Bellfounder in 1367 (p. 10) ; cross and lettering, upper set on Plate IV. ; canons all off, apparently knocked off when rehung. Tenor : cast without canons, and with reversible clapper ; the ancient former bell was broken, somewhere about

\* See also Sherington.



1865, by a boy striking it with the clapper (by hand), and then holding the clapper against the bell, thereby stopping the vibrations; this old bell is mentioned by Browne Willis, MSS. cix., 29; from its inscription—which Messrs. Taylor were requested to reproduce in *fac-simile*, but which, unfortunately, was not done—it seems *likely* that the bell may have come from the Wokingham Foundry (p. 54), in the fifteenth century. Saunce: by John Sturdy, fifteenth century (p. 27; figs. 13, 14); the letters belong to the small set on Plate XI., where the cross is No. 2; the coin is the reverse of a half-groat, .8 inch diameter; this bell has not been hung since the rehangng of the other bells by Taylor in 1882, and lies in the intermediate loft; old clapper, with wooden copse instead of baldrick; seventeenth century stock; straps nailed; half-wheel.

(31 July) 1637, Stokehamond. Bells 3. & a S<sup>ts</sup> Bell. The steeple in decay in tiling & wanteth some stoncs in the water tables. . . . the steeple wants pargetting  
1714, 3 bells (sanctus not mentioned, but doubtless existing).

Death Knell: as soon as the sexton can be summoned. Tellers: 3 × 3 = a man, 2 × 3 = a woman, 1 × 3 = a child, followed by the age of the deceased, previous to the tolling. The tenor tolled at funerals.

On Sundays, the tenor is rung for five minutes "early." For Services, the three bells are chimed for a quarter of an hour.

Many thanks to the Rev. E. Pain, Rector.

*STOKE MANDEVILLE.*

			S. Mary.
1.	<b>HONAR</b>	<b>GOD</b>	1633 (27½)
2.			(29)
	<b>PRAYES</b>	<b>THE</b>	<b>LORD</b>
			1633
3.	<b>EDWARD HALL MADE ME I 730 WI FORD</b>		
	<b>IO SMITH C W</b>		(32¼)
4.		+ 0 5 9	(34)
5.			(37½)
	<b>PRAYES</b>	<b>THE</b>	<b>LORD</b>
			1636

Treble, 2, and tenor: by Ellis Knight (p. 127); treble tuned from lip; crown-staple broken probably in the seventeenth century; the two trebles have original stocks, 17¾ and 18 inches high; straps nailed on. 3: one of the earliest bells known by Edward Hall (p. 236); the lettering is Richard Chandler III.'s 1.2 inch set; old stock, 18¼ inches high, probably belonged to the present bell's predecessor (p by Ellis Knight); straps bolted. 4: one of the first bells by Henry Knight II., with an Ellis Knight, probably also No. II. (p. 130); cracked; original stock

(perhaps made for its predecessor, like that of the third); straps bolted. Iron baldricks to all.

The church was erected in 1886; the old one is still standing, about half a mile distant, quite away from the village. The bells, with the greater part of the frame, were removed from the old church; they hang left-handed, in two tiers; the upper one, containing the three smaller bells, is a long way above the lower one, with a floor between, and so awkward of access, as to be a serious addition to the duties of a steeple-keeper.

23 July, 1552, Stok māfyld (*also* manfyl) If inprimis in the stepell iij belle If ij hande belle

14 July, 1638, Stoke mandevil 5 bells.

1714, 5 bells.

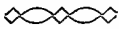
Access to the ringing-chamber by a ladder in the porch, where there hang some belfry rules, of which the following is the substance:—

On Sundays, at 8 a.m., one bell chimed; and for each Service, all the bells chimed. Also for Service on Christmas Day, Ascension Day, and other Holidays. Ringing practice on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings, not less than four weeks before Christmas; also ringing on Christmas and New Year's Eves.






In the old church was a board with quaint directions to ringers painted on it; but this seems to have disappeared when the general removal to the new church took place. The only board of this kind now remaining in the county, is at Penn.

STOKE POGES.

S. Giles.

1. T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1824 ✧ JAMES EDSON  
CHURCH WARDEN 

(*Incised:*) C× Luff (29 $\frac{3}{4}$ )

2. IOHN : FENEMORE : IOHN : SLAUGHTER :  
CHVRCH : WARDENS    J 772    
THOS Swain Fecit THOS Swain Fecit (31 $\frac{1}{4}$ )

3. R ↓ PHELPS FECIT 1728 ⊕ ○ ⊕  
○ ⊕ ○ ⊕ ○ ⊕ ○ (32 $\frac{3}{4}$ )

4. (34 $\frac{1}{4}$ )  
THOS : HUNT : IOHN : SLAUGHTER : CHURCH  
: WARDENS : THOS : SWAIN : MADE : MEE :  
J 773 :

5. (*Ditto to 3rd, except only 4 coins.*) (37)

6. THE REVEREND M<sup>R</sup>:THO: DOLPHIN VICAR MESS<sup>RS</sup>: WM  
: GODFERY IOSEPH HEWET CH: WARDENS R: PHELPS FE-  
CIT 1728 ○ ⊕ (41¼)

Treble (p. 105): the money for this additional bell is said to have been found by the churchwardens, and two or three of the ringers. 2 (p. 141): Swain's medallion is fig. 51; the three coins are obverses of a crown (1½ inch diameter); bust dexter, GEORGIUS II. DEI GRATIA; on the stock is cut: 184I TM CM. 3: the ten coins are alternately the reverse and obverse of a coin nearly 1.2 inch diameter; Obverse: ? shield of arms, crowned, IOANN. SVBG . . . Reverse: cross potent, IN . HOC . SIGNO . VINCES . . 1725 . . (p. 98). 4: small canons. 5: same coin as on third; obverse and reverse alternately. Tenor: same coin, obverse and reverse; very flat crown. Lipscomb (IV., 563), says: "Thomas Dolben, or Dolby, was instituted 18 Oct., 1726;" and his successor was inducted in December, 1754. In a footnote is added: "It appears that his name was Dally, though his father changed it to Dolben. His father was schoolmaster at Buckingham, and afterwards Vicar of Wendover . . ." Phelps has recorded a fourth version of the name.

All rehung some years ago, apparently by Warner, in the old left-handed frame; 4 and 5 have new wheels by Knight, a carpenter at Stoke.

18 July, 1552, Stoke Pogez ffirst iijj belle

9 Aug: 1637. 4 Bells\*. . . The Steeple and bellframes in decay . . . There was a vestry as Witm Cooke fayeth and one dwelling in it wch did ring the bell at foure of the clock.

1714, 4 bells.

Private chapel in the parish:—

	Ditton.	S. Mary.
<i>Single.</i>	1764	(18¼)

Evidently by Lester and Pack, of Whitechapel (p. 100); iron lever.

This Chapelry was separated from the parish church of Stoke Poges in the reign of James I., when Sir Ralph Winwood, Principal Secretary of State, entered into an agreement with the Bishop of the Diocese and the Incumbent, to endow the Chapel with fifty pounds per annum, and build a house for the residence of the Minister.†

The chapel seems to have been built in 1617, and was rebuilt in 1817. It

\* This is under "Hedgley 7 Aug:." but the name and date are erased, having evidently been entered in mistake; and that church was visited on the following day. I have very little doubt that the present entry is intended to refer to Stoke Poges.

† Lipscomb, IV., 570.

stands in Ditton Park, close to Ditton House (the Duchess of Buccleuch, whom I have to thank for permission to inspect the bell).

Though in Stoke Poges parish, it is served from Datchet.

1637, Ditton Chappell Seene the 7. Aug :

Nothing there is in it. . . . .

1714 Ditten capella, one bell.

*STONE.*

S. John Baptist.

1. **CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1883** ∴

(*On Waist :*) **TO THE GLORY OF GOD.**

**GIVEN BY SARAH EMILY BARTLETT**

**WIFE OF JOHN EDWARD BARTLETT ESQ<sup>R</sup>** (29)

2. **I AS TREBLL BE GINN** (30½)

3. **CHANDLER MADE ME 1726** (32)

4. **I AS THIR D RING** (35)

5. **THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1839**

(*On Waist :*) **REV<sup>D</sup> W<sup>M</sup> FLETCHER VICAR**

**GEORGE THORPE } CHURCH WARDENS (37)**  
**JOHN MONK }**

6. **RECAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1885** ∴

(*On Waist :*) **CAST 1634** ∴ (41)

**S.** (16¾)

**RICHARD C MADE ME 1699**

Treble : Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Bartlett reside at Peverel Court, in this parish, built in 1862. 2 and 4 : are evidently the survivors of a ring of five, cast by Ellis Knight in 1634 (p. 127). 3 : the latest known bell, bearing the name of Chandler ; it is by "the firm" (p. 235), in George Chandler's 1¾ inch letters. 2, 3, and 4 : have their single canons broken, and are turned. 5 : The Rev. William Fletcher, M.A., of S. John's College, Cambridge, was presented 22nd February, 1832, by John Lee, Esq., LL.D., of Hartwell, on the nomination of the Council of the Astronomical Society of London. Tenor : the former bell, evidently by Ellis Knight, is said to have been inscribed : **TENAR HVM ALL ROVND 1634** ; most probably the first word was **AS**. Saunce : by Richard Chandler III., in his 1.2 inch lettering (p. 233) ; the old clapper, and half-wheel.

1714, 5 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

Death Knell : as soon as notice of the death is given to the sexton. The tenor used for adults, the second for children. Tellers :  $3 \times 3 =$  a male ;  $2 \times 3 =$  a female. Before funerals, tolling once a minute for half an hour ; the tenor is again used for adults, while the second is only used for little children, and an intermediate bell for older children.

On Sundays, the treble is rung for five minutes at 8 a.m. ; but this custom is now somewhat interfered with by chiming, on the Sundays when there is an early Celebration. For Services, all six bells are chimed (rung on Festivals) for fifteen minutes, then the tenor is rung for ten minutes, and the treble is rung for the last five minutes. These usages are old, except that up to about 1874, the saunce was used for the last five minutes before Services, instead of the treble. The saunce is now not used.

About November 5th, ringing commences once a week, and gradually increases in frequency until the last week before Christmas, during which there is ringing every night ; and from S. Thomas's Day, every morning also, at about five o'clock. There was formerly midnight ringing on Christmas Eve ; but since 1886, ringing on Christmas Morning from seven to eight, before the early Celebration, has been substituted. Midnight ringing on New Year's Eve. There is said to have formerly been ringing on Coronation Day. Ringing for weddings when paid for. The treble is rung for Vestry Meetings.

The churchwardens' accounts are only extant from about 1840.

Many thanks to the Rev. J. L. Challis, Vicar.

The following is a local witticism :—

Stone bells ;  
Iron clappers.

*STOWE.*

Assumption B.V.M.

1.	<b>JAMES KEENE</b>	✻	<b>MADE THIS RIND</b>	
	<b>165†</b>	✻		(30½)
2.			<b>1660</b>	(33)
3.	<b>WILLIAM SPTCHER</b>	✻	<b>CHVRCHWARDEN</b>	
	✻ <b>1654</b> ✻			(35)
4.	<b>ROBART KNIGHT</b>	✻	<b>CHVRCHWAR-</b>	
	<b>DEN</b> ✻ <b>165†</b> ✻			(38)
5.	<b>RICHARD KEENE</b>		<b>MAD ME</b>	
	<b>1665</b>			(40¼)
S.	<i>(Blank)</i>			(10¾)

James Keene died in December, 1654 (p. 166), so the second is, like the fifth, by his successor (and probably son) Richard Keene (pp. 167 and 168). 4: much tuned from lip by chipping. Tenor: has been rehung. Iron stays, and probably original clappers, to all. Sauce: is probably not later than the early part of last century; cracked; it has only four canons, and is nearly the same size all the way down from shoulder to lip; rehung; iron baldrick; iron lever.

(? 5 May) 1553, stow . . . iiij great bellē & one faunfe bell hangyng in the same church.

8 July, 1637. Stowe cū membris. the pinicle of the steeple at y<sup>e</sup> north east corner broken. . . . the bell frames broke. 4 bells but cannot be rung together the steeple in decay. . . . Bell ropes in decay and y<sup>e</sup> frame

1714, 5 bells.

1755, five very tuneable Bells, cast out of four about the Year 1661, as I am informed: . . . . . And in a Niche or Arch still remaining between the Church and Chancel hung the Sacring or Saints Bell. . . . . *Thomas Sanders, Anno 1493*, left a Legacy to buy a new Bell here.

Death Knell: as soon as notice of the death reaches the sexton. Tellers, at end of knell: 5 strokes = a male, 3 = a female. There is muffled ringing at the funeral of a ringer.

On Sundays, the treble is rung at 10 a.m. as Sermon Bell. For the Services, the Bells are chimed, but rung on Festivals. These are old uses.

Special ringing during Advent, beginning on S. Andrew's Eve. Ringing after work on New Year's Eve, and before work on New Year's Day. Ringing for weddings when paid for, on the day of the wedding; and on the Sunday following, if the newly-married pair are residents in the parish.

Formerly, 5th November, Queen's Birthday, etc., were marked by ringing, but since the village has been removed (1½ miles) from the immediate neighbourhood of the church, these usages have ceased.

A collection is made at Christmas, from ratepayers, through the churchwardens, for the remuneration of the ringers; the amount (which naturally varies) has, of late, averaged about ten shillings each, to band of seven ringers.

Many thanks to the Rev. J. Warren, Vicar.

Luffield Priory, the site of which was formerly assessed with this parish, is mentioned under Lillingstone Dayrell.

*STRATFORD, FENNY.* S. Martin; *the ancient chapel was S. Margaret.*

1.	CAST BY GILLETT & CO GROYDON 1887	( <i>On Crown</i> .)	1028	(26)
2.	( <i>Ditto</i> )	( <i>do.</i> )	1026	(27)
3.	( <i>Ditto</i> )	( <i>do.</i> )	1029	(28)
4.	( <i>Ditto</i> )	( <i>do.</i> )	1027	(29)

5. CAST BY GILLETT & C<sup>o</sup> CROYDON (*On Crown:*) 1025  
 (*On Waist:*) HÆ CAMPANÆ IN GLORIAM DEI ET  
 IN PIAM COMMEMORATIONEM ANNI SEMISÆCULARIS  
 VIC. REG. 1887

A. H. BARROW. M.A. VICAR (31½)

6. JOHN BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT MVCCCXXIV (*sic*) (34¾)

S. (23)

**THE GIFT OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE TO STRATFORD CHAPPEL 1727**

The five Gillett bells have only four flat canons apiece. Treble and 4: much tuned from inside. Tenor: the latest bell by Briant in the county, and the only one on which this small lettering (½ inch high) is used (p. 106); it takes the place of a Rudhall bell, which, in its turn, had replaced a second-hand bell brought from Castlethorpe. Saunce: by Abraham Rudhall II. (p. 111); iron baldrick and wooden splints. Until the Jubilee year, what are now the tenor and saunce, were the only bells.

Browne Willis found Fenny Stratford without a church, the ancient Chantry Chapel having been, as he expressed it, "sacrilegiously demolished" in, or very soon after, 1544. Thanks to his energy, and liberality, the Chapel was rebuilt, from his designs, which, from an architectural point of view, are, however, hardly a success. It was consecrated in May, 1730. The liberal example he set, induced others to join in the good work, and from the inscription on the saunce, it seems as if a sum of money, about equal to the cost of the bell, was presented by residents in Gloucestershire; but I can find no record of it.

The following account of the Church and the bells here, is given in the MSS. (now among the Additional MSS. at the British Museum, see p. xv.) of the Rev. W. Cole, who, from 1753 to 1768, was Rector of Bletchley, to which, Fenny Stratford was a Chapel-of-Ease.

*The Foundation Stone of St. Martin's Chapel of Fenny Stratford, was laid on St. Martin's Day, Nov: 11. 1724. v. Vol. 20. p. 149.*

A<sup>o</sup> 1727 hung up in *Stratford new built Tower* a Bell cast by *Mr: Rudhall* wch  
 weighs 200, 3 *Quartes* & one *Pound*, & cost ... £ 18 . 9 . 0 }  
 Paid A<sup>o</sup> 1731, for a *bigger Bell* wch weighs 809 *Pounds* 55 . 4 . 0 } 73 . 13 .  
*Frame hanging, carriage &c: abt.* ... £ 27 . 0 . 0

B.W.

In the old Chapel of Fenny-Stratford were 4 large Bells; in the new one only two, viz: a small one of about 300 Weight, & a larger of 800 Weight. On the smallest is this:—

The Gift of Gloucestershire to Stratford Chapell Bucks.

On the biggest is this :

From a  $\hat{M}\hat{S}$  History of Newport Hundred lent me by M<sup>rs</sup> Willis in 1767. W.C.

Sint nostri Benefactores semper benedicti.

A<sup>o</sup>. 1727 hung up in Stratford new built Tower a Bell which weighed at 112 p Hundred, 200 3 Q<sup>rs</sup> & 1 Pound. This Bell cost, as appears by M<sup>r</sup>. Rudhall's Receipt, with all its Materials, as Clapper, Gudgeons &c. ... 18 . 9 . 0

Paid for a Bell bought at Castle-Thrup, viz: their biggest or 3<sup>d</sup> Bell, weighing 400 2 Q<sup>rs</sup> & 18<sup>lb</sup> as appears by Receipts Febr 24. 1730 & July 5 1731 ... .. 40 . 10 . 0

P<sup>d</sup>. M<sup>r</sup>. Rudhall jun<sup>r</sup>. June 23. 1731, for changing this Bell for one that weighed 800 & 9 Pounds ... .. 14 . 14 . 0

73 . 13 . 0

N.B. The Charges of Carriage from Thrupp, Gloucester, hanging them, & Timber, with Iron work cost above 22<sup>li</sup>, & so this one Article of these 2 Bells have stood us in 95 Pounds & upwards.

The "*Petition spoke by the Patron B. W. to the B<sup>d</sup>. of Lincoln*" (*Ibid.*), records that:—

It had formerly an handsome spacious *Chapel*, consisting of 2 or 3 *Isles*, with an *embatteled Tower* in which there were 4 *Bells*.

The "*Historiola*" of the new church, dated "Aug: 11 1747" (*Ibid.*), states that:—

It is built of *Brick* & paved with *Free Stone*: The *square Tower* with *Battlements* & 4 *Pinnacles* in web, hang 2 *Bells*, was built *first*: under this *Tower* ye *Founder* proposes to lie buried: . . .

The weights of the two bells, and their inscriptions, are again given in another place in Cole's MSS. ; the inscription on the smaller bell being more accurate than in the entry quoted above. Further on is:—

In a *frame* hangs the following *Order*:

It is ordered & appointed that on any *Notice* or *Knowledge* of the *Decease* of the underwritten most worthy *Persons* (whose *Honourable Ensigns of Arms* are here placed in everlasting *Remembrance*, & whose *Reward* we trust is w<sup>th</sup>. the *Almighty*) that the *great Bell* of this *Chapel* shall be solemnly *tolled*, & *rung out*, in all Cases & Respects as if an *Inhabitant* of this *Town* was *departed out of this transitory world*; & that after the *said Knell* an *Asteric* shall be figured opposite to the name of the *Defunct*, that our *Minister* may on the *Comemoration Day* be warned to leave out *his* or *her name* in the *annual Prayer* for the *Founders*; & *this Table* is therefore to remain as long as any of our *said Founders survive*, & *this Order* to be strictly *observed* in *Relation* to the *following Persons* our *Founders*, to *whose Almes* & example we principally owe ye *mercifull Benefit* of *assembling & meeting here* to joy in *Divine Worship*.

Then follow lists of names of persons and parishes, with the amount of their contributions; but Gloucestershire is not among them, so as to explain the inscription on the saunce.



The two bells here are among the later additions to Browne Willis's list, originally made in 1714.

The Curfew is tolled on the tenor, for a few minutes nightly, at 8 p.m., during the winter months (but this can only, of course, be a modern revival).

Death Knell: as soon as notice is sent to the clerk.

On Sundays, for Services, the tenor is rung for ten minutes, then all the bells are chimed. The tenor is also rung for a few minutes after the Morning Service.

Ringling on chief Church Festivals. Tenor rung for Vestry Meetings.

There is a small endowment (land) for ringing the Curfew.

Many thanks to the Rev. A. H. Barrow, Vicar.

*STRATFORD, STONY.*

S. Giles.

1. TAYLOR CAMPANARIUS O A G O G O 1837:8
  2. TAYLOR OXON 1837:8.
  3. TAYLOR'S FECERUNT OXFORD 1837:8.
  4. TAYLORS FECERUNT OXFORD. [An Ox passant.] 1837:8. [An Ox passant.]
  5. TAYLOR'S BELLFOUNDERS OXFORD 1837:8.
  6. 1<sup>ST</sup> PETER 2<sup>ND</sup> C. 17<sup>TH</sup> V. FEAR GOD. HONOR THE KING W: & J: TAYLOR OXFORD BELL FOUNDERS 1837:8
- S. (*Blank*)

Tenor: very much tuned from lip; bad tone, probably cracked. Sauce: angular canons; evidently by Taylor. For the following measurements (in inches), and the weights of this ring, I am indebted to Mr. A. D. Tyssen:—

	Diameter.	Height.	Thickness.	Circumference of Crown.	Circumference of Waist.	Weight. cwt. qrs. lbs.
I.	30	22	2¼	52	59	5 3 1*
II.	31	22	2	53	59	5 1 8*
III.	33½	24	2¼	58	66	6 2 1
IV.	35	25	2¼	60	68	7 3 1
V.	38½	26	2½	65	74	8 3 7
VI.	43	31	2⅝	77	83	12 2 22
S.	13½	...	...	supposed about		0 0 50

These bells were rung for the first time on the day of the Queen's Coronation, June 28th, 1838. Mr. E. Swinfen Harris, F.R.I.B.A., kindly informed me that in

\* It seems natural to suppose that the weights of these two have been transposed, but it will be noticed that the treble is the thicker bell.



who gave the treble in 1594, and the predecessor of the third in 1632; possibly she was connected with the family of Franckyshe, of this parish; the Rev. Isaac Rushworth, A.M., was Rector from 1694, to his death in 1720; he was the successor of the eccentric John Mason. The large *fleur-de-lis* and rose are from the running pattern No. 3 on Plate XXXII. The coins are: first,  $1\frac{7}{16}$  inch diameter, bust dexter, George I. ?; second,  $1\frac{5}{8}$  inch diameter, bust ditto ?; third and fourth, same size, bust sinister, ANNA DEI GRATIA; fifth, same size, reverse, arms crosswise, MAG. BRI. FR— ET. HIB. REG. 17—; sixth:  $1\frac{7}{16}$  inch diameter, (?). Saunce (p. 257): the words in the upper line are incised; the ornament is fig. 85; wooden lever. Iron baldricks to all.

May, 1553, watr stratford ij great belle & a saunfe bell.

7 July, 1637, 3 Bells and a Sancts bell.

1714, 3 bells (saunce not mentioned).

Death Knell: tellers,  $3 \times 3 =$  a male;  $2 \times 3 =$  a female.

On Sundays, for Services, bells chimed twenty-five minutes; saunce for last five.

No ringing on Festivals or other special occasions.

Thanks to the Rev. L. E. Goddard, Rector.

The following entries in the churchwardens' accounts are quoted from Mr. J. L. Myres's paper on this parish in the *Records of Bucks*, VII., p. 135 (1893):—

1807. Jan. 17. payed for new Bell Rops and two Cords to let a Korpes in the grave	2 . 6
1810. Ap. 9. payd Bill for puttin Rolers to the Bells	... .. 3 . 6

## SWANBOURNE.

S. Swithun.

1.	16 54	CHANDELER MADE ME	(31½)
2.		RECAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1884	(33)
3, 4.			(36, 38½)
		CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1865	
5.	16 54	CHANDELER MADE ME	(43)
S.		J WARNER & SONS LONDON 1883	(16)

Treble and tenor: survivors, doubtless, of a ring of five by Anthony Chandler (p. 224); both turned; treble's crown-staple broken. The previous inside bells were cracked by hammering, in 1863; 3 and 4 were recast the same year; but the second remained for twenty-one years, presumably not being in so bad a case as the others, although in 1879, a piece fell out from it. Weight of present third, 8 cwt. 2 qrs. 10 lbs.; note A; and of fourth, 9 cwt. 3 qrs. 26 lbs.; note G. The former saunce was inscribed: R C 1702 = Richard Chandler III. (p. 233).

One very cold Sunday, about Christmas, 1882, when the bell was being chimed for Service as usual, the sound was noticed becoming very odd, and increasingly so; the cause did not occur to anyone at the time, but on investigation, it was found that the bell had split. Probably it had worn very thin, and the hard frost rendered it unusually brittle. Bells rehung (? by Bond) in old left-handed frame.

23 July, 1552, Swanborn, iiij bells. A fanctus bell A handbell [A Sepulchre folde to the repaçon of the feyte in the churche with A hand bell]\*

(*On the back* :—) this Invyto<sup>ry</sup> wantithe a hanbell . . . .

18 July, 1638, Swanborne : 5 bells, S<sup>ts</sup> bell.

the steeple pgeting doeth want, all the butterices in decay.

1714, 5 bells (saunce not mentioned, but evidently in existence).

Death Knell : as soon as possible, if in daylight; if after sunset, at 9 next morning. The age is tolled. Tellers :  $3 \times 3 =$  a male;  $2 \times 3 =$  a female.

For funerals, a bell tolled for half an hour previously.

On Sundays, for the Services, the bells are chimed, but rung on the great Festivals; in the middle of the time the tenor is rung alone for ten minutes, as Sermon Bell; the saunce chimed for the last five minutes. These uses are probably old; they were at any rate in use with the late parish clerk, who died in 1882, after forty-two years of office. The treble is rung for a few minutes at the end of Morning Service, called the Continuation Bell; no doubt (as is locally said to be the reason) to intimate that there will be a second Service held. Treble is also used to summon the children, both to week-day and Sunday schools.

Ringing on 5th November, and on the same day in each succeeding week, up to Christmas. Ringing on S. Thomas's Day at 6 a.m.; and at midnight on Christmas and New Year's Eves. On Christmas Day at 8 a.m., and at 2 and 7 p.m., as well as for Service. For Harvest Thanksgiving, and other local festivals, at 6 a.m., and also in the evening.

Nothing relating to the bells, apparently, in the parish documents.

Many thanks to the Rev. W. Miles Myres, Vicar.

## TAPLOW.

S. Nicholas.

- |    |                                     |               |
|----|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. | THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON         | (27½, Note E) |
| 2. | THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1840    | (29¼, „ D)    |
| 3. | ∞ T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1828 ∞∞∞ | (33, „ C)     |
| S. | (Blank)                             | (14)          |

Treble : cracked; letters only half-an-inch high; it is evidently (from the churchwardens' accounts quoted below) the same date (1840) as the second; Mr.

Henry Wilson (of Windsor, 1864) noted that there had been an inscription defaced on the waist of the bell. Weight of tenor, 4 cwt. 3 qrs. Saunce: said to have been one of the clock bells at Cliveden, and given to the church by Lord Orkney.

The old church was pulled down in 1828, and the present one erected (on a new site), by Thomas John, fifth Earl of Orkney, as he wished to throw the churchyard into the lawn of Taplow Court. The frame comes from the old church.

10 Aug: 1637, Taploe 3. Bells & a St<sup>s</sup> Bell. The great Bell wants a rope.  
1714, 3 bells (saunce not mentioned).

Death Knell: tolled the following morning, after nine o'clock. Tellers: three blows on each bell = a man, two on each, = a woman, and one on each, = a child. One bell is tolled at funerals.

On Sundays, one bell rung at eight a.m. Formerly the three were chimed for Morning and Evening Service, but the treble has been cracked for some years, and now only one bell is chimed, followed by the saunce for last five minutes.

The bells were formerly rung on the King and Queen's Birthdays, Coronation Day, and Gunpowder Plot.

EXTRACTS FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS.

1706	Aprill the 23 <sup>d</sup> paid for Ringing	...	...	...	00—03—00.
	October the 21 Ped charges for Ringing of gunpowder Treson				00—03—00.
	December 10 <sup>h</sup> Ped for Ringing thanksgiving day				...
1707	Ped for Ringing the queens Birthday Jany 14 <sup>th</sup> *	...	...	...	00—03—00.
	Aprill the 28 ped for three new bellropes	...	...	...	00 . 06 . 00.
1708.	July 10 <sup>th</sup> Ped for Ringing one shillin for the newes				...
1710.	P <sup>d</sup> for Ringing on the queens Crownation Day†	...	...	...	00—03—00.
1711	March 14 for three new Bell ropes	...	...	...	00—03—00.
1713-4	for a set of Bell ropes	...	...	...	00—08—06.
	December ped to the ringers of the quins Beth day				
	Ped to the Ringers for proclaiming the King.‡				
1715	Paid ye Ringers ye Kings Burthday	...	...	...	00—05—00.
	Paid ye Ringers ye Kings Crowwashon Day||				
	Decr ye 26 Paid ye Ringers of quen An's burthday	...	...	...	0— 2— 0.
	P <sup>d</sup> Mr Stanet for dril the bel	...	...	...	0— 0— 6.
Janv 19	1717 given the Ringers at the returne of the King				00—02—06.
1718	June 20 <sup>th</sup> Ped a king George Crowned	...	...	...	00—05—00.
1720	Ped Mary Hollis for Riners on ye Crownnasion day.	...	...	...	00—05—00.
1722	Paid for Caring ye bell to reding§	...	...	...	— 1— 6
	for casting ye bell & putting 26 pound of new Mettle to it at				
	14 pence a pound & sending hom	...	...	...	2—10— 0.

\* Q. Anne born Feb. 6th, 1664.

† Crowned April 23rd, 1702.

‡ George I. proclaimed Aug. 1, 1714.

|| Crowned Oct. 20th, 1714.

§ No doubt to Henry Bagley, who recast the Beaconsfield bells at Reading that year.

	for a rope for ye tingtang	...	...	...	0- 1- 3.
1727	Paid John Stannet for iron work for the Bells	...	...	...	00-09-00.
1729.	Sep. 25. for Rining three days	...	...	...	00- 01-06.
1731	May 20 pd for mending ye Saint Bell	...	...	...	00 . 03-00.
1732.	Oct. 20 paid for Ringers Gurreneaion* Day	...	...	...	00 . 03-00
1733.	Pe <sup>d</sup> for Ringers	...	...	...	00-01-00.
1735.	November 25. Spent as ringing money on the Kings Beth day.				00-05- 00.
	May ye 5 Spent a meding a bout the Beles	...	...	...	00-01-06.
1736.	September 10 <sup>th</sup> Pe <sup>d</sup> Thomas Whittenton for Lether for the Bells				00-02-06.
1737.	April. Paid to Christopher Rowley for repairing the Bells & welles				02-08-06.
	May 11 Pd tho Read for Driling the Bell	...	...	...	01-02-00.
1738	Pe <sup>d</sup> the Widow Alldrig for Ringin	...	...	...	00-10-00.
1739	Febary ye 1 <sup>st</sup> Pad Gillett for 4 Bl ropes wed 28 pound and a haf				0-14-03.
1742.	Pe <sup>d</sup> to William Read for repairing the Bells and other things				00-12- 4.
	for 3 bel Rops wt 30 pounds	...	...	...	0-15- 0.
1743	pe <sup>d</sup> the 3 Rining days	...	...	...	00-09-00.
1746.	March 30. paid for new bell Ropes	...	...	...	00-15-00.
1749	October ye 20. Paid Colour for four new ropes for the Church				00-18-00.
1752	Paid the ringin money	...	...	...	0- 9- 0.
	Pd J Wyvell for Bell Ropes	...	...	...	0-18- 0.
1755.	To Paid. Doctr Read mending Bells	...	...	...	0- 1- 6.
1757.	To 4 new Bell Ropes	...	...	...	0- 7- 0
1758	July 6 To Paid to John Wivil for a sett of new bell Ropes				-15- 0.
	Paid for one Tenor Rope†	...	...	...	- 6- .
1769	To M <sup>rs</sup> Meads 3 Ringing day's	...	...	...	0- 9- 0

(In Thomas Swain's autograph :—)

Febuary ye 15 : 1770  
 Rec<sup>d</sup> of Mr Brichenshaw† the sum of  
 Ten Pounds Eighten Shillings  
 For Recasting the Tribble Bell and  
 a New Stock & Carradge and  
 Putting up the same with Iron Work  
 belonging  
 by me

Tho<sup>s</sup> Swain

£ s d  
 10-18-4

\* This will, no doubt, be recognised as a local variety of the word *Coronation*.

† The following entry, though having no connection with matters campanological, will, perhaps, bring its own excuse for quoting it here :—

1767.	Physick	...	...	0 . 1 . 6
	Cuting is are	...	...	0 . 0 . 6
	2 pare of stockings	...	...	2 . 4
	2 pare of souse	...	...	4 . 6

‡ John Briginshaw, became Church "wharn" in 1769.

(In another handwriting :—)

expencis with goin to bel  
fowndar and his men  
In takin Down it and  
puttin up the same  
and other asistance  
In Doin of it ——— 1 . 5 . 10

1771.	To new bell Ropes	...	...	...	0—18— 0.
	Mrs. Meads 3 Ringing days	...	...	...	0— 9— 0.
<sup>1771</sup> Ap <sup>l</sup> 20 <sup>th</sup>	paid Thomas Swain for casting the Bell and new Clapper	...	...	...	3 . 13 . 10
	John Read for Iron work for the Bell as per Bill	...	...	...	1 . 15 . 0
	M <sup>rs</sup> Meads for 3 Ringing days	...	...	...	0— 9— 0
Dec. ye 10.	4 new Bell Ropes	...	...	...	0—18— 0
1773	Paid M <sup>rs</sup> Meads for 3 Ringing days	...	...	...	0— 9— 0
	Paid John Read his bill for repairing the Bell	...	...	...	1— 4— 5
	Paid John Read for repairing the Bells and a seat in the Belfry as per Bill.	...	...	...	0—13— 2
1777	Paid M <sup>rs</sup> Meads for 3 Ringing days	...	...	...	0— 9— 0
1778	Paid John Read his bill for mending the Bells &c	...	...	...	0—19— 1
1790.	April 14 Pd Mr Catterns bill for a set of Bell Ropes	...	...	...	1— 0— 8
1794	May 21, Pd Mr March 2 years Ringing Money	...	...	...	0—18— 0
1797	Oct. 24, Bell Ropes ...	...	...	...	1— 4— 8
1799	Mr. March for Ringing	...	...	...	0— 9— 0
1828	pd the Ringers at Consecration*	...	...	...	0—15— 0
<sup>1829</sup> Nov. 29.	Mr. Austin for carriage of A Bell to and from London	...	...	...	1 . 7 . „
	Mr. Lacey for Bell Ropes	...	...	...	1 . 12 . 0
	Mr. Wright for Ringers	...	...	...	0 . 9 . 0
<sup>1830</sup> Oct. 20.	Mr. Mears Bellhangers Bill	...	...	...	29 . 2 . 5
1831	Mr. Wright for Ringers†	...	...	...	0 . 9 . 0
May 11.	Harris & Ringers	...	...	...	0 . 2 . 0
1833	March 26 Mending clapper of Bell	...	...	...	0 . 5 . 0
1836.	Pd Cook for looking after Boys & chiming bells	...	...	...	2 . 12 . 0
<sup>1841</sup> Jany 6.	Mr. Frankland Bill for carriage of Bells	...	...	...	2 . 10 . „
	Mr. Mackie for Bell ropés	...	...	...	—19— 0
March 29.	Mr. Mears. Bill for recasting Bells	...	...	...	23 . 5 . 3
	Labourers assisting pulling down & putting up Bells	...	...	...	1 . 4 . 0
<sup>1842</sup> Jany 5	Pd Buckland for repairing the Bells	...	...	...	0 . 6 . 6
Feb'y 2	Pd Ringers	...	...	...	0 . 5 . 0

The entries in 1829 and 1830, evidently refer to the existing tenor, and those in 1841, to the existing treble and second.

\* *I.E.*, of the present church.

† This charge is repeated in the three following years; in 1835, the amount is diminished to £0 . 6 . 0.

Many thanks to the late Rev. Charles Whately, formerly Rector, and to Mr. James Rutland, F.G.S., formerly Organist and still Parish Clerk, Hon. Sec. Maidenhead Archæological Society, etc.

Early in 1853, it was proposed to augment the ring to eight, and Mr. Rutland kindly showed me the correspondence which ensued with Messrs. "Cha<sup>s</sup> & Geo Mears," as the firm signed themselves. On "Feb<sup>y</sup> 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1853," they wrote:—

The present price of metal is high—and the cost of three larger & two smaller Bells will be abt. as follows.

New Tenor	... 9 . 2 . 0				
7	... 7 . 2 . 0				
6 <sup>th</sup>	... 6 . 2 . 0				
2 <sup>nd</sup>	... 3 . 3 . 0				
Treble	... 3 . 2 . 0				
	30 . 3 . 0	@ £9 ,, 6 ,, 8			
		p. Cwt. }	£287	,, 0 ,, 0	
5 Stocks, Wheels, Ironwork	... }		35	,, 0 ,, 0	
Brafes, &c &c	... }				
Making frame & hanging	... }		35	,, 0 ,, 0	
Bells—abt.	... }				
			£357	,, 0 ,, 0	

This octave would have been in the key of G.

An alternative proposal was to raise the existing ring to five; either by adding two smaller bells—treble, 3 cwt. 2 qrs., G; and second, 3 cwt. 3 qrs., F; at a cost, for bells, of £67 14s., and for frame and hanging, £28, = £95 14s.; or, to raise the existing tenor a semitone (to C<sup>#</sup>), and to add two larger bells—fourth, 6 cwt. 2 qrs., B; and tenor, 7 cwt. 2 qrs., A; at a cost, for the bells, of £130 13s. 4d., and for frame and hanging, £30, = £160 13s. 4d.

## TATTENHOE.

S. Giles.

*Single.*

(18)

+ P E T R Y S : D E V E S T O N : M E B E C I T

The only example by him in the county (p. 9). Cross and lettering on Plate VIII., upper set; rather a flat crown; canons with string moulding; straps nailed; half-wheel, of the seventeenth or eighteenth century. Hangs in a small turret over west end of nave, so small that it is rather troublesome to get at.

In 1714, one bell.



## THORNBOROUGH.

S. Mary.

1, 3, 4- NAYLOR VICKERS & C<sup>o</sup> 1860 SHEFF.  
FIELD E. RIEPE'S PATENT CAST STEEL.

1. (*On Waist*;) N<sup>o</sup> 1536  
 3. (*Do*;) N<sup>o</sup> 1612  
 4. (*Do*;) N<sup>o</sup> 1750  
 2, 5. (*On Shoulder : ditto, except*;) 1861  
 2. (*On Waist*;) N<sup>o</sup> 2501  
 5. (*Do*;) N<sup>o</sup> 2469  
 S. (*Blank*)

(13 $\frac{1}{4}$ )

In my humble opinion, steel church bells are an abomination that ought to be prohibited by Act of Parliament! These examples are completely covered with great red scabs of rust, which are constantly flaking off, and their appearance is loathsome; their tone is said to be very poor. They have low canons, with a flat circular plate cast on the top of them, through which the straps are bolted. Saunce: a peculiarly long-waisted bell (of bell-metal); with a flat crown, not much less diameter than the lip; height to crown, thirteen inches; ornamented with rims all over it; two groups of three each on the shoulder; two more of three each on the waist; then a single rim, and then a group of two on the sound-bow; apparently cast with only the single canons. Probably seventeenth century?

The following account of these bells was inserted in the Marriage Register by the Vicar, the late Rev. T. E. Watkins:—

	Key.	Diameter.	Weight.	Number.
Steel Bells 1861.	D	33 in.	575	1536
	C	36	758	2501
	B	38	807 $\frac{1}{2}$	1612
	A	43	1207 $\frac{1}{2}$	1750
	G	45	1339	2469






Total weight 4687 lbs. at 10<sup>d</sup> p. lb. cost £195 ,, 5 ,, 10.

The Yokes, Wheels, and Stays.	I.	£	5	..	15	..	0
	II.	6	..	10	..	0	
	III.	6	..	10	..	0	
	IV.	7	..	5	..	0	
	V.	8	..	0	..	0	
		£	34	..	0	..	0

5 pairs of Brasses				
44½ lbs. at 3/-	£6	„	13	„
5 Bell ropes 9/-	2	„	5	„
5 Guide Rolls at 6/-	1	„	10	„
	£10 „ 8 „ 6			
Total of Messrs. Naylor & Co's a/c	£	239	„	14
Carriage of Bells from Sheffield ...	£	7	„	0
Bellhanger ...	£	10	„	2

The Marriage Register, besides the above account of the steel bells, fortunately contains the following account of the old ring, embellished with careful drawings of the inscriptions, *minus*, however, the crosses and such other ornamental stamps as may have occurred on the two “ancients” :—

June 13, 1861. The four Bronze Bells were taken down from the Tower, the inscriptions on them were as follows—

1.  **A**ffit  **P**rincipio  **S**ra  **M**aria  **M**PO
2. **EDWARD HALL MADE ME 1736**
3. **In Multis Annis Resonet Campana Iohannis**
4. **HENRË KNIGHT MADE TH ÆS BELL  
ANO DOMINË 1610 † WHOSE NAME ÆS  
CALED GABRIËLL XXXX**

(1.) This Bell measured in height 2 ft. 11 in. ; in diameter 35 (thirty-five) inches, and in circumference 9 ft. 2 in., and weighed about 8 cwt.

(2.) Height 2 ft. 10 inches ; diameter 36 inches, circumference 9 ft. 8 inches. Weight about 9½ cwt.

(3.) This Bell measured in height 3 ft. 7½ in., in diameter 40 (forty) inches, & circumference 10 ft. 5 inches.

(4.) This Bell measured in height 3 ft. 10 inches ; in diameter 3 ft. 9 inches, and in circumference 11 ft. 8 in.

The four Bronze Bells weighed together 4910 lbs. and were sold at 9<sup>d</sup> pr. lb. for £184 „ 3 „ 0 to Messrs. Naylor & Co., September 27, 1861.

THOS. EDW. WATKINS.

I have placed these bells according to their size ; but in the Register the order is (using the above numbers)—3, 2, 1, 4 ; the cross on the fourth is placed as here copied, after 1610 ; but possibly the inscription was in two lines, the † beginning

the first, and WHOSE the second. The capitals on the treble measured about  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches in height inclusive of their crowns, and were no doubt identical with those on the Wingrave Tenor, Plate XIII.; the smalls also appear to be identical; and therefore, it is very likely to have been cast—like that bell—by John Danyell; see p. 36. The inscription is recorded by Browne Willis, MSS., cix., 29, who mentions it as the treble; he writes “Sancta” in full. The lettering on the second seems to be Richard Chandler III.’s 1.2 inch set, which was ordinarily used by Hall. The capitals on the third were about  $1\frac{3}{8}$  in. high; and appear to be the set (fig. 9) ascribed by Mr. Stahlschmidt (Kent, Plate III.) to William Burford; as he died in 1392, this bell, being “mixed Gothic” (see p. 19), would have been by a subsequent possessor of the stamps, most likely Robert Burford (p. 24), if I am right in my identification of the drawings. The tenor was by Henry Knight I. (p. 124), and was without much doubt a recast of an “ancient,” with some form of the hexameter, *Missi de celis habeo nomen Gabrielis*. This ring is mentioned in *Records of Bucks*, II., p. 286.

While one cannot cease to regret that these bells are no more, yet at least we may be grateful to the Rev. T. E. Watkins for preserving so careful a record of them; and we must hope that, in the future, any incumbent, who for any reason decides to destroy an old bell, will, while he still has the opportunity, “go and do likewise.”

5 May, 1553, Thornborow, iiij great belle & one faunfe bell.

10 July, 1637, 4 Bells & a S<sup>ts</sup> Bell . . . . y<sup>e</sup> steeple windowes to be rep<sup>rd</sup>

1714, 4 bells (saunce not mentioned).

The “Pancake Bell” on Shrove Tuesday, was discontinued about 1830; it used to be rung by *women*, at 11.30 a.m.

Death Knell: tolled on the tenor for a full hour, within an hour of the death, if before sunset, otherwise at eight next morning. Tellers,  $3 \times 3 =$  a male;  $2 \times 3 =$  a female.

Before funerals, a “Call Bell” is first tolled, to give notice to the bearers; and then after a short pause, one bell is tolled for an hour. As the procession enters the church, the sanctus bell is used, and continued until all are in their places.

On Sundays, the bells are chimed for half an hour before the Services, the saunce (here called “the Saints’ Bell”) being used for the last few minutes. During the last few years, the bells have been (?) chimed both before and after Morning Service on the first Sunday in the month, being Holy Communion Sunday.

Formerly (until about 1830), when clocks were scarcer than at present, the bells were chimed at eleven o’clock on Sunday mornings, for about ten minutes, even if there was to be no Service.

Ringings twice a week from S. Andrew’s Day (November 30th), and including *old* “t Andrew” (December 11th), until Christmas. Also on Christmas and New Year’s Eves, and on Christmas morning.

Ringing on the Anniversary of the Benefit Society (the first Wednesday in June), at 4 a.m. and 9 p.m.; on 5th November, when the bells are fired and "shot" (whatever that may be), etc.; and also after weddings and baptisms, when paid for.

About 1840, the bells were occasionally also rung on the day *after* a wedding, when paid for. Until about 1860, a bell was rung for vestry meetings.

Very many thanks to the Rev. W. Steadman, Vicar.

*THORNTON.*

S. Michael.

1. + S I Ω ☉ : P R Θ : E I Y H : M I C ☽ H E I  
: D E V S : H ☉ O, V E : M H R I H (36½)

2. I 6 3 5 (38½)

3. ❖ Sum Rosa Pulsata Qun-  
di Maria Vocata ❖ ∇ (44)

Treble: a fourteenth century bell, probably by a more or less local founder (p. 15); the cross and lettering are figured on Plate VII. **PRΘ ELYH** seems to refer to Elias de Tingewick, who was presented to the rectory in 1315, by Roesia de Chastillon (apparently the widow of Malcolm de Chastillon, whose death however, Lipscomb places at "about 1318"); Elias probably died in 1343, see p. 15. A namesake of his was tenant, in 1285, of two mills and three acres of land in the adjoining parish of Beachampton, but there is nothing to indicate his relationship.

In the "Feet of Fines" (Bucks), for 13 Edward I. (= 1285):—

Hec est finalis concordia facta in Curia Dñi Regis apud Westm̄ a Die Pasch̄ in vn̄ mens̄. Anno regni Regis Edwardi filii Regis Henrici ꝑcodečo / coram Thoñ de Weyland Joñe de louetot Roço de Leycestre & Wilfo de Brāton Justic̄ & aliis Dñi Regis fidelibus tunc ibi p̄senf̄. Int̄. Robm de Bray de Bechampton petentē p̄ Radm de Bray positum loco suo ad lucrandum uel p̄denđ & Eliam de Tyngewyke tenentē de duobus molendinis & tribz acris p̄re cum p̄tiñ in Bechampton. Vnde p̄tm fuit int̄ eos in eadem Curia. sciñt qd pred̄cs Robfs recogñ pred̄ca tenementa cum p̄tiñ esse ius ip̄ius Elie. Et ille remisit & quiet̄ clañ de se & heř suis pred̄co Elie & heř suis inppetui. Et p̄ hac recogñ remissione quiet̄ clañ sine & concordia idē Elias dedit pred̄fo Robfo vn̄ speruariū soř.

2: the 1 matches so closely, as to be apparently identical with, a figure generally used by Richard Chandler I., of Drayton Parslow, and occasionally by his son Anthony; and the 6 may be identical with one of the figures used by the latter; but the two other figures being of a different, and rather clumsy set, remind one of James Keene's similar mixture (p. 164). None of the four figures, however, are identical with Keene's, and the probability seems in favour of this bell being the earliest example known from the Drayton foundry, only about seven miles distant



HENERY (*do.*, 1 in.) BAGLEY (*do.*, 1 in.) MADE (*do.*, *do.*) MEE  
 🌿 J T 2 J 🌿 (*Fig. 72, all round = 3 ft. 8 in.*) (44½)

S.      🌸 R      🌸 A      🌸 🌸 🌸 🌸      1622      🌸      (16¼)

Treble, 4, and saunce : by Robert Atton (pp. 204-205), in the medium-sized lettering, of which samples are given at the bottom of Plate XXXI. ; the rose on all three is No. 10 on Plate XXX. On the treble, the date is in the original set of figures ; the crown and square stop are at the bottom of Plate XXXI. ; and the oblong stop is the arabesque, fig. 68. 2 : the lettering is on Plates XXVIII. and XXIX. ; the ornate cross is on the latter, and the shield is fig. 66 (p. 198). 3 : by John Walgrave (p. 31) ; the cross and shield are figs. 17 and 18 ; the capitals are on Plate XII. ; the inscription is in exceptionally sharp, fresh condition ; bell much reduced from lip by tuning ; turned ; curious old wheel, perhaps converted from a half-wheel. Tenor : by one of the Henry Bagleys, other than the first founder of the name (p. 218) ; the lettering is the heavy set, one inch high ; the floral ornament before and after the date, is fig. 76. 3 and 4 : have short wooden stays ; the others have iron stays, with horizontal bolt-like sliders of iron.

(? 5 May,) 1553, Tyngweek / iiij great belle & one faunfe bell.  
 7 July, 1637, Tingwicke 5 Bells. & a Clock. 5 bells they have.  
 1714, 5 bells (sanctus bells not mentioned in this list).

The "Pancake Bell" is rung on Shrove Tuesday, at 11.30 a.m., on the third bell.

Death Knell : tolled as soon as possible after death, usually within three hours. The tenor used for persons over twelve years, the fourth for children up to that age. Tellers, 3 × 3 = a male ; 2 × 3 = a female.

One bell tolled for half an hour before funerals. Muffled ringing in the evening after the funeral of a ringer.

On Sundays, the treble is rung at 8 a.m., to give notice that there will be Morning Service ; and at the conclusion of the Service, to give notice that there will be Afternoon Service : this latter use is known as the "Oven Bell." For the Services, the bells are (?) chimed for twenty-five minutes, if enough ringers are present, otherwise only the two trebles ; the saunce for the last five minutes. On great festivals, when there is an early Celebration at 8.30, the two trebles are (?) chimed for ten minutes, and the saunce for the last five minutes. Sermon Bell rung at 10.30 a.m., and 2.30 p.m. These usages are of long standing.

For week-day Services in Lent, the two trebles are (?) chimed for ten minutes, followed by the saunce for five.

From S. Andrew's Day (November 30th) until Christmas, the bells are rung from 7 to 8 p.m., three times a week (besides Sundays) ; and every night from Christmas to the New Year.

On Christmas Day, used as on Sundays, with the addition of ringing from 6 to 7 p.m. Midnight ringing on Christmas Eve (11.30 p.m. to 12.30 a.m., with a pause for five minutes at midnight); also formerly, on New Year's Eve, but now there is muffled ringing on that evening from 7 to 8; and on New Year's Day, ringing from 6 to 7 a.m., and from 7 to 8 p.m.

Until the last few years, the bells were rung on January 29th (? a mistake for *May* 29th), May 24th (the Queen's Birthday), June 28th (Coronation), and November 5th (Gunpowder Treason). Of these, only May 24th is still continued.

Ringling for an hour when the Warden and Fellows of New College, Oxford—the Patrons of the Living—hold their annual Court. For weddings when requested. The treble is rung for a few minutes before Vestry meetings.

The churchwardens' accounts are reported "devoid of information respecting the bells," but in the Parish Registers are the following entries:—

1788.	Paid for ringing, May 29th.	...	— . 2 . 6
1794.	Bell Ropes. ...	...	1 . 5 . 0

There are other entries of beer and money to the ringers.

Very many thanks to the Rev. W. J. B. Hancock, Curate.

*TOWERSEY.*

S. Catharine.

1.	<b>WILLIAM</b>	<b>NORTH</b>	<b>WILLIAM</b>	<b>RADFORD</b>
	<b>C W</b>	<b>1695</b>		(27 $\frac{3}{8}$ )
2, 3.	<b>THIS</b>	<b>BELL</b>	<b>WAS</b>	
	<b>MADE</b>	<b>£ 6 2 7</b>		(29, 32)
4.				(35 $\frac{3}{4}$ )
	<b>PRAYES</b>	<b>THE</b>	<b>LORD</b>	<b>£ 6 2 7</b>
S.	( <i>Blank</i> )			(16)

Treble: by Richard Keene (p. 171). 2, 3, and tenor: by Ellis Knight (p. 127); it seems likely that he recast the old ring of three, and that the present treble was an addition. The saunce is one of the round-shouldered, round-lipped bells; it has a space of one inch between the rims, in which is a raised band,  $\frac{5}{16}$  inch broad; and is, apparently, late seventeenth or early eighteenth century; not unlikely, I think, to be a late example by Richard Keene (p. 171); turned; iron lever.

The (modern) tower is over the south porch; the bells have horizontal iron stays, and wooden upright sliders hinged at the bottom.

In 1714, 4 bells (saunce not mentioned).

Death Knell : tolled for an hour, as soon as convenient. For funerals, one bell is tolled.

On Sundays, the bells are chimed for Service ; the saunce, called the Sermon Bell, used the last few minutes.

Ringing generally at Christmas, New Year, and Harvest Thanksgiving ; for weddings when paid for.

One bell rung for Vestry Meetings.

## EXTRACTS FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS.

Augt	1742	Paid the ringers	...	...	5 . 0
Sep.	1743	(ditto)			
Nov.	"	(ditto)			
"	"	A lot of Bell ropes	...	...	11 . 0
	1744	(ditto)			
	1746	(ditto)	...	...	10 . 0
	"	Gave to the Ringers	...	...	5 . 0
Nov. 5	"	Paid the Ringers	...	...	5 . 0
	1748	(ditto)			
	"	4 Bell ropes	...	...	10 . 0
	1751	Beer for the ringers	...	...	5 . 0
		A sett of Bell ropes	...	...	10 . 0
	1752	Paid the Ringers for Gunpowder	...	...	6 . 0
		Paid for Bell ropes	...	...	11 . 6
Nov. 5	1753	Paid the Ringers	...	...	5 . 0
	1755	Beer for the Ringers	...	...	5 . 0 (twice)
	1756	Paid for Bell ropes	...	...	10 . 6
	"	Beer for Ringers	...	...	5 . 0 (twice)
	1757	(ditto)			(twice)
	1758	Paid for Bell ropes	...	...	13 . 6
	"	Paid for Ringers	...	...	5 . 0
	1759	Paid ringers	...	...	5 . 0
	1761	Beer for ringers	...	...	5 . 0
		New Set of Bell ropes...	...	...	13 . 0
	1762	Spent on ringers	...	...	5 . 0
	1763	Beer for ringers	...	...	5 . 0
	1764	Paid for Bell ropes	...	...	12 . 0
	"	Beer for ringers	...	...	5 . 0
	1768	Paid Mr. Crips doing the Bells	...	4 . 2 . 9	
	1769	for a new claper for the first Bell	...	14 . 8	
	"	pd John Tomlinson for doin the Bell	...	5 . 7 . 4	
	1773	Pd for mendin the Bell	...	1 . 0	
		for a new set of Bell ropes	...	15 . 0	
	1777	Paid for Bell ropes	...	...	12 . 0
	1778	for a tenner rope	...	...	4 . 6



1780	for Bell ropes	...	...	12 . 6
1782	for a set of Bell ropes	...	...	14 . 8
1785	Paid the Ringers twice	...	...	10 . 0
1788	Gave the Ringers at is ( <i>sic</i> ) Majesty's recovery*	...	...	10 . 0
1789	for Bell ropes & cords	...	...	17 . 0
1793	a set of Bell ropes	...	...	15 . 0
1799	for four Bell ropes	...	...	1 . 5 . 4

Very many thanks to the Rev. R. Pargiter, Vicar.

*TURVILLE.*

S. Mary.

1. HENRY KNIGHT MADE MEE 4670  
 2. PRAYES THE LORD £628  
 3. CHARLES CUTHBERT VIC<sup>R</sup> JOHN JUENS JOHN QUARTERMAIN  
 CH : WARDENS J744 T. LESTER  
 MADE ME (35½)  
 S. 1729

Treble : by Henry Knight II. (p. 133) ; small ball to clapper ; stay in middle of stock. 2 : by Ellis Knight (p. 127) ; the letters average  $1\frac{5}{8}$  inches in height. Tenor : the Rev. Charles Cuthbert, M.A., was presented to the living by Messrs. Richard Pocock, Francis Styles, and Nathaniel Carter, on the 6th April, 1732 ; his successor was presented on 13th December, 1770. The saunce is no doubt by R. Phelps (p. 98).

The frame and hangings are not later than the date of the newest bell (1744) ; the sliders slide from both ends, instead of being hinged at one end. The stocks are so short, that the timbers of the cages are cut into, fully three inches deep on each side, to allow the mouths of the bells to swing clear ; probably when hung, they were intended to be chimed only ; the wheels are of very peculiar pattern.

(18?) July, 1552, Turfild (the list is gone).

14 Aug : 1637, Turfeild . 3 Bells & a St<sup>h</sup> Bell. The butterices of the steeple in decay in the foundacon.

1714, 3 bells (saunce not mentioned).

Death Knell : as soon as intimation of the death is received. Tellers : 3 strokes = a male ; 2 = a female.

On Sundays, the tenor is rung at 8 a.m. The bells are chimed for the Services. These are old uses.

Ringing on 5th November, and New Year's Eve ; also after weddings.

Thanks to the Rev. T. M. Studholme, Vicar.

\* See foot-note, p. 512.



is not uniform ; low canons ; much chipped from lip for tuning. Saunce : has four single canons only, as at Thornborough, etc. ; probably early eighteenth (or seventeenth) century ; iron baldrick ; lever.

With the apparent exception of the treble cage, the frame is old, and of rather peculiar construction ; some of the timbers, which are handsomely chamfered, are probably sixteenth century. Modern wheels ; apparently replaced on more recent stocks made by some local practitioner, the date, 1870, scribbled in pencil on that of the third, perhaps marks its date.

On November 3rd, 1887, the church was reopened, after partial restoration, which included the rebuilding of the tower, during which the bell-frame was shored up, and some repairs were effected. Two 720's (Minor) were rung on that occasion, by members of the Oxford Diocesan Ringing Guild, who found the "go" of the bells somewhat rough and heavy.\*

5 May, 1553, Twyfford. iiij great bellys and one fauns bell.

11 July, 1637, Twiford 5 Bells & a S<sup>ts</sup> Bell.

1714, 5 bells ; and 1755, 5 modern bells.

An entry in the old Parish Book, undated, but in handwriting corresponding with that in the churchwardens' accounts between 1709 and 1721, records the inscriptions on the bells then here :—

An account of y<sup>e</sup> Inscriptions of y<sup>e</sup> Bells in Twyfford Parish Church Steeple—

<i>First Bell.</i>	† R . A . 1618
<i>The 2<sup>nd</sup>.</i>	Bartholomewe Attun 1394 [An obvious mistake for 1594]
<i>The 3<sup>rd</sup>.</i>	J . K . † 1627
<i>The 4<sup>th</sup>.</i>	[The Alphabet Bell, now the 5 <sup>th</sup> ]
<i>The 5<sup>th</sup>.</i>	God save our King 1627.

R. A. on the treble was, of course, Robert Atton ; and the third and tenor were, no doubt, by James Keene.

Death Knell : tellers, 3 strokes = a man, 2 = a woman, 1 = a child.

On Sundays, a bell was formerly rung at 9 a.m., but this is now discontinued. Before Service, the tenor is rung if there is to be a sermon ; then the bells are chimed ; and the saunce for the last five minutes. These are old usages.

Special ringing for Christmas and New Year.

Many thanks to the Rev. H. C. Collier, Vicar.

### TYLER'S GREEN.

S. Margaret.

Modern parish ; church built 1854. One bell.

\* *Bell News*, VI., 397.

*TYRINGHAM (with Filgrave).*

S. Peter.

1. + ECCE EVAM BONVM ET  
EVAM IVCVNDVM 1629 (29 $\frac{3}{4}$ )

2. RICHARD CHANDLER MADE  
ME 1720 (32)

3. + SICVT ROS HERMON IN  
MONTE SION 1629 (33 $\frac{1}{4}$ )

4. THOMAS + RVSSSELL \* OF WOOTTON + BY BEDFORD  
MADE ME \* IAMES BROOKES CHVRCHWARDEN J $\overline{7}$ 35 (37 $\frac{1}{4}$ )

5. RICHARD CHANDLER  
MADE ME 2021 (41 $\frac{1}{4}$ )

Treble and 3 : by James Keene (p. 164); the cross on each is No. 4 on Plate XXVI. Crown-staple of treble broken; original stock to third. 2 : the lettering is Richard Chandler III.'s 1.2 inch set (p. 235); inscription below usual position; very high canons; original stock. 4 (p. 255). Tenor : by Richard Chandler III.; the only example in the county on which this 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  inch set of lettering is used (p. 234).

Left-handed seventeenth-century frame; most of hangings renewed. Some of the brasses were worn out; but in 1889, as the Rev. J. Tarver, Rector, kindly informed me, two of the bells were rehung, and various repairs effected.

In 1714, 5 bells.

Lipscomb (IV., 380) : Five modern bells, cast out of three.

He further states that the roof of Filgrave Church (S. Mary) appears to have fallen in, in the reign of Elizabeth, and the parishioners, consequently, deserted it. He supposes the tower to have contained three bells.

The MSS. of James Temple Mansel,\* state that Filgrave Church had :—

An embattled Tower of 10 feet diameter which could not contain above three bells.

The tower was pulled down in 1788, the remainder of the church having decayed before then.

The peal of Filgrave Church consisted of 3 bells, two of which were taken away to Tyringham and one to Sherington.

There is a tradition at Stoke Goldington that one came there.

\* Kindly communicated by Mr. Fredk. W. Bull, of Kettering.

## UPTON.

S. Lawrence.

*Single.* Our ♡ hope ♡ is ♡ in ♡ the ♡ lord  
 ♡ R ♡ E ♡ 1619 ♡ (30½)

S. IN HONOREM S.S. TRINITATIS, A.D. 1859. C. ET G. MEARS  
 LONDINI FECERUNT. (18)

The "big" bell is by Richard Eldridge (p. 243).

When the new parish church at Slough was built in 1837, it was intended to pull down this good old Norman Church. Happily that was not carried out, and, ultimately, after being reduced almost to a ruin, it was restored in 1850-1. Meanwhile, the four bells which this tower contained were removed to Slough; and there seems to have been no bell here from 1837 (or 1855), until 1859, when the saunce was placed in a little bell-cot over the east end of the modern south aisle.

In 1888 a new sixth bell was substituted at Slough for the old Upton third, as its "cry" did not harmonise well with the seven Whitechapel bells there, and it was brought back, after half a century's absence, to its former home at Upton.

18 July, 1552, Vppon, In pimis iiii belles/

6 Aug: 1637, 4 Bells. The bellfry staires to be mended and a dore to be flopped up that looketh into the Church going up the aforeſd ſtaires.

1714, Uupton, 4 bells.

The following extracts from the churchwardens' accounts are from the Rev. P. W. Phipps's *Records of the Churches, etc., of Upton cum Chalvey* :—

1727	Ringin for ye Queen	...	...	...	...	0	5	0
	King George the Second Rining	...	...	...	...	0	5	0
	The Arch Deckon for Rining and expences	...	...	...	...	0	9	0
	For Haning of the Bells	...	...	...	...	6	0	0
1757	Nov. 5. Paid for Beer for the Ringers	...	...	...	...	0	5	0
1811	Paid to Ringers from Sept. 22nd, 1808, to Jan. 18, 1812, 18 times					4	10	0

## Slough (Parish Church).

S. Mary.\*

I. MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON 1886.  
 THE TWO SMALL BELLS TO COMPLETE THE PEAL OF  
 EIGHT WERE PRESENTED BY F CHARLESLEY ESQ:  
 J. HARTOPP NASH } CHURCHWARDENS. (25)  
 W. DAWSON

\* Originally S. Lawrence, as it was intended to pull down the ancient (Norman) church of S. Lawrence, Upton, now included in this parish. Fortunately that sacrilegious act was never completed, so when this modern church was re-consecrated after alterations, in 1878, the opportunity was taken to re-dedicate it to S. Mary.

2. MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON 1886. (25½)

3, 7, 8. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1855 (26¼, 33¾, 36¾)

4. C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON

(On Waist:)









THESE BELLS WERE REHUNG & THE  
TREBLE AND TENOR

ADDED

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
1855

HENRY FLEETWOOD NASH  
WILLIAM BONSEY  
CHURCHWARDENS

(27½)

5. R † PHELPS FECIT 1725      
    (29)

6. MEARS & STAINBANK, WHITECHAPEL FOUNDRY, LONDON 1888. (32)

This church was built in 1837, to form the parish church of the new town of Slough, and the four bells belonging to the old parish church of Upton, were transferred to this yellow-brick tower.

The Rev. P. W. Phipps, late Rector, states in his *Records of the Churches, etc., of Upton cum Chalvey* (Slough, 1886), that this took place in 1855, "the old frame being re-arranged, and so constructed as to receive a peal of six bells. The treble and tenor of the old 4 bells were cracked. They weighed respectively 17 cwt. 1 qr. 2 lbs., and 3 cwt. 2 qrs. 11 lbs. . . . The tenor now weighs 9 cwt." The weight given for the old tenor (17 cwt.) is obviously a misprint for 7 cwt.

In 1855 the treble and tenor were recast, and an additional treble and tenor (note A) added, to make six, as recorded on what then became the second, and is now the fourth. In 1886, the ring was augmented to the octave, two new trebles being presented by Frederick Charsley, Esq., of Ivy Lodge, Iver. In 1888, the same benefactor gave a new sixth bell; and the old bell, with a good taste which is unfortunately not common, was not broken up, but (chiefly, I believe, through the instrumentality of Mr. A. C. Fussell) restored to its original home at Upton.

The tower is very small and cramped, and the arrangement of the eight bells, so as to have a good circle for the ropes, is ingenious. The alterations to the frame necessitated by the augmentation from six to eight bells, were executed by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, Mr. J. Collier being their representative.

Chalvey.

S. Peter.

Modern church, finished 1861. Two bells, said by Mr. Henry Wilson, of Windsor (1864), to be by Warner; diameters about 27 and 30 inches. Hung in an open turret, with wheels, but no stays or sliders.

## WADDES DON.

S. Michael.

1. (*Running border all round, except for Royal Arms.*)  
 (*Under the latter :*) PATENT  
 (*On Waist :*) No 3023  
 (*Above Sound-bow :*) NAYLOR VICKERS & Co SHEFFIELD 1862  
 CAST STEEL (30½)
2. NAYLOR VICKERS & Co 1861 SHEFFIELD E. RIEPE'S  
 PATENT, CAST STEEL  
 (*On Waist :*) No 2354 (32)
3. (*Running border*) (18<sup>1862</sup>) (*Running border*) (18<sup>1862</sup>) (*Running border*)  
 (*On Waist : Royal Arms.*) (*On opposite side :*) No 2870  
 (*Underneath :*) PATENT  
 (*Above Sound-bow :*) NAYLOR VICKERS & Co SHEFFIELD 1862  
 CAST STEEL (35¾)
4. (*Ditto to treble, except*) No 3020 (37½)
5. (*Ditto to 2, except*) No 2553. (40½)
6. (*Running pattern and Royal Arms, as 1 and 4.*)  
 (*Underneath :*) PATENT  
 No 3045  
 NAYLOR VICKERS & Co SHEFFIELD CAST STEEL (45)
- Clock-Bell.* 1806 (17½)

All steel bells, except the clock-bell ; in the same hideous state of scabby rust as the similar ring at Thornborough. The treble is hoisted, in a new cage ; the frame of the remaining five is probably eighteenth century, showing the number of the ring of bronze bells that these tin kettles take the place of. The clock-bell is no doubt from Whitechapel, by Thomas Mears and Son (p. 105) ; it is hung on the roof of the tower.

- (July) 1552, Wadeldon. Inp<sup>h</sup>mis iiij great belle <sup>t</sup>w one fans bell. . . .  
 Ifm ij hand belle  
 16 July, 1638 Waddsdon (visited, but bells not mentioned).  
 1714, 5 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

Chapel-of-Ease—S. Mary the Virgin, Wescott ; one small bell.

## WALTON.

S. Michael.

1. ANTHONY CHANDLER PRAISE THE LORD 1679 (33)
2. CHANDLER MADE ME 1709 (37 $\frac{3}{4}$ )

Treble: one of Anthony Chandler's latest bells; one of the same date is at Great Wolston, and one at Marsworth has been recently melted (p. 227). The adjuration is in heavier type than the name and date. Wheel renewed at some time, but remains of a very odd pattern. Tenor: by "the firm," *i.e.*, the brothers Richard III. and George, in the latter's largest set of letters, 1 $\frac{3}{4}$  inch high (p. 234). Crown-staple broken; wheel modern, but keyed. Both stocks original, with one pair of straps nailed, the central pair keyed, outers bolted. Exceptionally filthy.

July, 1637, Walton 2. Bells. S<sup>ts</sup> Bell . . . The windowes broken especially in the Bellfry.

1714, 2 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

Death Knell: as soon after the death as possible.

Bell tolled for half an hour before funerals.

On Sundays, the bells are chimed for twenty minutes before the Services.

There is a tradition that one of the bells was, at some time last century, thrown into the neighbouring stream.

No churchwardens' accounts.

Many thanks to the Rev. G. W. Pearse, Rector.

B. Willis (MSS. cix., 29) mentions a pre-reformation bell here, inscribed, *O Sancta Trinitas, etc.*\* The note being undated, leaves it uncertain whether this was the bell which tradition says found a watery grave, or whether it was recast by the brothers Chandler in 1709; the latter for choice. Perhaps it is the saunce bell which is now under water.

## WAVENDON.

Assumption B. V. Mary.

1. NEWCOMBE MADE WEE 1616 (30 $\frac{1}{4}$ )
2. REV<sup>d</sup> DANIEL SHIPTON RECTOR. 1792. JOHN BATTAMS AND JOHN PLOWMAN CHURCHWARDENS.

 (all round) (31)

E. ARNOLD LEICESTER FECIT

3. CHANDLER MADE ME 1705 (33 $\frac{1}{2}$ )

\* The "etc." was, no doubt:—*Ora Pro Nobis*, as at Stoke Hamond.



4. † JOHN BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1815. (35½)  
 5. RICHARD CHANDLER MADE  
 ME 1705 I ♦ G ♦ C ♦ W (40½)

Treble : probably cast at Bedford, by one (or all) of the sons of Edward Newcombe I. (p. 156); turned. 2 : the only example by Arnold in the county (p. 116); the Rev. D. Shipton, M.A., was, according to Lipscomb, inducted to this Rectory, 17th April, 1796; probably he was here at this earlier date, as curate-in-charge; he died in 1805. 3 and tenor: Richard Chandler III.'s 1,2 inch lettering; the third is by "the firm"; and the tenor, having the inscription low down on the flank is, perhaps, the last bell by Richard Chandler II. (p. 234). 4 (p. 106): has very small canons.

July, 1637 Wavenden Bells 5.  
 1714, 5 bells.

Lipscomb IV., 396 :—

. . . five small bells. The fourth is inscribed, "Sancte Nicholas ora pro nobis."

Browne Willis, MSS. cix., 29, alludes to two pre-reformation bells here; *Sancte Nicholae*,\* *Sancta Maria*, etc.

In *Bells of Beds*, p. 161, under Houghton Regis, is :—

"Considerable alterations are said to have been made in the belfry early in the present century. There were then five large bells . . . The ancient tenor bell—the stock of which is still pointed out in the ringing chamber—is reported to have been sold to Wavendon in Buckinghamshire."

It was evidently not the tenor which came here, as the present tenor at Houghton (by Anthony Chandler, 1673) is forty-four inches in diameter, or considerably *larger* than the tenor here; but, in 1815, when Briant replaced the fourth bell here, and the treble at Houghton Regis, he probably also replaced the treble here, by substituting for it, the old treble from Houghton. The present third there (diameter 34 inches) matches this bell.

Bells rehung about the 'seventies, evidently by Bond, of Burford, in the left-handed, seventeenth century frame.

Death Knell: as soon as notice is received by the sexton. The "usual" tellers.

On Sundays, a Sermon Bell always rung when there is to be a Sermon.

Special ringing for some time before Christmas.

Midnight ringing on New Year's Eve. There is generally ringing at weddings.

\* The final letter not very clear in the MS.

A single bell rung for Vestry Meetings.

No reference to the bells in the Registers. All the other old parish documents (of which there are said to have been many) were destroyed before the time of the present Rector.

Many thanks to the Rev. Henry Burney, Rector.

*WENDOVER.*

S. Mary.

- |    |                                                                 |            |              |       |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------|--------------|-------|
| 1. | <b>FEARE</b>                                                    | <b>GOD</b> | ‡ 6 3 3      | (31)  |
| 2. | <b>CHANDLER MADE ME 1722</b>                                    |            |              | (33)  |
| 3. | <b>LOVE</b>                                                     | <b>GOD</b> | 1 6 5 1      | (35½) |
| 4. | <b>NICKOLAS HVMPFERI AND MICKELL<br/>CRISTMAS CHVRCHWARDENS</b> |            |              |       |
|    |                                                                 |            | ‡ 6 3 3      | (38)  |
| 5. | <b>LET YoVR HoPE BE</b>                                         |            |              | (42)  |
|    | <b>IN THE LoRD</b>                                              | ‡ 6 2 3    | <b>✠</b>     |       |
|    |                                                                 |            | <b>E ✠ K</b> |       |

S. (*On Sound-bow* :) R . WELLS : ALBOURNE FECIT . . . (15½)

2 : by "the firm," in George Chandler's large 1 $\frac{3}{8}$  inch set of letters (p. 235). The other four bells are by Ellis Knight (p. 126, etc.); the tenor, which alone bears his initials, was cast in the first year he was manager of the foundry. 4 : crown-staple broken probably in the seventeenth century, as the present one is keyed. The stop and large *fleur-de-lis* on the tenor, are on Plate XXII. Saunce : Robert Wells's date is between 1764 and 1780, and also until 1793 (p. 107); small wheel of local manufacture ; gudgeons above centre of stock. All the clappers have iron baldricks cased in wood ; those of the ring have curiously long flights ; that of the treble measures 5½ inches ; second, 8 ; fourth, 7 ; and tenor, 9½ inches. Frame, seventeenth century ; left-handed. Stocks all probably renewed this century. All straps bolted, except one on the third.

23 July, 1552. Wendover (visited, but only some six words of the indenture remain).

Aug: 3: 1637. 5. Bells & S<sup>ts</sup> bell . . . The fouthwest butterices in decay of the steeple and crackt.

1714, 5 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

Death Knell : as soon as possible after the death ; no tellers. No bell used at funerals.

For Sunday Services, the bells are chimed, followed by the saunce for the last ten minutes. They are never rung here on any occasion.

Also chimed during Advent, and on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.

No old churchwardens' accounts.

Many thanks to the Rev. A. Smith, Vicar.

### The Clock Tower.

*Single.*

1763

A small bell ; evidently by Lester and Pack, of Whitechapel.

#### WESTBURY.

S. Augustine.

1. CANTATI DOMMYNO CANTYCOM NO-  
VOM ❖ ❖

HENRY BAGLY MADE MEE I -  
I I ❖❖ (about 27)

2. (28½)

HENRY BAGLEY MADE MEE I I I I

3.  (30¾)

S. (*On Waist*.) ⊕ ⊕ ⊕ ⊕ (13½)

Treble (p. 217): broken in half; the crown (which is split), with about half of the first line of inscription, still hangs to the stock, and the rest of the bell is on the floor, so that its diameter was not easy to measure accurately; the stock and wheel are recent. 2: the date is evidently 1711; but the first 7 having been placed too close to the 1 to suit the taste of the founder, he added a second 7 further off; and there has been a sixth figure (a third 1) at the end, which has been nearly removed. Tenor: the handsome set of letters (Plate XXIII.) from which this inscription is formed, was called by L'Estrange,\* "Brasyer's smaller alphabet," having been originally the property of those founders, in Norwich; but this bell was probably cast in Bedford, c. 1600 (p. 148). There is no rim under the inscription, which has an odd effect. Scribbled in pencil on the stock, is "Berry May 11<sup>th</sup> 1869," which may be the name of the rehangar, and the date of the operation. Saunce: the four coins on the waist show the cross, with three pellets in each angle, which form the familiar design for reverses during a long period; they appear to be three groats and a half-groat, and are impressed, instead of in relief; *probably* they are of the reign of Edward III.; and probably the bell is by a more or less *local*

\* *Bells of Norfolk.*

founder (p. 265); the canons are broken off; straps nailed on old, high stock, with a round hole, probably intended to hold the lever; the present lever, however, does not fit into it, but is nailed on the top.

5 May, 1553, Westbery, two gret belle on fance bell.

7 July, 1637, Westbury (visited, but bells not mentioned).


1714, 2 bells (saunce not mentioned. This note was evidently made not less than three years earlier, and was not corrected up to date).

1755, three little Bells, and a Saints Bell.

It is probable that the old tenor of 2, was recast by H. Bagley into the two trebles of 3.

WESTON TURVILLE.

S. Mary.

- |    |                                                |                                                                                   |       |        |                           |
|----|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|---------------------------|
| 1. | CHANDLER                                       | MADE                                                                              | ME    | 1700   | (30 $\frac{1}{4}$ )       |
| 2. | (Blank)                                        |                                                                                   |       |        | (33)                      |
| 3. | ⊕                                              | Sit                                                                               | Nomen | Domini | Bene-                     |
|    | dictvm                                         |  | +     |        | (36 $\frac{3}{4}$ )       |
| 4. | (The running pattern on Plate XX., all round.) |                                                                                   |       |        |                           |
|    | THIS                                           |                                                                                   | BELL  |        | WAS                       |
|    | MADE                                           |                                                                                   | 1608  |        | I ▽ C (41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ) |
| 5. | Blessed                                        | be                                                                                | the   | name   |                           |
|    | of                                             | the                                                                               | lorde | 1590   | ⊕ (44 $\frac{3}{4}$ )     |

Treble: by "the firm," at Drayton Parslow; the lettering ( $\frac{1}{16}$  inch high) only occurs on three other bells in the county (p. 233). 2: perhaps seventeenth century; the rims are one inch apart; crown-staple broken. 3: by John Danyell (p. 33); the capitals are figured on Plate XII.; the beautiful initial medallion is fig. 25; the shield is fig. 24; and the small cross at the end is fig. 22. 4 and 5: are by Joseph Carter (pp. 87 and 85); the shield on the fourth is a copy of fig. 55; the lettering on tenor is a very thick, clumsy set of black-letter, and the coin probably a copy of the ancient Wokingham stamp. The clapper of the fourth has a very small ball, nearly triangular (apex upwards); and a long flight, ending in a shovel-shaped enlargement, as a make-weight; wooden splints. The tenor clapper is also rather peculiar. All the bells are turned, but with the old hangings and old frame.

23 July, 1552, westen turwyld (*also*, westē turvyle)

If in the stepell v. belle

14 July, 1638. Weston Turvile 5 bells. . . . The East monier wanting of the steeple. the uper windows on the west pl . . . (*gone*) of the steeple much in decay.

1714, 5 bells.

Death Knell: the tenor used for adults, and the treble for children. Tellers,  $3 \times 3 =$  a male;  $2 \times 3 =$  a female.

On Sundays, the bells are ordinarily chimed for Service; but rung on the great Festivals.

Ringling once or twice a week, for a month before Christmas.

No old churchwardens' accounts.

Many thanks to the Rev. John Ellam, Rector.

### WESTON UNDERWOOD.

S. Lawrence.

1. IESVS (*fig. 72, for  $10\frac{3}{4}$  in.*) SPEED (*ditto,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  in.*) MEE (*ditto,  $4\frac{1}{4}$  in.*)  
† 687 (*ditto,  $7\frac{3}{4}$  in.*) (26½)

2. HEW (*ditto,  $4\frac{3}{8}$  in.*) HIGIUS (*ditto,  $4\frac{3}{4}$  in.*) CHVRCHWARDEI (*ditto,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  in.*) I 687 (*ditto,  $9\frac{3}{8}$  in.*) (28)

3. (*Ditto pattern, all round*)

HENRY (*ditto, 7 in.*) BAGLEY (*ditto,  $4\frac{3}{8}$  in.*) MADE (*ditto,  $6\frac{3}{4}$  in.*) MEE (*ditto,  $6\frac{5}{8}$  in.*) † 687 (*ditto,  $4\frac{3}{8}$  in.*) (29)

4. MATTHEW (*fig. 74,  $1\frac{1}{8}$  in.*) BAGLEY (*do., do.*) MADE (*do., 1 in.*) MEE (*do.,  $1\frac{1}{8}$  in.*) ИОМЕИ (*do.,  $1\frac{1}{8}$  in.*) ДОМИИ (*do.,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  in.*) БЕИЕДИСТУМ (*do.,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  in.*) † 687 (*do.,  $1\frac{7}{8}$  in.*) (32)

5. ATTHEW (*fig. 72,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  in.*) BAGLY (*do.,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  in.*) MADE (*do.,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  in.*) MEE (*do.,  $6\frac{3}{4}$  in.*) COM (*do.,  $4\frac{1}{4}$  in.*) COM (*do., do.*) АИД (*do.,  $2\frac{1}{8}$  in.*) ПРАУ † 687 (35)

6 ∞ WILLIAM EMERTON OF WOOTTON \* ∞  
NEAR BEDFORD FECIT \* \* ∞  
∞ J779 ∞ ∞ ∞ ∞ ∞ ∞ ∞ ∞ (39½)

For the partners, Henry and Matthew Bagley, see p. 212 and 216; the lettering on all five bells is about  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch high. The clipping of the initial from (M)ATTHEW on the fifth, may probably be explained by his having completed the circuit of the cope before he had inscribed all he wished, so that the final figure of the date stamped out and effaced the first letter. Tenor (p. 255): \* = a pentacle; ∞ and ∞ = scrolls somewhat of these forms; large canons; a large piece broken out of lip, which is stated in the MS. of W. P. Storer, 1844 (fo. 83)\*, to have been caused by a boy striking the bell, instead of tolling it. Frame, seventeenth century; the initials, T

\* I am indebted to Mr. H. Gough, the present owner of the MS., for this note.

E, cut on the tenor cage, may be those of the bellhanger. Jackdaws so thoroughly in possession of the bell-chamber, that they looked upon a human-being as a positive intruder, and were loath to leave. Dirt horrible.

1714, 6 bells.

*WEXHAM.*

S. Mary.

I. (21¼)  
CHARLES BROCK JOHN WARNER & SON FOUNDERS LONDON

Probable date between about 1790 and 1812 (p. 259); no stay. The timbers supporting the turret come down to the floor at W. end of the nave, as at Hoggeston, Saunderton, &c. Very filthy up above.

14 July, 1552, Wrexham (*also* Wexham)  
a fakeryng bell  
ij beles in the stepell  
8 Aug: 1637, 1. bell & never no more  
1714, 1 bell.

*WHADDON.*

S. Mary.

1. (*The large arabesque on Plate XXXIII., all round.*)  
CHANDLER MADE ME 1671 (29½)
2. RICHARD CHANDLER MADE  
ME 1713 (31¼)
3. THOMAS KING CHURCH WARDENS \* ⊕ ○  
JOHN KING \* ⊕ ○  
EMERTON OF WOOTTON ○ ○ J780 ○ ⊕ (34¾)  
\* NEAR BEDFORD FECIT ⊕ ⊕ ○ ○ ⊕
4. EDMVDO STAFFORD ARMIG CHANDLER MADE ME 1671  
I S I L C W (37)
5. 6. CHANDLER MADE ME 1671 (38½, 42½)
- S. \* G \* C 1682 (16¼)

The remains of a ring of six by Anthony Chandler (p. 226). Treble: the only occurrence of this arabesque that I know of; all canons off. 2: recast by Anthony's son, Richard III. (p. 234), in his 1.2 inch lettering. 3: recast by Emerton in the next county (p. 256), after the Drayton Parslow foundry had ceased to exist; the coins are  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch diameter; Obverse (= ○): bust dexter, GEORGIUS III. DEI

GRATIA ; Reverse (= ⊕): royal arms crowned ; crown-staple broken. Lipscomb (III., 502), describing the church here, says :—

On a brass plate hung up in a frame, at the west end of the north aisle of the nave :  
 AMY EMERTON, THE WIFE OF JOSEPH EMERTON, DAUGHTER OF MR. JOHN ALLEN, LATE MINISTER OF THE SAME, GAVE A CLOCK TO THE PARISH CHURCH IN WHADDON, IN THE YEAR 1613.

Will. Underwood, Tho. Stevens, Churchwardens.

*Anthony Chandler made me, 1673. (That is, the Clock.)*

Anthony's colophon seems much more likely to refer to the brass plate, though, at first sight, it appears to mean, as Lipscomb supposed, the clock. William Emerton, the bellfounder, was married in 1766 ; and is described in the Wootton Register\* as a "Clockmaker." His father, John,† was married in January, 1699-1700. It is just possible that Joseph may have been an ancestor, perhaps father of John, for the date of the gift, 1613, seems to be a misprint for 1673 given at the end of the inscription ; though more probably, the coincidence of the name is purely accidental. Whaddon is, however, only about fifteen miles, as the crow flies, from Wootton. John Allen, M.A., the father of Amy Emerton, was instituted to the living of Whaddon in June, 1597, and died here in 1643. 4 : the pedigree of Stafford is as follows‡:—

SIR JOHN STAFFORD (a younger brother of the Duke of Buckingham—old creation) of Grafton, Worcestershire, and of Blatherwycke, Northampts.

—|—  
 Anthony.

—|—  
 Thomas, purchased Shenley Manor and Tattenhoe (1477). Ob. 1517 ; buried Wavendon.

—|—  
 William (natural son). Ob. seised of the two above manors, 1530.

—|—  
 Thomas. Ob. seised of two above manors, 1607. Resided at Tattenhoe ; buried Shenley.

—|—  
 Thomas. Ob. seised of these estates, 1632. Buried at Shenley. His widow lived at Snelshall.

—|—  
 Thomas. Ob. seised of these estates, 1684, aged 68. Known as "Old Major Stafford."

—|—  
 Edmund. Seised of these estates, but died about five weeks after his father.

—|—  
 Charles. Mortgaged these estates to Thos. Jas. Selby, Serjeant-at-Law, c. 1696. Died in great poverty, in Westminster, c. 1717.

Edmund perhaps resided at Tattenhoe during his father's lifetime ; it is situated on the edge of Whaddon Chase, and was included in the lands of the priory of Snelshall, which was in this parish. 5 : a defective casting as regards the head ;

\* *Bells of Beds*, p. 39.

† A John Emerton contributed £5 to a "Poor's stock" in Whaddon, about 1630 (Lipscomb, III., 503).

‡ Lipscomb, III., 332, &c.

one side of the crown is higher than the other, and it seems never to have possessed more than a single canon, with part of the argent. Saunce: by George Chandler (p. 230), in his father, Anthony's, lettering, with broad *fleur-de-lis* as figured on Plate XXXIII.; central straps nailed; iron baldrick; lever. Frame, left-handed, in two tiers, quite distinct from each other, evidently by John Jeffs (see under Adstock, p. 296); very heavily timbered, struts nicely chamfered; the four smaller bells and saunce occupy the upper tier; the two tenors, the lower.

23 July, 1552, Whaddon & nafhe\*

It iiij great belle & a lytle sans bell

(Aug.) 1637, 4. bells. S<sup>ts</sup> bell.

1714, 6 bells (saunce not mentioned).

Lipscomb (III. 500), Six bells, cast out of five.

At Snelshall, in this parish, was a small Benedictine Priory, dedicated to S. Leonard. B. Willis (*History of Abbies*, II., 37), records that at its surrender (? in 1534), there was returned: "Bells, Lead and other Building. &c. worth 10*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*"; and a few lines further on (as already quoted, p. 324), that "as 'tis reported," there were 4 small bells, which were removed to (Old) Bradwell Church.

At the Record Office (see p. ix.), is:—

xij<sup>mo</sup> die m̄cij 1555 (The Priory of)

Snelhall The Leade ther (&c) } Annfweryd in compō Johis Daneftre

The Belle ther — iij } Anno xxvij<sup>vo</sup> H viij<sup>vi</sup>

### WHITCHURCH.

S. John the Evangelist.

1. (*Fig. 72, all round edge of shoulder.*)

CANTATE ❀ DOMINO ❀ CANTICVM ❀ NOVVM ❀ HENRICVS ❀  
BAGLEY ❀ ME ❀ FECIT + 680

(*Fig. 72, all round, reverse way up.*)

(29½)

2. JOHN BRIANT HARTFORD FECIT 1797 MAT: VARNEY  
& W<sup>M</sup> FINCHER C: WARDENS

(32¼)

3.

(32¾)

VND SOLEMNE VOYCE 1019

4. WEE SOVND FORTH

OVR BREATH 1019

NICHOLAS TOPPING THOMAS PAL-  
MER CHVRCH WARDENS (35)

\* See Thornton.





Evangelist's Church at Whitchurch, co. Bucks; and gave £10 to the works of the body of the Church, and £10 to the making a new rood-loft; also £10 to the reparation of the steeple, and for a new treble to agree with the old bells.\*

Anthony Careswall, instituted Vicar here, April, 1509, left by his will, dated 6th May, 1521, among other pious bequests, 20s. to the repairs of the steeple.†

*WILLEN.*

S. Mary Magdalen.

1, 2, 3. RICHARD CHANDLER MADE ME 1683 (27, 29, 32)

By Richard Chandler III, as I suppose; in his earliest lettering, a slightly larger copy (about one inch high) of his father's set (p. 230). Treble and 2: have iron stays and wooden, bolt-like sliders. Tenor: ordinary wooden stay and slider.

Apparently rehung during the 'seventies, by Bond, of Burford, with his hoops to the gudgeons, in the old frame, which is probably cotemporary with the bells.

Death Knell: tenor for adults; treble for children. Tellers:  $3 \times 3 =$  a man;  $2 \times 3 =$  a woman;  $1 \times 3 =$  a child.

On Sundays, a bell is rung at 8 a.m.; and for Services, the bells are chimed or rung.

Ringing at Christmas and New Year; occasionally after a wedding.

Thanks to the Rev. R. G. Randolph, Vicar.

July, 1552, Wyllyn. Ifm ij belle & ij hand belle.

The old church (Lipscomb, IV., 410) had two bells "hanging in arches," as at Little Linford; this was pulled down in 1680, by the then Patron and purchaser of the Manor, Richard Busby, S.T.P.,‡ and the present fabric built in its place, the Vicar (the Rev. John Stephenson) laying the foundation stone.

In 1714, 3 bells.

*WINCHENDON, NETHER (or Lower).*

S. Nicholas.

1. (*On Sound-bow.*) JOHN BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1796  
THOMAS ROSE CHURCH WARDEN (30¼)

2. PRAYES GOD 1640 (31½)

\* Willis's MSS.

† Lipscomb, III., 520, and 516.

‡ The celebrated Head Master of Westminster. Mr. Randolph believes that the architect was Busby's friend, Sir Christopher Wren, but I am sorry I have not been able to authenticate this. It is, at any rate, a very good specimen of its period.

3.	<b>HOPE</b>	<b>IN</b>	<b>GOD</b>	<b>1640</b>	(34)	
4.	<b>FEARE</b>		<b>GOD</b>	<b>1640</b>	(37)	
5.	<b>LOVE</b>		<b>GOD</b>	<b>1651</b>	(41½)	
S.	<b>R</b>	✻	<b>A</b>	✻	<b>1622</b>	✻ ✻ ✻ ✻ ✻ (14½)

Treble (p. 106). The lower four are by Ellis Knight (pp. 128, 129). 2: wooden splints to clapper. 4: cracked about 1882 or 1883; said to have been done by "bumping the stay"; and no wonder, all the stays being *double*—perfectly unbreakable—and therefore, if the stay is "bumped" hard by an inefficient rope-puller, the bell must break, as the stay cannot. Tenor: in the list of bells cast by Briant, published in *Bells of Herts*, p. 66, the weight of the tenor is stated to be 10 cwt.; it probably, however, weighs over 13 cwt. Saunce: by Robert Atton, in his medium-sized letters, samples of which are shown at the bottom of Plate XXXI.; the rose is No. 10 on Plate XXX.; straps nailed, two are keyed; iron baldrick; chimed by *two* wooden levers, fixed parallel, in a diagonal direction, towards the centre of the stock, having, however, only one rope between them.

Old, left-handed frame, the hangings newer.

23 July, 1552, Nether Wynchindon. (*Also* Neyther Wynchēdon) If . . . (*torn*) belle j fanctis bell

1714, 5 bells (Sanctus not mentioned).

*WINCHENDON, OVER (or Upper).* S. Mary Magdalen.

1, 2, 3	<b>RICHARD CHANDLER MADE ME</b>	<b>1675</b>	(29½, 31½, 33½)
S.		<b>1827</b>	(13)

The earliest appearance of Richard Chandler III.'s name (p. 227); the lettering is a slightly larger (just under one inch) copy of his father's set; all have the stays at the wheel end of stock, and iron baldricks. 2: has an old wheel, like a half-wheel; some of the straps still keyed. Saunce: evidently by Thomas Mears II.; old straps, some nailed, others keyed; they probably saw long service with the present bell's predecessor.

In May, 1887, when I visited this tower, the church was half pulled down, being "restored"; the roof off, and the tower taken down to eighteen inches above the bell wheels; the church was reopened by the Bishop, on September 13th, 1887.

23 July, 1552, Over Wynchendon. iij great belle j Sanct3 bell.

14 July 1638, upper winchingdon. 3 bells. Sts Bell. . . . the northwest corner of steeple in decay. . . . the church and chancell wants pgeting.

1714, 3 (sanctus not mentioned).

WING.

All Saints (*or, fide Lipscomb, S. Peter*).

1. FOR • THE • HONOVR • OF • CARNARVAN • HERE  
I • WINGE 1654

(*On Waist:*) WISHING HEALTH TO THE NEIGH-  
BOVRS OF WINGE (34 $\frac{3}{4}$ )

2. HOPE IN GOD 1640 (37 $\frac{1}{2}$ )

3. PRAYES GOD 1638 (39 $\frac{3}{4}$ )

4. R • K • R • B • T • L • AND • W • M CH-  
VRCHWARDNES 1638 (43 $\frac{1}{2}$ )

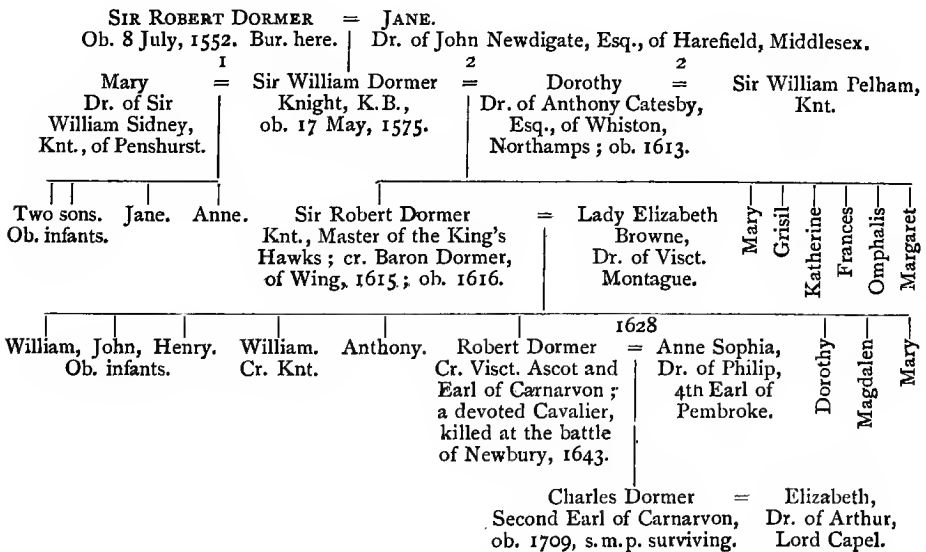
5. J : TAYLOR FOUNDER LOBR<sup>O</sup> 1842. (47 $\frac{1}{4}$ )

6. (55 $\frac{1}{4}$ )

CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1863:

S. (*Blank*) (16 $\frac{1}{2}$ )

Treble: by Ellis, Francis, and the second Henry, Knight (p. 129); Charles Dormer, the second Lord Carnarvon, who was apparently the donor of the bell, was descended from Sir Robert Dormer, of Eythorpe in Waddesdon, to whom the manor and advowson of Wing were granted by the Crown, in 1544, in fee:—\*



\* From monuments in the church; Visitation of Bucks, 1566 (Harl. MSS.); Lipscomb, etc.

The second earl leaving no son, the earldom and viscounty expired, and the title of Baron Dormer descended through his eldest daughter Elizabeth, to her grandson, Philip Dormer Stanhope, fourth Earl of Chesterfield; and the Manor of Wing descended to Sir William Stanhope, K.B., the latter's younger brother.

2, 3, 4: by Ellis Knight (p. 128). 4: much tuned from lip. The clappers of 4 and 5 are hammer-shaped, or like a cross inverted, or like the clapper of a (musical) handbell, with its "pegs." 5: has low angular canons. Tenor: Lipscomb, III., 527, says, "Six bells, cast in 1687, by George Chandler, which are said to weigh from 31 to 33 cwt." These particulars obviously refer to the old tenor, and not to all six. The sexton informed me that the present tenor arrived before the old one was taken away from the floor of the church, and he believes (as the result of comparison) that the new bell is not so heavy as the old one. The existing bell probably weighs about 29½ cwt.; and two very different estimates of the old one are on record. Browne Willis (MSS. xxxviii., 2), gave its weight as "3,200," while the Rev. T. A. Turner (*Records of Bucks*, IV., 126) states that Messrs. Taylor, when they recast the fifth, in 1842, estimated the tenor at 26 cwt. Anyway, the present bell is the largest and heaviest in the county. Saunce: apparently late eighteenth century; crown-staple broken. Old left-handed frame, no doubt repaired by Warner in 1863; and the bells were rehung in it by White, of Appleton, late of Besselsleigh, Berks, in 1888; the first four are turned. A very large, roomy tower.

23 July, 1552, Wyng,

If in the Steple iij Great bells & a Sanctis bele / one hand bele & ij Sacrynge bells.  
July 31<sup>th</sup> 1637. Wing. 4 Bells. St<sup>s</sup> Bell . . . The Bellframes in decay. . . . The Irons upon the corner of the steeple to be mended.  
1714, 6 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

Death Knell: tolled immediately after the death, on the fifth bell.

On Sundays, a bell is rung at 7 a.m. For the Services (the bells are chimed? and) the saunce used for the last three minutes.

Ringng at midday at Christmas, Easter, and Harvest Festival.

Very many thanks to the Rev. F. H. Tatham, Vicar, for most kindly allowing me to make the following:—

#### EXTRACTS FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS.

(In an Inventory of Church Goods, dated June, 1528, *inter alia*:—)

If fix cruette, and thre sacryng bells, and A lator too washe wyth att the cryftenyng off chylther, and too hande bells.

Trinity, 1527.

Itm payd for mendyng of A loke & A neu key for the flepuldore

vjd

## 1528

Iĥm Reĉ of thomas wyncheſter for A nolde Roppe	...	...	vij <sup>d</sup>
In primis payde for A roppe for a cloke	...	...	ijs ij <sup>d</sup>
Iĥm payde to the clokemaker for A yere waygys	...	...	xx <sup>d</sup>
Iĥm payde to John ſmethe for mēdyng A bele clapper	...	...	iiij <sup>d</sup>
Iĥm payde to Edmund ffeuter for making A belclapper...	...	...	vjs. ix <sup>d</sup>

## Trinity, 1529.

Iĥm payde for mēdyng of A bel clapper	...	...	...	ijs. iiij <sup>d</sup>
Iĥm payde to the clokemaker	...	...	...	xx <sup>d</sup>
Iĥm payde for mendyng of the bellys	...	...	...	iijs. vij <sup>d</sup>
Iĥm for nayllys for the fame	...	...	...	ij <sup>d</sup>
( <i>Torn</i> ) . . . payde for making of the cloke haṁur	...	...	...	ij <sup>d</sup>
Iĥm payde for A bokul for A baudryke	...	...	...	j <sup>d</sup> . ob.

## Trinity, 1530.

Iĥm payde to the clokemaker	...	...	...	xx <sup>d</sup>
Iĥm paid to John ſmythe for ij ſtapvllys & A happys & a bokul* & collys	...	...	...	iiij ( <i>torn</i> )

## Trinity, 1531.

Iĥm Refeuyd of flynter for A wolde belclaper...	...	...	...	ijs. ij <sup>d</sup>
Iĥm for making of the bylle Claper	...	...	...	vjs. viij <sup>d</sup>
Iĥm for making of the bylle claper	...	...	...	vjs. vj <sup>d</sup>

## May, 1532.

Iĥ payde to y <sup>e</sup> clokemaker for hys yeres wage att chryſtemas	...	...	...	xx <sup>d</sup>
-------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----------------

## 1533.

Iĥm paid to the clokemaker for ys yeres wage att chryſtemas	...	...	...	xx <sup>d</sup>
Iĥm paid for mendyng of ij b <sup>e</sup> yll ( <i>sic</i> ) Clapers	...	...	...	ixs x <sup>d</sup>

## June 1534

Iĥm paid to the clokemaker of London (?) for mendyng of the cloke...	...	...	...	xx <sup>d</sup>
Iĥ for ſmaulle naylys to mend the bell wells	...	...	...	j <sup>d</sup>
Iĥ paid to Wyĥm Chapell for peſyng of a bell Well and for form yt...	...	...	...	vij <sup>d</sup>

## May 1535.

It paid to the bellhangyr for truffyng of the bellys	...	...	...	vjs ix <sup>d</sup>
It paid to the ſmyght for naylys to the byllys	...	...	...	ij <sup>d</sup>
It paid to the fame Smyght for making of the heyyernd† for the byllys	...	...	...	ij <sup>d</sup>
It paid to the cloke makyr	...	...	...	xx <sup>d</sup>
[It paid for making of the grete bell claper	...	...	...	iijs

\* The buckle has to do with a bell (for a baldrick), though the hasp, staples, and coals have no necessary connection with the tower.

† Irons.

It paid to the smyght for makyng of a bokel for th gret belytt	...	...	...	...	<i>ijd</i>
[It paid to the smyght for makyng of a sto rop* for the therde bell whele	...	...	...	...	<i>ijd</i>
[It paid to the smyght for makyng of the grete byll claper	...	...	...	...	<i>ijjs iiij<sup>d</sup></i>
[It paid to the cloke makyr	...	...	...	...	<i>xxd</i>

## 1537

I <sup>m</sup> paid for A claper of a bell	...	...	...	...	<i>jd</i>
I <sup>m</sup> paid for A fanbell Roppe	...	...	...	...	<i>vijd</i>
I <sup>m</sup> to the smeth for mendyng of the bell claper	...	...	...	...	<i>ijsh xd</i>

## 1538

Itē for y <sup>e</sup> clockemakars yers rent	...	...	...	...	<i>xxd</i>
-----------------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	------------

## 1539

I <sup>f</sup> paid to betterton for truffying of the gret bell	...	...	...	...	<i>ijs iiij<sup>d</sup></i>
I <sup>m</sup> paid to barnes the smyth for dreffying of the gret bel clapper	...	...	...	...	<i>vs.</i>
I <sup>m</sup> to wyncheft <sup>o</sup> for wyer for the cloke	...	...	...	...	<i>jd</i>
I <sup>m</sup> to godfre thē smyth for a florropp for the gret bell fole & <sup>o</sup> naylls & <sup>o</sup> ij yerns to fet the crossys & <sup>o</sup> ij yerne weggis for the for bell	...	...	...	...	<i>ix<sup>d</sup></i>
I <sup>m</sup> to better <sup>n</sup> for dreffying of y <sup>e</sup> for bell	...	...	...	...	<i>vjd</i>
I <sup>f</sup> paid to the clockmaker for hys fee for the hole yere	...	...	...	...	<i>xxd</i>
I <sup>t</sup> to the fame goodffre† for a bokeyll to y <sup>e</sup> baudryk of the gret bell...	...	...	...	...	<i>jd</i>
It paid to hertewell of Slapptun for A New Whell for the gret Bell & <sup>o</sup> for mendyng of the for bell	...	...	...	...	<i>vjs vjd</i>
I <sup>t</sup> to the fame Godfre for makyng of yran warke to the gret bell whell...	...	...	...	...	<i>ijd</i>
I <sup>t</sup> to godfre for a Bukkull for baudrike for a bell	...	...	...	...	<i>jd bo(sic)</i>
I <sup>f</sup> paid to godfre for a Bukkull for a bell	...	...	...	...	<i>jd ob</i>

## 1540

I <sup>f</sup> paid for mendyng of the gret belle claper	...	...	...	...	<i>iijs iiij<sup>d</sup></i>
[I <sup>f</sup> peyde for the mendyng of the lyttell belle...	...	...	...	...	<i>vijs ijd</i>
I <sup>f</sup> peyde to tomas wynch <sup>t</sup> for fetyng of the braffus for the fame belle...	...	...	...	...	<i>vjd</i>
[I <sup>f</sup> peyde for the cloke	...	...	...	...	<i>xxd</i>
I <sup>f</sup> peyd for mendyng of the grette bell	...	...	...	...	<i>xiiij<sup>d</sup></i>

## 1541

Item for mendyng of the bell claper	...	...	...	...	<i>iiijsh</i>
Item paid to the clocke macar	...	...	...	...	<i>xxd</i>
[Item for fhotyng of the great bell claper	...	...	...	...	<i>xxjd</i>
[Item paid to the smyth for mendyng of the fore bell claper	...	...	...	...	<i>xxij<sup>d</sup></i>

## 1542

[Item paid to hartwell for makyng of the bell stocke & <sup>o</sup> the whele	...	...	...	...	<i>ijs</i>
Item paid to the smythe for Jarn warke	...	...	...	...	<i>vd</i>
[Item for makyng of the bell claper	...	...	...	...	<i>vjs jd</i>

\* Stirrup.

† Godfrey the smith.

Item payd for A chayn of the bybull & ij buckele for the badrye ...	viijd
Item payd to John wynter for makyng of the bell clap ...	xjs <sup>h</sup>
Item payd to the clocke macar ...	xxd
Item payd to John wynter for bowlyng of the bell claper...	ijs <sup>h</sup>
Item payd for caryge of the bell clap ...	iiijd
Item for mendyng of the locke of the churche howse dore & the pyn off the bocull of ye badrycke ...	ijd

## 1543.

Item for the fanse bell roppe ...	iiijd
Item for mendyng of the clocke ...	xxd
Item payd for ij bocule for the badryce ...	iijd
Item payd for the hane* belles ...	vsh vjd

## 1544

I <sup>l</sup> payde for A polle to the clocke ...	vd
I <sup>l</sup> payde for fowre belclapyrs & all charges longyng to them ...	xixs.
I <sup>l</sup> payde to father day for mendyng of the cloke ...	iijs <sup>r</sup> ix <sup>d</sup>
[I <sup>l</sup> payde to the carpynter for the bell whele ...	iijs vd
I <sup>l</sup> payde for the truffyng of two belle ...	ijs vjd
[I <sup>l</sup> payde to the fmythe for styroppe & nayles ...	xxd

## 1545.

Item payd for wyar for the clocke ...	ijd
Item payd to the clocke maker ...	ijs
†[Item for mendyng off A claper off A bell ...	iijs <sup>h</sup> viijd]
I <sup>l</sup> m payd for the clapper of the bell ...	iijs viijd

## 1548

[I <sup>l</sup> payd to ye carpyntar for mendyng of the belle ...	vs
[I <sup>l</sup> payd to ye sexten for two day & a halfe workyng w <sup>t</sup> p <sup>e</sup> carpynter...	xijd
I <sup>l</sup> payde for A Iron to mende <sup>e</sup> Belle ...	jd
Item payd to the sexten for mendyng of A cloke Roppe ...	ijd
I <sup>l</sup> payde to <sup>e</sup> Smyth for uoryle <sup>†</sup> & a buckle for <sup>e</sup> bell ...	vjd

## 1551.

I <sup>l</sup> payde for mendyng of the belle & for all maner of Iron worke ...	vjs
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## 1553

I <sup>l</sup> p <sup>d</sup> to Thomas smyth for makyng of the bell clapers ...	xvs viijd
I <sup>l</sup> payd for castyng of the fannct bell ...	vjs ijd

\* No doubt *hand* is intended, but the last letter is exactly similar to the *e* in the preceding and succeeding words.

† Erased.

‡ Probably *ferules*, but the letters would equally do for *novyle*.



## 1554

Iñ payde for a rope for the clocke	...	...	...	viijs <sup>d</sup>
Iñ payde for mendynge of the bell claper	...	...	...	vjs

## 1555

Iñ payde for makynge of the bell claper	...	...	}	...	xij <sup>s</sup>
& mendynge of the wyndow in the chappell	...	...			
Iñ payde for mendynge of the bell frame	...	...	...	...	iiij <sup>d</sup>

## 1556

[Receuyd of my lady dormer for the bell	...	...	...	...	xls
Receuyd of wyngē for the bell	...	...	...	...	xix <sup>s</sup> vij <sup>d</sup>
Receuyd of crofton for the bell	...	...	...	...	ij <sup>s</sup> vj <sup>d</sup>
Receuyd of Ascot for the bell	...	...	...	...	vij <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>
Receuyd of burcot for the bell	...	...	...	...	vij <sup>s</sup>
[Receuyd of wyngē a gayne for the bell	...	...	...	...	xj <sup>s</sup> vij <sup>d</sup>
Receuyd of wyngē a gayne for the bell	...	...	...	...	vj <sup>d</sup>
[Iñ payde for ou <sup>r</sup> costē at buckyngam when we made bargayne for the bell	...	...	...	...	xxj <sup>d</sup>
Iñ payde for oure costē at <sup>ē</sup> castynge of the bell	...	...	...	...	iiij <sup>s</sup> j <sup>d</sup>
Iñ payd to the bell founder	...	...	...	...	iiij <sup>ii</sup> viij <sup>s</sup> ij <sup>d</sup>
Iñ payde for castynge of the brasses & for mettell	...	...	...	...	xj <sup>s</sup> vj <sup>d</sup>
Iñ payde for carryng of the bell	...	...	...	...	v <sup>s</sup>
Iñ payde for the hangynge of the bell	...	...	...	...	iiij <sup>s</sup>
Iñ payde for drynke when the bell was hanged	...	...	...	...	iiij <sup>d</sup>
Iñ payde for mendynge of the bell claper	...	...	}	...	iiij <sup>s</sup>
[    & for Jren worke at that tyme & nayles	...	...			
[Iñ payde to the smythe for mendynge of the greate claper	...	...	...	...	vij <sup>s</sup>
[Iñ payde to the smythe for coles & a buckell for a bell	...	...	...	...	ij <sup>d</sup>

## 1557

Recaued of the laft churche mē to the bell	...	...	...	...	xiiij <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>
Iñ payde to John appowell <sup>o</sup> for the bell	...	...	...	...	iiij <sup>ii</sup> vj <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>
Iñ payde to howfe for mendynge of the belles	...	...	...	...	ij <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>
Iñ payde to Rychard godfrey for mendynge of a staple for <sup>ē</sup> belles	...	...	...	...	vij <sup>d</sup>
It payde to Thomas smyth for makynge of a staple	...	...	}	...	ij <sup>s</sup>
for the bell & other workmanfhypp	...	...			

## 1558

Iñ payde to godfrey smythe for mendynge of a key for <sup>ē</sup> bell	...	...	...	...	ij <sup>d</sup>
Iñ payde for the trussynge of the feconde bell & for Jron worke	...	...	}	...	iiij <sup>s</sup>
& for Edwarde warde worke to the fame	...	...			

## 1559

Iñ payde fyrfte for mendynge of 3 belles brafes to wyllyam furmon	...	...	...	...	iiij <sup>d</sup>
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\* Of Buckingham (p. 176).

1563

Iĥ paid to Thomas fmythe for mendynge of the clocke the last yere...	xx <sup>d</sup>
Iĥ paid to Thomas fmythe for tvrnyng of the bell ...	} xx <sup>d</sup>
clapper & for ij bvckels & a key for the clocke houfe dore ...	

1564

Iĥm p <sup>d</sup> to thomas nas the fmythe for a belle clapper ...	...	...	ij <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>
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Trinity, 1565

Iĥ payde for nayles for the bell whele ...	...	...	ij <sup>d</sup>
Iĥ pd for the rope for the lytle bell ...	...	...	v <sup>d</sup>
Iĥ payde to naffhe for a key & for the lache of the church gate ...	...	...	viiij <sup>d</sup>
Iĥ payde to harrye warde for mendynge of a bell whele ...	} ...	...	xx <sup>d</sup>
& for takynge down of the loft ...			

1567

Iĥm paid for a bell clapper to the fore bell ...	...	...	ix <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>
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1568

Iĥ R <sup>e</sup> of Thomas Naffhe for a pece of the claper ...	...	...	ij <sup>s</sup> vj <sup>d</sup>
Iĥ payde to Thomas Naffhe for mendynge of the claper ...	...	...	xvj <sup>d</sup>

1569

Iĥ payde for the rope for the clocke ...	...	...	iijs viij <sup>d</sup>
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1570

Iĥ payde for ryngynge when the quene was here <sup>o</sup> ...	...	...	viiij <sup>d</sup>
Iĥ paid to harrye ward for mendyng of the belle & for nayles ...	...	...	iijs vj <sup>d</sup> †

1571

Iĥm Refavyd ffrom myſterys chayne to the metynans † of the bells ...	...	...	xx <sup>d</sup>
Iĥm p <sup>d</sup> for mett & drynge for the Rynggars of Sentt hewes daye by comadmentt of the paryter ffrome the boſſoppe ...	}	...	iijs vj <sup>d</sup>
Iĥm p <sup>d</sup> to Thomas naffhe for a belle clapper mendyng ...			

1572 (Sunday after Trinity)

Iĥ paid to the ryngers on faynt hewes day ...	...	...	iijs viij <sup>d</sup>
Iĥm p <sup>d</sup> to the Joyner for mendyng y <sup>e</sup> feates & for nailes for y <sup>e</sup> fame & also for Jron worke for the bawdricke for y <sup>e</sup> belles	}	...	iijs vj <sup>d</sup>

<sup>o</sup> As this entry is early in the account, which was taken on or about Trinity Sunday in each year, the royal visit probably took place about midsummer, 1569.

† The vj<sup>d</sup> is corrected, in different ink, to vijj<sup>d</sup>.

‡ Maintenance.

## 1573 (Sunday after Trinity)

If payde to parnell for the ryngyng on faynte hewes day	...	...	ij <sup>s</sup>
[If payde for mendyng of the clocke & for his charge whē he brought home the clocke ...	... }	...	xlix <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>
[If payde for mendyng of the fecond bell whele	...	...	vj <sup>d</sup>
If payde to Nashe for mendyn of the claper of the thyrd bell & for mendyng of the buckels	... }	...	x <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>

## 1574

pd for mendyng of the greate bell clapper	...	...	ij <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>
pd for Corde for the clock at Leighton	...	...	xiiij <sup>d</sup>
pd to nafhe for mendyng of the belle	...	...	viiij <sup>d</sup>

## 1575 (Sunday after Trinity)

Ifm Receyved of goodwyffe stevens of byrcott of the bequest of her kynfwoman Anne honer to the Reperacion of the belles	... }	...	vj <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>
If paid for mendyng of a locke for the steple dore	...	...	ij <sup>d</sup>
If payde for mendyng of the great bell claper	...	...	iiij <sup>s</sup>
If payde to tvrnar* for wyre for the clocke	...	...	xij <sup>d</sup>
Ifm pd for nayles for the steple & for the vant†	...	...	viiij <sup>d</sup>

## 1576 (8 July)

pd on faine hewes day for Rynginge	...	...	ij <sup>s</sup> vj <sup>d</sup>
pd to nafhe for mendyng the clappers of the belle & Iron work	...	...	iiij <sup>s</sup> j <sup>d</sup>

## 1577 (June)

If pd for mendyng of the frame of the forebell	...	...	xx <sup>d</sup>
[If pd for making of y <sup>e</sup> greate bell clapper	...	...	iiij <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>
[If pd for nayles for the fframe of the fame	...	...	iiij <sup>d</sup>

## 1578 (1 June)

If pd to the Ryngers on faynt hughes day	...	...	viiij <sup>d</sup>
If pd to nafhe the fmyth for mendyng the belle & for A dogge of Iron to one—the fame bells	... }	...	ij <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>
If pd for mendyng of A ladder in the steple & tymber	...	...	vj <sup>d</sup>
[If pd to searche for mendyng on of the bell wheles	...	...	viiij <sup>d</sup>
[If pd to nafhe for mendyng of the clokk	...	...	xij <sup>d</sup>

## 1579 (21 June)

If pd to the Ryngē on fant hughes day	...	...	viiij <sup>d</sup>
Ifm pd to nafhe the fmyth for mendyng the great bell claper	...	...	ij <sup>s</sup>
[If pd to nichas hewet for making the fecond bell whele	...	...	iiij <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>
[If pd for nayles for the fame	...	...	ij <sup>d</sup>
If pd to nafhe for work in the bell howfe & for a hafpe & a staple	...	...	xiiiij <sup>d</sup>

\* The sexton.

† Font ; or perhaps intended for *Vane*.

1580 (12 June)

I <sup>fm</sup> pd for drynke for the Ryngers one S <sup>t</sup> hughee daye ...	...	...	vjd
I <sup>fm</sup> pd thomas nafhe for ij buckulee for the belle ...	...	...	vij <sup>d</sup>

1581

I <sup>l</sup> pd for the makyng of third bell wheele ...	...	...	vjs
I <sup>l</sup> pd for Iron worke for the bells & for the hangeng	}	...	iijs j <sup>d</sup>
of the fame bell vnto nafhe the smyth wt other charge			
I <sup>l</sup> pd a mong the Ryngers on S <sup>t</sup> hughes day ...	...	...	ijs

1582

I <sup>l</sup> pd for mendyng the clocke ...	...	...	...	...	ijj <sup>d</sup>
I <sup>l</sup> pd for Ryngyng on faynt hugh daye ...	...	...	...	...	ijs iij <sup>d</sup>

1583

I <sup>l</sup> pd for mendyng the bell wheles & nayles to the fame ...	...	...	vij <sup>d</sup>
I <sup>l</sup> pd to goodman nafhe for mendyng A bell clap &	}	...	vj <sup>s</sup> iij <sup>d</sup>
for other work a bowght the klok & the church gate ...			

1584 (28 June)

I <sup>l</sup> pd to nafhe for work abowght the bells & pulpyt ...	...	...	...	...	iijs
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1585.

I <sup>l</sup> pd for makyng the third bell whele & to the fawers to faw the fame	...	...	...	...	iijs iij <sup>d</sup>
I <sup>l</sup> pd on f hughes day to the Ryngers ...	...	...	...	...	xvj <sup>d</sup>
I <sup>l</sup> pd to warde for fawinge of tymber for the bell howfe ...	...	...	...	...	xxd
I <sup>l</sup> pd for mendyng of a bond <sup>e</sup> for A bell—ij <sup>d</sup> —for xxx brade—iiij <sup>d</sup> ob—	}	...	...	...	x <sup>d</sup> ob
for a buckell for j of y <sup>e</sup> bells—iiij <sup>d</sup> ...					

1586.

[pd for the fans belle caflyng & the waffe ...	...	...	...	...	ix <sup>s</sup> vjd
pd to ternere† for goyng to buckam for the belle ...	...	...	...	...	xd
pd the klokeman for hys dyner ...	...	...	...	...	xij <sup>d</sup>
pd to capone for the carryge & the brēggyng of the fans belle ...	...	...	...	...	xvij <sup>d</sup>
pd to the Clock maker in erneft to mend the clock ...	...	...	...	...	xij <sup>d</sup>
[pd to the rynges on faynt hues daye ...	...	...	...	...	xvij <sup>d</sup>
pd to the klok maker ...	...	...	...	...	vij <sup>d</sup>
pd to the clock maker to mend the clock ...	...	...	...	...	xix <sup>s</sup>

\* Probably for a *band*, which is probably a baldrick; and as it is mentioned in connection with hardware, it was probably an *iron* one, which is noticeably early.

† The sexton.

1587.

[pd to henry ward for mendyng the bells, the bell loftes & leads ...	}	xv <sup>s</sup>
w <sup>t</sup> other worke y <sup>t</sup> he dyd in the church & a bouthe the church gates		
[pd vnto nalhe y <sup>e</sup> fmyth for Jron work a bought y <sup>e</sup> bels & clock ...		ij <sup>s</sup>
pd on faynct hughes day to the ryngers for bred & drynck ...		xij <sup>d</sup>

1588 (2 June)

pd for rynginge on faynct hughes day ... ..	ix <sup>d</sup>
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1589

pd to the fmyth of ascot for a clapper for the great bell & he	}	xxviijs <sup>s</sup> v <sup>d</sup>
havyng the old clap w <sup>ch</sup> comethe over & a bove the old clap		
pd for mendyng the fore bell ... ..		xx <sup>d</sup>
pd to the ryngers vpon charge for Vytall on f hughes day ...		ij <sup>s</sup>
pd to the fmyth for turnyng of a clapper & mending y <sup>e</sup> clock ...		xvij <sup>d</sup>

1590 (14 June)

Re of george chapell y <sup>t</sup> old w <sup>m</sup> feav (?) gave to the bells ...		iijs <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>
Re of M <sup>r</sup> Dormer his worshipp towarde the castyng of y <sup>e</sup> fecond bell		xx <sup>s</sup>
Re of the whoale p <sup>is</sup> he towarde the same bell at iijs <sup>li</sup> the endfhipp*		xij <sup>li</sup>
Re of M <sup>r</sup> more of the weale towarde the fame ... ..		vs
[pd for fettynge & caryng of gabels to let down the bell ...		x <sup>d</sup>
[pd on f hughes day for drynkyng for the ryngers ... ..		vjs <sup>s</sup>
[pd vnto henry ward for the takyng downe of the fecond bell—	}	vij <sup>s</sup>
& for hanginge vpp of the fame—vjs <sup>s</sup> alfo for mendyng of the pavemente in the churche—xij <sup>d</sup> ... ..		
pd vnto Bartholomewe Atton of Buckyngam for the castyng	}	x <sup>li</sup> xij <sup>d</sup>
of the fecond bell & puttyng in ij <sup>c</sup> weyght of new mettell more than the old bell weyghed ... ..		
pd vnto hardyng the fmyth of ascot for mendyng of the fecond bell claper, & for the gogyng & nayles for the fame bell		x <sup>s</sup>
pd to John hore of Ascot for his charges goinge to buckyngam to fe the fame bell cast ... ..		v <sup>s</sup> vj <sup>d</sup>
[pd vnto newland his charge goinge thether also ... ..		v <sup>s</sup> ix <sup>d</sup>
pd vnto John Clark of Burcot for cartyng of the fayd bell	}	x <sup>s</sup>
vnto Buckyngam & fettynge the fame home a gayne		
[If pd to water taylor to cary the fecond bell & to fetche home the fame bell agayne ... ..		vjs <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>
[If pd to henry ward for hanginge one of the bels ... ..		ijs <sup>s</sup> vj <sup>d</sup>
If pd for the repayryng of the third bell clap & y <sup>e</sup> clock ...		vjs <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>
If pd to hary warde for mendyng y <sup>e</sup> fecond bell ... ..		xij <sup>d</sup>
If pd to the fmyth for keyes & staples & nayles for y <sup>e</sup> bels ...		vj <sup>d</sup>

\* Viz., Wing, Crafton, Ascot, and Burcot.

1591

Iĥ pd for nayles to mend falte in the bell lofte	...	...	jd
Iĥ pd for mendyng of the gret bell clap—iiij <sup>s</sup> for a hoke & nayles	...	}	iiij <sup>s</sup> vd
for the church gate & for the fyre hoke*—vd	...		
Iĥ pd to hary ward for mendyng the clock	...	...	(blank)
Iĥ pd for Rynnginge on St hughes day	...	...	ij <sup>s</sup>
pd to henry ward by promife ov <sup>r</sup> & a bove his wage	...	}	viii <sup>s</sup>
fome—x <sup>s</sup> whereof Sr Rob <sup>t</sup> Dormer paid—ij <sup>s</sup> fo out of the box is payd to him for keypyng the klok	...		

1592 (21 May)

pd for truffyng the fore bell	...	...	xxd
[pd to him† for keypyng the clock for the D† yere	...	...	vs
[pd for mendyng the stock of the ij bell & for nayles	...	...	ij <sup>s</sup>
pd on faynt hughes day for rynginge	...	...	ijs xd
pd for charge for the bell fownder for him felf & his horfe	...	...	xviijd
[pd to him† for his half yere keypyng the clock	...	...	v <sup>s</sup>
[pd to him to mend the forbell whele	...	...	xijd

1593 (17 June)

Iĥ pd for a fanctus bell and the old bell metall	...	...	l <sup>s</sup> —xd
Iĥ pd for a cord for the fanctē bell	...	...	x <sup>d</sup>
[Iĥ pd the sexten for keypyng the clocke	...	...	v <sup>s</sup>
Iĥ pd for hanginge of a fance bell	...	...	iiij <sup>s</sup> —iiij <sup>d</sup>
Iĥ pd for hanginge the third bell	...	...	ij <sup>s</sup> —vj <sup>d</sup>
[Iĥ pd for mendyng the clock	...	...	xijd
[Iĥ pd for Jron worke for the third bell and the fance bell	...	...	v <sup>s</sup> —x <sup>d</sup>
[Iĥ pd for caryage of the fance bell	...	...	ij <sup>s</sup>
Iĥ pd for rynginge of fainct hughes day	...	...	iiij <sup>s</sup>
Iĥ pd to hary ward for keypyng the klok	...	...	v <sup>s</sup>
Iĥ pd for nayles & workmāhip for the fore bell wheele	...	...	vjd

1594

Iĥ pd to the sextent for the keypyng of the clock	...	...	vs
[pd to him† for keypyng the clock	...	...	v <sup>s</sup>
pd to him† for truffyng the second bell	...	...	xx <sup>d</sup>
[pd on faynt hughes day for Rynginge	...	...	iiij <sup>s</sup>

1595 (15 June)

Iĥ pd to him† for the keypyng of the klok then dew	...	...	v <sup>s</sup>
----------------------------------------------------	-----	-----	----------------

\* A hook on the end of a long pole, used in case of fire, for pulling burning pieces off the roof, etc. Two or three towers in the county still contain one, and there is one to nearly every house in Norway and Sweden.

† Henry Ward, the sexton.

‡ I.E., *Dimidium* = the half.

pd to hardyng the fmyth for mendyng the fecond ...	}	...	vjs
bell clap & new makyng the eye* & puttyng to yt			
xvij <sup>d</sup> of new Iron at v <sup>d</sup> the pownd & he abated for the old eye of the fame clap—xij <sup>d</sup> ...			
[I <sup>f</sup> pd to hardyng for ij latches for the church gate & a band for a bell			xij <sup>d</sup>
I <sup>f</sup> pd for Ryninge vpon St <sup>t</sup> hughes day ...			iiijs
[I <sup>f</sup> pd to hary ward for mendyng the bells ...			vjd
[I <sup>f</sup> pd for mendyng of the bels ij fondry tymes ...			ijs
[pd for mendyng the bels claper & for nayles by w <sup>m</sup> hardyng ...			xvj <sup>d</sup>

1596 (6 June)

pd for mendyng the eye of the fecond bell clap — & Iron ...			ix <sup>s</sup>
pd to hym† for work abowte the bell & y <sup>e</sup> churche ...			xij <sup>d</sup>
pd for Rynginge vpon fainct hughes day ...			iiijs
pd to hardyng for mendyng a claper <sup>r</sup> ...			iiij <sup>s</sup> —iiij <sup>d</sup>

1597 (22 May)

pd for a new whele for the forebell & mendyng the great bell whele ...			x <sup>s</sup>
pd for Rynginge vpon St <sup>t</sup> hughes day ...			iiij <sup>s</sup>
pd to hary ward for mendyng the bells ...			ij <sup>s</sup>

1598 (18 June)

pd at St <sup>t</sup> hughes day for the ringinge in charge ...			iiij <sup>s</sup>
pd to hardyng mendyng the fecond bell claper & Iron to yt ...			vij <sup>s</sup>
pd to A fmyth of wyngrave to mend the fecond bell clap ...			vjs
pd to hardyng the fmyth for Iron worke for to truffe the great bell	}	...	xiiij <sup>d</sup>
pd to hary ward for truffyng the 1 <sup>g</sup> reate bell ‡ v <sup>s</sup> & for mendyng the churche gate & the beare vjd ...			
			v <sup>s</sup> vjd.

1599 (3 June)

pd on f hewes day for Rynginge ...			iiijs
------------------------------------	--	--	-------

1600 (18 May)

pd to Wittm hardyng for mendyng of ij bell clapers ...			xvijs—vij <sup>d</sup>
pd on faynct hughe day for ryngyng ...			iiijs
pd for a Sanctus Bell rope ...			xij <sup>d</sup>
pd to w <sup>m</sup> hardyng for mendyng the clock ...			xij <sup>d</sup>

1637

pd to John miller—for mendyng y <sup>e</sup> clocke... ..			o—o—6
pd to wiff chapman§ for comyng over to fee y <sup>e</sup> belles ...			o—1—o

\* The loop at the top of an old-fashioned clapper. † Harry Ward.

‡ Probably "the 1<sup>st</sup> great bell," or treble, as opposed to the saunce.

§ See Aylesbury (p. 308).














paid for becare at laithton* when the bell founders ware therre	o— 2— 2
Charges when I went to wickum about ye timber that was left & to meete the bell fownders ... }	... o— 6— 6
[paid for beere when we bargained wth ye bell founders to cast ye belles :	o— 5— 0
paid for fetching chapman's tooles from Idleburow†	... o— 2— 0

## WINGRAVE.

SS. Peter and Paul.

1.  $\times >$  LESTER & PACK FECIT J760  $\leftarrow \times \times \times \times \times \times \times \times$   
*(Incised:)* W<sup>M</sup> ABR<sup>M</sup> \* SAM \* THEED ROB<sup>T</sup> \* LUCAS GAVE ME J620  
(32½)
2. IOHN THEED AN DO 1618  
 WW (33½)
3. JOSEPHUS CARBOR  
 ME FECIT 1608 john theed (34½)
4. <sup>R</sup> M † RICH † <sup>D</sup> WOOLLEY VICAR † T † KEENE & T † SEA-  
 BROOKE † CH † WARDENS J760 LESTER & PACK FECIT   
*(Incised on Woist:)* 9 = J = JO (38)
5. MR RICH<sup>D</sup> WOOLEY VICKER MESS<sup>SR</sup> *(sic)* JN<sup>O</sup>  
 GRACE & JN<sup>O</sup> HIGGS CH. WARDENS CHAPMAN &  
 MEARS OF LONDON FECERUNT  
 1783 (42)
6.   Intonat  De  Delig  Vor  
 Campana  Michaelis †  U (43)
- S. A C 1678 (13¾)

Treble (p. 100): Lipscomb (II. 448) mentions William Abram as marrying Jane, a daughter of Edmund Brudenell of Stoke Mandeville, Esq., by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Barten, or Barker, of Astrop, co. Northampton. He does not mention Samuel Theed, but it seems not unlikely that he was the father of a namesake, a J.P. and barrister-at-law, of Wingrave, who married Elizabeth Cleaver,

\* Leighton Buzzard, in Beds, 3 miles distant, is obviously referred to, but the orthography is less obvious.

† Edlesborough, 6 miles distant.

and died 27th January, 1676, in his fifty-fifth year. John Theed, on the next two bells, was probably identical with John Theed of Crafton, in the parish of Wing, but nearer Wingrave than Wing village, and subsequently of Ledburne, in the parish of Mentmore, who died 3rd September, 1641, in his sixty-sixth year. A namesake purchased Horton Manor and Hall, in Edlesborough, about 1663, and died 1686. Lipscomb mentions many individuals of this surname, under Mentmore, Wing, and Wingrave, but not so as to allow of the construction of a pedigree; among others, a Thomas Theed, who was buried at Mentmore in January, 1675, was "Steward of y<sup>e</sup> lands" to Charles, second Earl of Carnarvon (see Wing). "Widdow Ellen Theed" and "Joane the wife of John Theed ju:" are mentioned in Bishop Williams's Visitation of Mentmore in July, 1637, as having each had a "high feat built" in that church; and Mr. Thomas Theed, and Mr. William Theed are mentioned in the Wing return. The Lucas family were tenants of the manor and hamlet of Rowsham, in this parish, but the date is left vague by Lipscomb (III., 541); he alludes to this bell, which he calls the tenor. It may possibly have been reduced from tenor to treble when recast. There are several monuments to members of the Lucas family in the church, but all later than this Robert. 2: probably by William Wakefield (p. 93), an ex-apprentice of Joseph Carter (who cast the third bell). Very rough edge to the lip, and tuned away thence. Perhaps "W. W." cast the original treble in 1620, which was recast by Lester and Pack. 3 (p. 87): the inscription is much corroded, so the handsome letters are imperfectly shown in the lower part of Plate XX. Mr. Stahlshmidt must have obtained his casts for Plate XIV. of *Surrey*, from one of the bells lately in that county, but now melted: I found the lettering on the bell still remaining at Walton-on-Thames, quite as imperfect as the Bucks example; and an example by William Carter, at Ridge, Herts, only a degree better. Very rough inside, and tuned at lip from fully thirty-five inches diameter; iron baldrick; wooden splints. 4 (p. 100): the Rev. Richard Woolley, B.A., was instituted February, 1753, and died May, 1792, aged seventy-two years. During his incumbency, Susanna Hannokes, an inoffensive old woman, was accused by one of her neighbours of *bewitching her spinning-wheel*, so that the owner could not make it go round; after the accuser and her husband had attested this on oath before a magistrate, the accused was conducted to the Church, stripped of her clothes, and weighed in a pair of scales, against the Church Bible; she passed the ordeal triumphantly, and was acquitted.\* 5 (p. 103): hopelessly cracked. Lipscomb, III., 540, says, "early in the last century, the Manor and Hamlet of Rowsham (in this parish) were in the possession of the family of Grace, for whom are many memorials in Wingrave Church, to which they were benefactors, and who appear to have been purchasers of this portion of

\* *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1759, vol. xxix., p. 93. (Quoted Lipscomb, III., 537, foot-note.)

the (Dormers') Estate, although the exact time of their acquisition of it, and the name of the person from whom it was acquired, are not ascertained." John Grace had (at least) two sons, Thomas and John, and his wife's name was Sarah. Tenor: by John Danyell (p. 33); the beautiful initial cross (fig. 26) is of more than ordinary interest, not only intrinsically, but from the prominence it has acquired at the hands of the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe and the Rev. Canon Raven. It was only known at West Monkton, Somerset, but it was conjectured to be the stamp intended by the drawing of the inscription on the old tenor at King's College, Cambridge, sold to be melted in 1756 (as recorded by Mr. J. W. Clark\*). This second occurrence, therefore, cannot fail to be of interest. The very handsome crowned capitals are figured on Plate XIII.; the small cross is fig. 22, and the crowned shield fig. 24. I regret to say that the bell is cracked in two or three distinct places across crown and shoulder; and the mischief has been allowed to spread unchecked, for a good many years past. The destruction is aided by an unduly heavy clock-hammer, which, through the weakness of its spring, has rested on the bell for years, and checks the vibrations each time it is struck. Saunce: by Anthony Chandler (p. 227); turned; new clapper; two holes drilled through the crown. This and Upton are the only churches in the county where, at the present time, the sanctus bell hangs in a cot over the gable at the east end of the nave. In both places, however, this is only a revival in recent times, for Lipscomb (III., 537, published 1847) writes of Wing, "In the upper part of the gable of the nave, at its junction with the chancel, was formerly a perforated niche, or arch, as if designed for a small bell."

The present cot is a new one, having been rebuilt (and altered) when the inevitable "restoration" of the church took place.

The (left-handed) frame of the lower four bells is probably sixteenth century; the two trebles are "hoisted."

23 July, 1552, Wyngraue,

    If in the Steple iiii Great Bells /

    Twoo lytle Sancte bele

(? 28 July) 1637, 6. Bells and a S<sup>ts</sup> Bell. & a clock.

1714, 6 (sanctus not mentioned).

In a paper on the Desecrated Churches of this County, in *Records of Bucks*, I., 291, by the late Rev. W. Hastings Kelke, mention is made of a chapel dedicated to S. Lawrence, which formerly existed at Rowsham, or Rolleston, an important hamlet of this parish, already mentioned. It is stated, until probably about the middle of last century, to have "had one bell."

\* See pp. xvi. and 35.

## WINSLOW.

S. Lawrence.

1. EDWARD HALL MADE ME 1730 (32½)

2. (*On Waist:*)

REVP W. W. MCCREIGHT VICAR 1846

SAMUEL GRAVES DUDLEY } CHURCH WARDENS  
THOMAS MORECROFT }(*On Sound-bow:*) C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON (35¼)3. THOMAS SMALBONS JOHN GODWYN CHARLS  
BOLLER C W 1670 (37¾)

4. 1668 (41)

5. I 6 6 8 (43¾)

6. ↯↯↯ JOHN GIBBS JOHN DUDLEY & THOMAS INGRAM  
CHURCH WARDENS 1777 ↯↯↯

↯↯↯ PACK &amp; CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT ↯↯↯ (49½)

S. ROBERT A TTON MADE ME ✠ 1611 ✠  
W LOYNES W GILES T TOMLIN I GILBYRD ✠  
W LITCH BENEFACTVRS FOR CHASTING THIS  
BEL ✠(*On Sound-bow:*) ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ (21¼)

Treble: Richard Chandler III.'s 1·2 inch lettering (p. 236); canons broken off.  
2.: the Rev. W. W. McCreight, M.A., was instituted to the Vicarage, 4th February, 1841, and remained here until his death in 1863. Mr. S. G. Dudley was one of the principal landowners in the parish: Lipscomb mentions that in 1542, William Dudley and his wife, and their son, Thomas Dudley, and his wife, sold Swanbourne Manor. 3: by Richard Keene (p. 169); turned: the first of the three churchwardens here recorded, issued a farthing token; Obverse: THOMAS . SMALLBONES = A hat; Reverse: OF . WINSLOW = T A.S.\* The name Godwyn appears occasionally in the Registers from the sixteenth century to 1707.† A Thomas Godwyn was churchwarden in 1686, and issued a token, an example of which is in Mr. Clear's possession. 4 and 5: these dates are apparently scratched on the cope, and not stamped in the ordinary way; the bells are probably by Richard Keene,‡ though just *possibly* by the Knights of Reading (see pp. 133 and 168); both turned; 5 is

\* Mentioned in Boyne's *Tokens*, 1st and 2nd editions; and by Mr. A. Clear, in *The King's Village in Demesne* (1894), in whose collection I have seen an example.

† *The King's Village*, p. 85.

‡ See p. 637.

very roughly cast at lip. Tenor (p. 101): flat crown; turned; weight reputed to be 19 cwt.; note E. The first churchwarden recorded on this bell, was an ancestor of the late Mr. Robert Gibbs, F.S.A., of Aylesbury, and is probably referred to in the following extract from the *Whitehall Evening Post* of November, 1754\* :—

The papers have lately given several instances of longevity. We presume the following account, the truth of which is notorious, will not be unacceptable to our readers. Robert Gibbs, of Winslow, in the county of Bucks, had six sons—Robert, Richard, William, Thomas, John, and Stephen—which sons rang the bells of Winslow Church on New Year's Day for forty years successively. The senior son rang the tenor, and every son had his bell in right of seniority, and they were, every New Year's Day, for a number of years, entertained at dinner by the worthy family of Lowndes, at Winslow. Richard, William, and Stephen are now living at Winslow aforesaid.

Sauce (p. 202): in Robert Atton's smallest lettering, shown on Plate XXX., where the ornament is No. 5. W. Lowndes was the second son, and heir (his elder brother dying young) of Robert Lowndes, who married Jane Croke in 1575, and died 1602. William was born in 1586; married Frances Wendover in 1612, and died 1654. The present representative of the family is William Selby Lowndes, Esq., of Whaddon Hall, lord of the manor of Winslow. William Giles, or Gyles, married Alice Brodcroft in the year this bell was cast; a halfpenny token (Boyne, 2nd edit., No. 149, Bucks) with Obverse: WILLIAM . GILES = A hat; Reverse: + OF . WINSLOW . 1666 = W.M.G. (an example of which is in Mr. Clear's possession), and a farthing token (*op. cit.* No. 150), with Obverse: WILLIAM . GYLES = A hat; Reverse: OF . WINSLOW = W.M.G., were probably issued by a son or grandson. T. Tomlin was probably son, or other near relation, of Richard Tomlyns, to whom and to Sir John Fortescue jointly, King James I., in 1606, granted the Rectories and Churches of Swanbourne, Winslow, and Whitchurch, with the tithes of Winslow and its hamlet Shipton, etc., to hold in fee.† By 1 and 2 Philip and Mary, Swanbourne Church was granted to Ambrose Gilbert, Esq., of Swanbourne, *habend.* to him and his heirs for ever, *tenend.* (though it soon afterwards came into the joint possession of Thomas Adams and Josias Askew; and a few years later again, as above mentioned, into that of Sir John Fortescue and R. Tomlyns). It seems likely that J. Gilburd may have been the son of Ambrose Gilbert. The coins on the sound-bow are  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch diameter, and are the reverse of, apparently,‡ the 1564 sixpence of Elizabeth; they bear a shield of (the Royal) Arms and cross *fourchée*.

\* I have to thank Mr. R. S. Downs, of Wycombe, and also the late Mr. Robert Gibbs, for copies of this paragraph; the greater part of it is also reproduced by Mr. A. Clear (*tom. cit.*). Mr. J. Rutland, F.G.S., of Taplow, has favoured me with a newspaper cutting, wherein this extract is quoted "from the *Northampton Mercury* of November 25, 1754."

† *Rot. Pat.* 4 Jac. I., 9 June, quoted by Lipscomb, III., 546.

‡ *Vide* Hawkins's *Silver Coins of England*, 3rd edition, Plate XXXV., No. 441.

23 July, 1552, Wynfloe, iiij bell . . . (*torn*)

Among the Archives of the Archdeaconry of S. Albans\* is :—

A true Note or Bill indented of all the Goods and Utensils belonging to the Church at Winslow, made the xxvi day of Aprill, Anno Dmi, 1628. . . . Item : a ring of five tunable bells with a sance bell, and a clocke.

Lipscomb (III., 548, foot-note) states :—

. . . six modern bells, recast out of five, in June 1668. Weight of the old bells : treble, 700 lb. 2<sup>d</sup> 1100 lb. 3<sup>rd</sup> 1300 lb. 4<sup>th</sup> 1800 lb. tenor, 2700 lb. total, 7500 lb. Weight of the new bells : treble 600 lb. 2<sup>d</sup> 700 lb. 3<sup>rd</sup> 800 lb. 4<sup>th</sup> 1200 lb. 5<sup>th</sup> 1500 lb. † tenor, 2000 lb. total, 6800 lb. It may be presumed that 700 lb. was lost in the operation of recasting. Mr. Keene, of Woodstock, was the Founder.

In *Bell News*, Vol. IV., p. 119, July 11th, 1885, it is recorded that :—

Warner and Sons . . . during the week ending June 27th, have placed in the tower a massive English oak frame, constructed to carry eight bells. . . . On Saturday, June 27th, the hangers, with . . . two of the local team, rang a half muffed peal.

The bells were formally reopened on Thursday, July 23rd, 1885. The church had been reopened, after restoration, on December 30th, 1884.

The treble is rung daily : at 7 a.m. from Lady Day to Michaelmas, and at 8 a.m. during the winter half year ; also at 1 p.m. all the year round.

The Curfew is rung on the fifth bell, from Michaelmas to Lady Day.

The "Pancake Bell" is rung on Shrove Tuesday, at midday, on the fourth bell.

Death Knell : for about twenty minutes, as soon as notice is sent, generally after the laying out. Tenor for adults ; fifth for children up to twelve years. Tellers at beginning : 3 × 3 = a male ; 3 × 2 = a female. At end, 3 strokes = a male ; 2 = a female. A bell rung for funerals.

On Sundays, the bells are chimed for the Services ; the saunce for the last five minutes. The tenor was formerly rung, before the chiming, as Sermon Bell. These are old usages.

For Sunday School, the second is rung for a quarter of an hour, morning and afternoon.

For Vestry Meetings, the fourth is rung.

Many thanks to the Rev. H. A. Douglas Hamilton, late Vicar.

\* *The King's Village in Demesne*, by A. Clear, 1894, p. 114.

*WOLSTON, GREAT.*

Holy Trinity.

*Single.*

A • C 1679

(23½)

One of the latest bells by Anthony Chandler, of Drayton Parslow (p. 268). One canon broken off, and hangs by the straps, which are bolted; iron baldrick; iron lever. The church was rebuilt in 1839; the bell hangs in a cot over the gable at the west end.

1714, 3 bells.

Lipscomb, IV., 423:—

. . . at the west end, a wooden turret . . . It contains three small bells, cast in 1662.

He probably confused this church with the next one, which he describes in almost identical terms; but it is very possible, as there were three bells here in 1714, that the other two disappeared when the church was rebuilt.

Death Knell: as soon after the death as possible. Tellers: 3 × 3 = a male; 2 × 3 = a female. Bell not used at funerals.

No old churchwardens' accounts.

Thanks to the Rev. H. T. Inman, Rector.

*WOLSTON, LITTLE.*

Holy Trinity.

1, 2, 3.

CHANDLER MADE ME

1662

(25½, 27¾, 30½)

A nice little ring by Anthony Chandler (pp. 226, 267). Treble: all straps keyed; wheel renewed and bolted. 2: inscription below usual place; all straps, and wheel, keyed. Tenor: many straps, chiefly keyed; wheel keyed. All have their original stocks; extra straps through the crowns are keyed; iron baldricks; no stays.

26 July, 1552, wolston pva. Ifm iij belles in the steple ij hand bells.

1714, 3 bells.

Lipscomb (IV., 425) mentions these bells, in almost the same words that he used for the previous parish.

Death Knell: as soon after the death as possible. Tellers: 3 × 3 = a male; 2 × 3 = a female.

Ringing immediately after a wedding when requested.

No old churchwardens' accounts.

Thanks to the Rev. H. T. Inman, Rector.

*WOLVERTON, OLD.*

Holy Trinity.

1. † JOHN BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1820 (31)  
 2. † JOHN BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 18-  
 20 † \* (33)  
 3. 4. JOHN BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1820 (34¼, 35½)  
 5. 6. (38, 42)  
 † JOHN BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1820 †

For Briant, see p. 106. Church rebuilt (in pseudo-Norman style) at the beginning of the present century. Bells hung left-handed; all in good and clean order; the two lower bells have Bond's hoop round the canons, connecting the gudgeons.

1714, 4 bells.

In another place in Browne Willis's MSS. (cix., 29), and, copying him, Lipscomb, (IV., 418):—

. . . four bells; on the largest (before it was recast in 1732), was the inscription, '*Maria Thoma hoc Siclum serva me.*'

(District Church) Wolverton End. S. Mary the Virgin.

Church opened 1863; one modern bell. Part of the town of Stony Stratford.

*WOLVERTON, NEW.*

S. George the Martyr.

Parish formed in 1868, out of parish of Old Wolverton. Church built 1843; one modern bell. The town here is entirely formed by the Depôt of the North-Western Railway.

*WOOBURN.*

S. Paul.

- 1, 2. (28¾, 29⅝)  
 ∞ THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1814 ∞  
 3. R : PHELPS FECIT 1718 (29⅞)  
 4. ∞ T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1813 ∞  
 (Incised :) REV<sup>D</sup> T, TYNDALE, MINISTER  
 HARRY, PEGG, } CHWARDENS  
 W<sup>M</sup> FORRESTER, } (33½)





6 (p. 263) : the clapper is cased in wood, showing apparently that the iron baldrick is still in vogue on the west side of S. George's Channel. Mr. W. Mooney, at whose expense this bell was recast, was brother-in-law to the late Mr. A. Gilbey, of Wooburn House. 7 : this bell is, doubtless, the fifth of the ring cast by Phelps (p. 98) for High Wycombe. The names on it are those of Wycombe men ; and Wooburn, not being a corporate town, has no aldermen. It has, moreover, two chime-hammer scars side by side, on the outside of the sound-bow, which would be the case with a bell at Wycombe, while here no hammer strikes it, except that of the modern chiming apparatus on the *inside* of the bell. The Wycombe ring was dated 1711, but it is quite of common occurrence for one bell in a ring to prove out of "cry" with the others, and to be replaced in the following year. In the present case, even this second edition seems not to have been to the liking of the Wycombe authorities ; but no entry concerning it is to be found in the churchwardens' accounts either there or here. Perhaps it came here in 1802, when Thomas Mears, sen., recast some of Phelps's ring at Wycombe. Much tuned from lip. Tenor (p. 100) : canons broken off ; two chips broken out of the lip by the chiming hammer, in May, 1894. Frame probably latter half of eighteenth century, subsequently altered to accommodate eight bells. The wheels, etc., are newer.

18 July, 1552. (Among the inventories of this date, is a very imperfect one, with only a portion of the name remaining. This appears to be) . . . born, (and probably stands for this parish. In the list is) .V. belles hanging in the . . . (*torn*)

Aug : 1637, Wooborne Episcopoꝝ 5 Bells. & a Clock. The butterices of steeple and Chañ to be mended, the steeple wants pgeting.

1714, 5 bells (raised to 6, four years later, by the addition of the present 3<sup>d</sup>).

On the floor of the north aisle is the brass of "the founder of the steeple." There have been two figures—on the dexter side is the "figure of a man in a gown furred at the wrists, with a purse and rosary" (Langley, *Hist. Hund. Desb.*, p. 455) ; and on his left may be still seen the form, in the matrix, of the figure of his wife. Underneath is the following inscription :—

*Here lyeth Johū Godwyn & pernell his wyfe first founders  
of the Steepul of Obourne deyncourt whiche decessed the xviij dāge of  
Aprill the yere of oure lord god M CCCC lxxviij on whose soules jhu  
haue mēy of youre charite for oūre soules & alle cristen fey a patꝛoꝝ & aue*

Langley (*loc. cit.*) quotes this, but not quite accurately, and gives a plate of the brass ; he also gives the pedigree of the family, beginning with the father of John Goodwin ; he calls John's wife Petronilla, and adds, "By his will, proved June 29, 1488, he bequeaths 5*l.* towards the reparation of Osborne St. Paul's steeple, and 20*s.* towards the making of a bell ;" etc. The brass is also figured in the *Records of Bucks*, Vol. IV., plate facing p. 22, but without much attention to accuracy.

## EXTRACTS FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS.

April 1679	paid the Ringers at the Kings birth day	...	...	0—05—00
July 11	paid Robt. Neuell for worke about the Bells	...	...	0—01—00
	paid the Ringers at the Gunpowder treafon day	..	...	0—05—00
	paid Ralph Hobs his Bill for bell Ropes	...	...	0—13—02
April 1680	paid the Ringing money at his Maties birthday	...	...	0—05—00
	paid Ralph Hobs for Bell ropes etc	...	...	1—05—00
	paid ye Ringers on St Gorges day & ye Gunpowder treafon	...	...	0—10—00
	paid wilt Beck* for lookeing the Clock & Bells for 2 years	...	...	2—16—00
April 1681	paid vnto Hugh Crane for worke about ye Bells	...	...	0—18—04
	paid vnto the Ringers at ye 3 vfuall days	...	...	0—15—00
	paid for 4 bell Ropes	...	...	0—14—06
	paid John Beck for helping a bout ye Bells	...	...	0—02—00
	paid Robt Neuell for Iron worke for ye Bell	...	...	0—00—04
	paid to the Ringers for the 3 vfuall days of Rining	...	...	0—15—00
	paid for 2 bell Ropes ye weight 12 pound at 7 <sup>d</sup> y †	...	...	0—07—00
Aprill 1685	for A Roler for A Bell	...	...	0—00— 6
	paid to the Ringers for Ringing vpon the vfuall dayes	...	...	0—15— 0
	pd to Goodman Ares for 5 Bell Ropes	...	...	0—16— 0
	pd to the Ringers one St georges day	...	...	0—05— 0
Aprill 1686	Paid to w <sup>m</sup> Beck fein <sup>r</sup> for Ringing money on } faint Georges day	...	...	0—05— 0
	for Ringing Money ye 29 <sup>th</sup> of May	...	...	0—05— 0
	for Ringing Money one King Jameses } the feconds birthday	...	...	0—05— 0
	for Ringing Money on ye 5 <sup>th</sup> of Nouem <sup>r</sup>	...	...	0—05— 0
March ye 28 <sup>th</sup> 1687	pd w <sup>m</sup> Beck fen <sup>r</sup> for looking to ye Clock & bells	...	...	1—11— 0
	pd to W <sup>m</sup> Beck for Ringing money vpon the 23 <sup>th</sup> of Aprill	...	...	0—05— 0
	pd to Hugh Ares of wickom for 5 bellropes	...	...	0—13—11
	pd to Joan Chillton for Ringing money ye 5 <sup>th</sup> of Nou <sup>9</sup>	...	...	0—05— 0
	pd to Hugh Evane for Ringing the Eight aclock } bell for 2 yeares	...	...	2—02— 0
	pd to w <sup>m</sup> Beck for Ringing money one ye Kings birthday	...	...	—05— 0
	pd with Beck for Looking to ye Clock & bells	...	...	1—00— 0
	pd william Beck more for Looking to the Clock & bells	...	...	0—05— 0
Aprill 1688	Payd to the Ringers on St Georges day	...	...	0—05— 0
	pd the Ringers on ye 5 <sup>th</sup> nouember	...	...	0—05— 0
	pd to Robert Neuill for Ironwork for the Bells & dores	...	...	0—04— 2
	pd to Mr. Goolder for mending ye bell wheeles	...	...	—06— 0
	pd William Beck for goeing to Maydenhead } to ye man yt made ye Clock	...	...	0—00— 6

\* This name appears among the "Alehouf keepers or Vittuallers."

	p <sup>d</sup> for Ringing money two dayes	...	...	0—10—0
	p <sup>d</sup> for Ringing money	...	...	0—05—0
	p <sup>d</sup> Hugh Crane for Ringing y <sup>e</sup> Bell	...	...	1—01—0
Aprill 1689	Payd to Hugh Ares for Bellropes } vponē Laft yeares Account	... }	...	1—05—9
	for 2 dayes Ringing	...	...	0—10—0
	for Ringing Money when the King was p <sup>r</sup> clamed*	...	...	0—10—0
	p <sup>d</sup> Hugh Crane for Ringing y <sup>e</sup> Bell	...	...	01—01—0
	for 3 ringing dayes	...	...	0—15—00
	p <sup>d</sup> Thomas Seaves for mending the bell wheelēs } And other work to the Church	... }	...	0—09—0
	p <sup>d</sup> to Witt Beck for Looking to y <sup>e</sup> Clock & Bells	...	...	1—10—0
	Payd Hugh Ares for Bell Roapes	...	...	0—12—6
	Payd to John Roafe for y <sup>e</sup> making of the other hand to y <sup>e</sup> Clock (&c.)			
Aprill 1690	p <sup>d</sup> Hugh Ares for Bell Roapes	...	...	0—10—0
	for Ringing at y <sup>e</sup> Kings Birthday	...	...	00 05 0
	for Ringing on y <sup>e</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup> of Nouember	...	...	00 07 6
	for Ringing y <sup>e</sup> Bell	...	...	01 01 0
	p <sup>d</sup> W <sup>m</sup> Beck for Looking to y <sup>e</sup> Clock & bells	...	...	01—10—0
Aprill 1691	p <sup>d</sup> to the Ringers	...	...	0—07—6
	for Ringing the Bell in the Winter	...	...	1—01—0
	for Ringing at the Kings Returnē†	...	...	0 5 0
	ffor Ropes	...	...	0 13 6
	Ringing on y <sup>e</sup> Surrender of Limerick‡	...	...	00 05 00
	Ringing y <sup>e</sup> Bell	...	...	01 01 00
	mending a lock and key to y <sup>e</sup> Belfry door	...	...	00 00 08
	Ringing	...	...	00 05 00
	ffor ffour bell Ropes	...	...	00 14 10
	p <sup>d</sup> W <sup>m</sup> Beck for the Ringers	...	...	00 12 06
	p <sup>d</sup> the Wid <sup>d</sup> Eaft for the Ringers	...	...	00 05 00
	ringing money	...	...	0 : 7 : 6
Aprill 1693	keys to y <sup>e</sup> Belfrey door	...	...	0 01 00
	Ringing for the Victory over the ffrench§ } pd to Goody Mewdy	... }	...	00 05 00
	ringing on the Kings Coronation day||	...	...	00 05 06
	and for the Victory over the ffrench	...	...	00 05 00
	ringing for the Kings safe arrivall,¶ p <sup>d</sup> Goody Eafts	...	...	00 05 00

\* February 13th, 1689.

† In September, after the Battle of the Boyne, fought 1st July, 1690.

‡ Limerick surrendered to General Ginckel, October 3rd, 1691.

§ Probably Admiral Russell's victory off La Hogue, May 19th, 1692.

|| April 11th, 1689.

¶ November 5th, 1688.

	pd Ralph Dean for new bell ropes	...	...	00	08	9
	pd Hugh Crane for keys and cottrells p y <sup>e</sup> bells	...	...	00	01	00
	pd for Ringing on Gunpowder treason Kings landing = } day, and birth day	...	...	00	12	06
	pd W <sup>m</sup> Fenables for worke to y <sup>e</sup> bells and a new gate post	...	...	00	5	06
	paid William Beck for looking to y <sup>e</sup> clock and bells	...	...	1	10	00
	paid Hugh Crane Ringing y <sup>e</sup> bell	...	...	01	01	00
	paid Ralph Dean for 2 bell Ropes	...	...	00	03	09
Aprill 1694	To the Ringers at the King's Arrivall	...	...	00	05	00
	and on the King's birthday	...	...	00	07	06
	on Gunpowder Treason day	...	...	00	05	00
	paid Ralph Dean for Bell Ropes & straps	...	...	00	15	01
Aprill 1695	Ringers on y <sup>e</sup> Coronation day	...	...	0	05	00
	and on y <sup>e</sup> Queen's birthday	...	...	0	05	00
	pd the Ringers, ringing y <sup>e</sup> Kings birthday Landing day } Gunpowder Treason and when he came home	...	...	00	17	06
	Ringin y <sup>e</sup> Bell	...	...	01	01	00
	For Tolling for y <sup>e</sup> Queens funerall	...	...	00	02	06
	paid William Beck looking to y <sup>e</sup> Clock and Bells	...	...	01	10	00
	for bellropes	...	...	00	18	11
	Wittm ffenables worke to y <sup>e</sup> bells	...	...	00	3	10
Aprill 1697	To the Ringers on the Coronation day	...	...	0	5	0
	given to the Ringers	...	...	0	5	0
	to the Ringers when the king came home	...	...	0	5	0
	the Kings birthday	...	...	0	5	0
	Gunpowder treason day	...	...	0	7	6
	Ringin the bell	...	...	1	1	0
	To the Rings on Coronation day 1696	...	...	0	5	0
	Ringin on the thanksgiving day	...	...	0	5	0
	given the Ringers when the King came home	...	...	0	5	0
	the Kings birth day	...	...	0	5	0
	Gunpowder Treason day	...	...	0	7	6
	pd for Ringing the bell	...	...	1	1	0
	a new lock to the bellfry door	...	...	0	2	0
	To W <sup>m</sup> Beck looking after Clock and bells for a year	...	...	3	2	0
Aprill 1713	For ringin y <sup>e</sup> 4 & 8 a clock bells	...	...	1	5	0
Aprill 1718	24 June. $\frac{1}{4}$ ringin y <sup>e</sup> 8 clock bell	...	...	1	5	—
	Sep: 28 for a man to load and unload y <sup>e</sup> : bells. & expences	...	...	—	11	—
	Octob: 29 expence uppon workmen in repairing y <sup>e</sup> : tower	...	...	—	5	—
1719	J <sup>no</sup> Minstrill ringin money	...	...	—	7	6
	To Norrif for turning y <sup>e</sup> : great bell	...	...	—	5	—
	Will. fenable for ringin y <sup>e</sup> : 4 & 8 a clock bell from } y <sup>e</sup> : 29 sep: to y <sup>e</sup> : 25 March last	...	...	2	10	—

(The accounts from 1769 to 1833 are missing.)

Memorandum at a publick vestry  
held this tenth day of July 1762  
we whose names are vnderwritten  
do Consent and agree that George Grove  
and Richard Howard the Church  
wardens Shall be impowered to  
have the broken bell new Runn  
or Sell her and buy a new one as  
the Shall think it best for the  
parishowners.

*(Signatures.)*

Memmorandam at a publick vestry held  
this 19 day of July 1762.

I Thomas Lester and Thomas Pack  
Do agree with George Grove and Richard  
Howard Church wardens of the parish  
of Wooburn in the County of Bucks to  
Sell them a new bell of 18 hundred or there  
about for thirteen pence pr pound and to  
warrant the said bell to be sound and  
good twelve months after the said bell  
is hung to pay the mony 3 months after the bell is  
hung and a new Claper at ninepence pr  
pound and to warant it good for a twelve  
month : and to give to the above said  
Churchwardens ten pence pr pound for  
the broken bell and two pence pr pound  
for the old bell Claper ; to allow ten Shillings  
towards the cariage.

witnes Tho<sup>s</sup>: Lester

Memmorandam

At a publick vestry held this 29<sup>th</sup> day  
of August 1762 it is agreed by the  
Parishoners of wooburn that m<sup>r</sup>: william  
Lawrance of Thame shall hang all the  
Six bells with new wheelles new Stocks  
new brafses & new gudgins and to make  
all the other Ironwork as good as new  
the Clappers and Everything be Longing there  
vnto the Clapper of the great bell Excepted  
for which the Churchwardens Shall pay  
to mr Lawrance twentyfive pounds when the  
work is Completed.

*(Signatures.)*

Many thanks to the Rev. A. Woodin, Vicar, for kindly allowing me to make these extracts.

WORMINGHALL.

SS. Peter and Paul.

1. Ave: Pax: et: Caritas ✕ A:D: M<sup>d</sup>-  
cccxlvii. (26)

2. ✕ Ave: Fili ✕ Lux: Salvator: A:D:  
M<sup>d</sup>cccxlvii. (26½)

3. ✕ Ave: Pater ✕ Rex: Creator: A:  
D: M<sup>d</sup>cccxlvii. (30)

S. (On Waist:) ✕ AVE: SANCTA: TRINITAS A: D 1847 -

(All round Sound-bow:) ✕ ✕ ✕ ✕ ✕ ✕ (12½)

All by Taylor; cast at Oxford. Taylor's T-headed clappers, with double crown-staples. Apparently hung by White, of Appleton, Berks. No stays. The tenor is clogged.

In 1714, 3 bells; sanctus not mentioned.

Lipscomb, I., 580: Two small modern bells, and a saint's bell.

Mr. Henry Joiner, of this parish, who was the first to ring one of these bells, says that the two upper bells came some time before the tenor, on the arrival of which the second had to be tuned; also, that there were previously two bells, of which the tenor was perfect, and the treble quite broken up; only some small portion of it hanging to the stock.

Lipscomb's History having been published in 1847, his note above probably refers to the previous bells, before the treble cracked.

In a report on this church, drawn up in 1846 by the Rev. J. Baron, Vicar of Waterperry, and Joseph Clarke, Esq., Architect, of London, for the Right Hon. Henry, Viscount Clifden, Patron of the Living and Lord of the Manor, and published in *Records of Bucks*, IV., 78 (1871), it is stated, "There are three bells in the Tower of the last and present centuries, one is broken and another cracked." And in a paper on the restoration of the church, by the Rev. James Statter, Vicar (*tom. cit.*, p. 90), "The tower . . . has been supplied with a peal of three bells and a Sanctus bell, partly made by recasting three former ones which were either cracked or broken."

Death Knell: "soon after death." Tellers: 3 × 3 = a man; 2 × 3 = a woman; 1 × 3 = a child.

No bell at funerals.

On Sundays, one bell chimed (?) at 8 a.m., known as Sermon Bell. For Services, bells chimed twenty minutes, then tenor only, for five minutes, and the sanctus for last five minutes.









Memorandum from churchwardens' accounts, 5th February, 1847 :—

The sum of 69 ,, 7 ,, 3  
paid to Taylors  
for recasting the Bells.

Many thanks to the Rev. W. H. Pochin, late Vicar.

WOTTON UNDERWOOD.

All Saints.

1.  THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT  (26½)
2. AL†C†A DENN†S V†DUA DED†T ME H†U†C PARO-  
C†M†Æ. J6J5. 
- RECAST J J 28. P: PARROTT. †: MOW. C: W. E:  
MEM†NS FEC†T  (27)
3. (*A larger size of fig. 85 all round, = thirteen times.*)  
P: PARROTT. †: MOW. C: W. J J 28. (*Same ornament*) E: MEM-  
†NS. FEC†T. (*Same ornament twice.*)  
(*Underneath, obv. of a shilling.*) (29½)
4. LET AARONS BELLS BE EVER RANG THE  
WORD BE PREACH'D (*Same ornament.*)  
AND HALLALU†AM'S SANG. EDWARD MEM†NS  
B†SS†TER FEC†T. J J 28  (31½)
5. BEHOLD OUR USES ARE NOT SMALL THAT  
GOD TO PRAISE ASSEMBLES   
CALL. (*Same ornament.*) P: PARROTT. †: MOW. C: W. E:  
MEM†NS FEC†T. J J 28. (*Same ornament twice.*) (34½)
6.  THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1800  (37½)
- S. (*Blank*) (13)

Treble: there is space for the date between FECIT and the beginning of the pattern, but whether it has been cut away, or was never stamped, I do not know; Lipscomb, however (I., 609), supplies the omission: "Six good bells, and a saint's



bell; the treble was added by the munificence of George, Marquess of Buckingham, in 1800; and the tenor then recast." Tenor: has Bond's gudgeon hoop. These two bells are by T. Mears sen. (p. 104). 2: for Edward Hemins, see p. 256. Alice Dennis was the daughter of William Haslewood, of Alford, in Cheshire; she married first, Edward Grenville,\* born 1525, descended from Richard de Grenville, second son of Hamon Dentatus, of Bideford (Devon), and Kilkhampton (Cornwall), who died 1147. From the Grenvilles were descended the late Dukes of Buckingham. Edward Grenville's father died 1536, and he obtained livery of his inheritance in 1548. He and Alice had "on sonne who dyed yonge."† Edward died 31st October, 1587; and his widow married secondly, Walter Dennis, Esq., whom also she evidently survived. 3: the coin is one inch diameter; bust sinister, "ANNA DEI GRATIA." 4: for different versions of this couplet, see p. 249. 5: for this inscription, see p. 271. Saunce: has round, sloping shoulder; iron lever; on its stock is carved <sup>1W</sup>1828 which does not, however, prevent the bell being older. Between the rims (where an inscription is usually placed) is .7 inch.

23 July, 1552. Wuttn und<sup>r</sup>wood (also Wotton —)

If in the stepell iij belle.

If one hande bell.

14 July, 1638, Wootton underwood. 4 bells et a S<sup>ts</sup> bell . . . the Chancell . . . wanteth leading at  $\frac{y}{y}$  East end et pargeting. . . . The steeple in decay in the stone worke and woodworke.

1714. 4 bells (a 5<sup>th</sup> added between then and 1752. Sanctus not mentioned).

### WOUGHTON-ON-THE-GREEN. Assumption B.V. Mary.

1. CAST BY GILLETT & C<sup>o</sup> CROYDON  
(*On Waist: roses (?) and plumes of five ostrich feathers (?), alternately, all round.*)  
(*Underneath:*) RICHARD CHANDLER MADE ME 1653  
GILLETT RECAST ME AT OUR  
QUEENS JUBILEE 1887.  
(*On Crown:*) 1004 (26½)
2. GILLETT & C<sup>o</sup> CROYDON  
(*On Waist: pattern all round, as on treble.*)  
(*Underneath:*) "RICHARD CHANDLER MADE ME 1717"  
GILLETT RECAST ME  
AT OUR QUEENS JUBILEE 1887. (27)
3. CHANDLER MADE ME 1701 (29¾)
4. THOS LUCAS CH-WARDEN 1771  $\frac{3}{4}$  BARNARD CHAVALL  
GENTLEMAN  $\frac{3}{4}$  PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT  $\frac{3}{4}$  (33¾)

\* Lipscomb, I., 597 *et seq.*

† His brass in the church.

Treble : as no bell by Richard Chandler I. is known of later date than 1638, and the next appearance of this Christian name is in 1675 (see p. 227), it may be confidently assumed that the old treble was by *Anthony* Chandler, bearing, as usual, only his surname ; and that Messrs. Gillett, seeing the Christian name Richard on the next bell, and ignoring the sixty-four years interval between the two, and the (no doubt) different letters used, put this down to him as well—an unfortunate mistake. Since the above was written, the Rev. T. A. Turner has kindly lent me rubbings (taken in 1876) of these two bells, which prove this surmise to be correct. The former treble bore :—

CHAUDLER MADE ME 16 53 (25½)

Thickness of sound-bow, 1¼ in. ; high crown ; much chipped for tuning.  
And the former second :—

(*Fig. 82 all round.*)

**RICHARD CHANDLER MADE ME**  
**1717** (28)

Thickness of sound-bow, 1⅝ in. Very thin where large holes were drilled through crown for new crown-staple. Badly cracked. Iron baldrick.

The Rev. F. F. Field, the Rector, told me that the old treble split when Messrs. Gillett's hanger was boring holes through the crown, when quarter-turning it, and that they recast it at a reduced charge ; much tuned from lip. The former second, by Richard Chandler III., was cracked about the "forties." 3 : by "the firm," in the ¼⅝ inch set of letters (see p. 233) ; hung far out from stock. Tenor (p. 101). All rehung in the seventeenth-century frame, which is left still wedged to the walls ; the two surviving old bells are turned, and their crown-staples broken out.

1714, 4 bells.

The "Pancake Bell" was discontinued somewhere about 1830, or earlier.

Death Knell : as soon as possible after the death ; no tellers. A bell tolled at funerals.

On Sundays, a bell is rung at 7 a.m., to give notice that Morning Service will be held, and again immediately after the Service, to announce that there will be Evensong. These are, of course, survivals of the days when the Rector was a pluralist, and did not reside here. For the Services, the bells are rung, and the treble chimed alone for the last five minutes.

Before the appointment of the present Rector (1884), the bells were rung from November 5th until after Christmas, by special ringers. Now their places are taken by the regular ringers, who begin in Advent, and ring nearly every night, and for Service on all chief festivals and saints' days.

Ringing for weddings when paid for, or when some friend of the ringers is married.

A bell rung for Vestry and Parish Meetings.

No churchwardens' accounts.

Many thanks to the Rev. F. F. Field, Rector.

*WRAYSBURY, more correctly, Wyrardisbury.* S. Andrew.

1. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON † 890 ✦  
 (On Waist:) J. H. HANDBSON—V+CAR † 890  
 J. P. TAYLOR  
 † N E+L+O DE† V+S MEA ✦ (24½)

2. (*Ditto, on shoulder.*)  
 (On Waist:) CAPTAIN R. HARGREAVES } CHURCHWARDENS  
 CAPTAIN W. SHELTON } † 890 ✦  
 (*Tuned from 25½*)

3. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON † 88† ✦ (c. 26½)

4. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON † 87† ✦

(On Waist:)



(28)

5. 6. (29½, 32¾)  
 BRYANVS ELDRIDGE ME FEC† 1657

7. WILLIAM ELDRIDGE  
 MADE MEE 1664 (35)

8. ✠ Sif † nomen † domini †  
 benedicfum † 591

HK (39½)

The two trebles were first used at a Dedicatory Service on June 3rd, 1890, at which H.R.H. Princess Christian untied a ribbon which held the two ropes. 5 and 6: are by Bryan Eldridge II., of Chertsey (p. 244). 7: by his brother (p. 245). Tenor: by Henry Knight I., of Reading (p. 123).

Until 1881 there were only 5 bells, as shown in the *History of Wrayisbury, etc.*, by G. W. J. Gyll, Esq., published in 1862. On p. 114:—

. . . Five bells . . . Tenor . . . is 2 feet 8 in. high, and its diameter 3 feet 2 inches, and at the top 20 inches in diameter; it has on it X.s.q.l.+sit nomen × Domini — Henesell.\*

No 1 . . . 2 feet 2 inches high, and it is *cracked*; its diameter is 2 feet 2 inches below, the top diameter is 14 inches, and it has on it, T.H.R.L. H.W. 1657.

The inscription on this bell (the predecessor of what is now the fourth) was noted in 1864 by Mr. H. Wilson, of Windsor, as:—

Bryanvs Eldridge me fecit, 1657.

TH, RL. HW

Diameter, 27½ inches; cracked. (HW seems likely to have been CW).

The two remaining inscriptions are given nearly correctly by Mr. Gyll, the most important mistake being that he omits the fourth bell altogether; and calls William's bell the third.

18 July, 1552, Wyrardybury,

In pims iij belle and one hande bell

7 Aug: 1637, Wyrardsbury 3. Bells. A gallery set under the bellfry absq; & c† the last year. And the frames of the bells broken. . . . The bellframes so in decay that the bells cannot be rung. . . . The steeple in great decay & braced round wth timber & iron pins.

1714, 5 bells.

Lipscomb (IV., 612) records the same number.

The Record Office (see p. ix.) furnishes the following note on the Priory of Ankerwycke, in this parish:—

xijmo die mōcij 1555 Ankerwyk { The leade ther (&c) } Annsweyrd A° xxvijmo H viijvi  
 { The belle ther ... ij }

Death Knell: on the forenoon following the death. Age and sex denoted by the bell used. Single bell tolled at funerals.

On Sundays, a single bell tolled at 8 a.m. Bells rung (Grandsire Doubles or Minor) for about twenty minutes before Morning and Evening Service; but chimed instead of rung, when a body is lying in the parish awaiting burial.

Ringng at 6 a.m. on Christmas Morning. The Old Year rung out with the bells muffled, and the New Year rung in (? with the bells "open"). Ringng for weddings by desire.


Many thanks to the Rev. J. H. Hindson, the late Vicar.

\* This is a good instance of the wonderful faculty which exists for misquoting bell inscriptions.

† *Et cetera* may stand for *licentia*, or for *mensuratione altitudinis*.

## WYCOMBE, HIGH.


All Saints.

1. THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1802  (*Pattern contd. all round.*) (29)
2. JOHN BRIANT . HARTFORD . FECIT . 1788 . W . BALL . . . }  
G . HARMAN . }
- ASSISTANTS. { THE GIFT OF THE EARL OF WYCOMB . . . . . } (30¼)  
                  { ELDEST SON OF THE MARQUIS OF LANSDOWN }
3. JOHN BRIANT . HARTFORD . FECIT . 1788 . G . HARMAN . }  
W . BALL . . }
- ASSISTANTS. ○ { THE GIFT OF LORD HENRY PETTY . . . . . } (31½)  
                  { SECOND SON OF THE MARQUIS OF LANSDOWN }
4. 8. ∞ RECAST BY THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON A,  
D. 1802 ∞∞∞ (31, 40½)
5. EDWARD STEVENS CLARK LVKE GVRNEY SEXTON  
R: PHELPS FEC: 1711 ✧ (32¼)
6. MEARS & STAINBANK, WHITECHAPEL FOUNDRY,  
LONDON.











*(On Waist:)*

THESE EIGHT BELLS WERE CAST 1711 BY  
RICHARD PHELPS OF WHITECHAPEL, LONDON  
THIS BELL WAS RECAST IN THE YEAR 1890

R. CHILTON, VICAR	}	CHURCHWARDENS
T. J. REYNOLDS		
W. PHILLIPS		
A. LEADBETTER		
J. PARKER		
		(34½)

7. ARON WOOSTER: THO<sup>S</sup> WALKER: M<sup>R</sup> MEAD:  
CHURCHWARDENES: THO<sup>S</sup> S M A I N: MADE:  
ME: J756  : (38)

9. MESEIVRS IOHN LAKE THO: STEVENS GEO: GROVE  
FERD<sup>O</sup>: SHRIMPTON THO: WELLES ALD<sup>N</sup>: 1711 R: P:  
FEC: (44)

10. MAY ALL WHOM I SHALL SUMMON TO THE GRAVE THE  
BLESSINGS OF A WELL SPENT LIFE RECEIVE    
   THO<sup>S</sup> MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1802    
  

THE REV<sup>D</sup> JAMES PRICE VICAR MESS<sup>RS</sup>  
RICHARD BARTON SAMUEL BATES JAMES KINGSTON &  
DANIEL TURNER CHURCHWARDENS W B (51½)

Treble, 4, 8, and tenor: by the elder Thomas Mears (p. 104). 2 and 3: the

following account of the Petty family is compressed from Lipscomb (III., 640), and Parker's *Wycombe* (1878, p. 17), etc. :—

In 1700, Thomas Archdale, Esq., conveyed the Manors of Temple Wycombe, Loakes, and Windsor, or Chapel Fee, in Wycombe, to Henry Petty, who had, the previous year, been created Baron Shelburne. He was the second son of Sir William Petty, by Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Hardress Waller, Knt., of Castletown, co. Limerick. In 1709, he was created Viscount Dunkeron, and Earl of Shelburne; and died 1751. All his children having predeceased him, he devised his estates to John Fitzmaurice, second son of his sister, Anne, Countess of Kerry, who was, at different times, created Viscount Fitzmaurice and Baron Dunkeron; Earl of Shelburne; and a Peer of England as Baron Wycombe. He died 1761, and was succeeded by his eldest son, William, who, in 1784, was created Viscount Calne and Calnstoue, Earl of Wycombe, Marquess of Lansdowne, and K.G. He married in February, 1765, Sophia, daughter of John, Earl Granville, by whom he had John Henry (mentioned on the second bell), M.P. for Wycombe, 1786-90, afterwards second Marquess of Lansdowne, died 1809, s.p.; and William, who died young. The first Marquess married secondly, Louisa, sister of the Earl of Upper Ossory, and by her had Lord Henry Petty (mentioned on the third bell), born 1780, who eventually succeeded his brother, as the third Marquess. The first Marquess was for a short time (1782) Prime Minister; he died in 1805, and was buried in this church. In 1798 he disposed of this estate to Robert Smith, first Lord Carrington.

The crown-staple of the second is not quite square with the canons, so that the straps are placed diagonally across the stock. The coin on 3 is an impression of the obverse of a shilling ( $\frac{1}{2}\frac{9}{10}$  inch diameter), bust dexter, GEORGIVS III. DEI GRATIA. These two bells have flat-topped canons. Mr. George Harman, whose name appears as one of Briant's "assistants," was a clockmaker in Wycombe; he served the office of Mayor in 2 Vict. (1838), and had nothing whatever to do with bell-founding. In 1790 he erected here a new\* set of chimes, at the expense of Lord Lansdowne. The tunes were the same as those of the celebrated chimes of S. Giles's Church, Cripplegate, London, which were also constructed by Mr. Harman, *viz*, Sunday—"Salisbury," or "Easter Hymn"; Monday—"Hymn of Eve"; Tuesday—"Staughton"; Wednesday—"Horsley"; Thursday—"Sicilian Mariners'

\* Chimes existed here for a quarter of a century at any rate, and the clock at least struck the hours by 1637. Its successor, dating before that year, from about 1730, having become worn out, a new one, by Messrs. Gillett and Bland, together with a new set of chimes, were subscribed for, and put up early in 1877, at a cost of over £500. The tunes which the present chimes play, are as follows, with the names of the donors: Sunday—"Easter Hymn," Rev. R. Chilton; Monday—"Rousseau's Dream," J. O. Griffiths, Esq.; Tuesday—"O Rest in the Lord," J. Parker, Esq., F.S.A.; Wednesday—"Sicilian Mariners' Hymn," F. Wheeler, Esq.; Thursday—"Blue Bells of Scotland," B. Lucas, Esq.; Friday—"Last Rose of Summer," W. V. Baines, Esq.; Saturday—"Home, Sweet Home," A. Vernon, Esq.

Hymn"; Friday—"Britons, Strike Home!"; Saturday—"Bermondsey." 5 (p. 98): one of the canons broken. 6: the former bell was inscribed:—

**RICHARD PHELPS OF WHITE CHAPEL LONDON  
MADE THESE EIGHT BELLS 1711 ✧** (34 $\frac{5}{8}$ )

It had been cracked across the crown for a long time—as long as the late parish clerk could recollect—but if an iron band had been shrunk round the shoulder, even as late as 1885, when I ventured to suggest it,\* the bell might have been preserved for many years. As it was, the crack increased at compound interest—the further it spread, the more rapidly it went on spreading—with a corresponding loss of tone, until the poor old bell became almost voiceless, when the present bell was substituted. It reached Wycombe on November 24th, 1890; on the following day I did my "little possible" to assist Mr. W. Greenleaf (then in partnership with Mr. T. Blackbourn, bellhanger, of Salisbury) in removing the old bell and lowering it to the ringing-chamber, etc.; and in the evening the Voluntary Ringers of Wycombe lowered it to the ground, and hauled up into the tower the new bell, whose weight is said to be 7 cwts. 2 qrs. 15 lbs. The crown-staple is not a fixture, but passes as a single rod through the crown, and is bolted by a nut in the argent hole. The seventh was rehung and quarter-turned at the same time. 9: John Lane was Mayor, in 1683, and again the following year. A Thomas Lane was one of the M.P.s for the borough in 1625, 1628, 1640, and 1641; his name appears in a List of County J.P.s in 1646; and the following February, a John Lane's name was added; the Lanes were people of some consequence at Great Marlow at the same period. Thomas Stevens was Mayor four times. George Grove was Mayor in 1697. Ferdinando Shrimpton was Mayor no less than eight times, unless more than one individual of the name is included in the period between 12 Will. III. and 5 Geo. II. Thomas Welles did not pass the chair, though others of his name (and doubtless related to him) did so, both before and after his time. Tenor: for the authorship of these lines, see p. 104. The Rev. James Price, B.A., was presented to the living in March, 1788, by William, Marquess of Lansdowne, K.G., in succession to a namesake—no doubt his father—who had been presented to the living by the same patron when Earl of Shelburne, in November, 1763, and was buried here in January, 1788; the younger Mr. Price served as Mayor, in the 29th of George III.; which office had been served by his father on four occasions. The initials, W B, probably signify Wycombe Borough.

In an inventory of goods of Wycombe church, 1475†:—

ij hoselyng bellys. iij bellis for the bedman

\* *Records of Bucks*, V.

† For this I am indebted to E. J. Payne, Esq., Recorder of Wycombe.

The first were used at the time of administering the sacrament. The bedeman was apparently the priest who read prayers.

The original tower of this church was at the intersection of the transepts, built 1273. The present tower at the west end was built 1522. Lipscomb (III., 650) is, of course, wrong in saying that *eight* bells were removed from the old to the new tower.

18 July, 1552, Chepyng Wicombe,

**I**tm fyve Greate bellis one Sauncebelle/ two handbellis and two sacr ... (*perished*).

Aug: 4. 1637, Wicombe maga 6 Bells\* S<sup>ts</sup> Bell a clock chimes . . . Six bells but formerly 5. the sixt being brought in w<sup>th</sup> out ye generall confent . . . A new Dyall to be fet on the steeple in a frame as the former . . . the bellfry dore [out of reparaire].

The six bells are said to have been inscribed :—

- |                                                                                                                                  |                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Praise ye Lorde, 1620                                                                                                         | (weight, 8 cwt. 10 lbs.) |
| 2. Sit Nomen Domini Benedictum                                                                                                   | (9 cwt. 18 lbs.)         |
| 3. Multis Annis Resonet Campana Johannis, 1583                                                                                   | (12 cwt. 18 lbs.)        |
| 4. Love God, 1636                                                                                                                | (15 cwt. 67 lbs.)        |
| 5. Martyn Lewellin, Mayr. ; Robt. Roy, Chrstr. Weedon, Richd. Piggot, Robt. Bowdrey, Ch. W's., 1672                              | (20 cwt. 32 lbs.)        |
| 6. Jno. Pettiphur, Mayr. ; Cha. Elliot, Ald. ; Jno. Bigg, Thos. Grove, Chrstr. Lansdell, Sam. Freeman, Robt. Ratliff, C.W., 1683 | (29 cwt. 0 lbs.)         |

The treble was *perhaps* one of James Keene's first bells (p. 161), or, if the date is incorrect, it may have been by Ellis Knight (p. 126), to whom the fourth may, with very little doubt, be assigned. The second was probably a fifteenth century bell, by Henry Jordan (p. 37), or one of his predecessors. The third I feel no hesitation in assigning to William Knight (p. 122). The fifth and tenor, uncertain, but perhaps by Richard Keene ; or, the former may have been by Henry Knight II. ; and the latter by Henry Knight III. ; Ellis Knight (? II., p. 134) ; or Samuel Knight ; or possibly they were from the Whitechapel Foundry.

In 1711, the six bells were taken down, and removed by road to Spade Oak Wharf on the Thames at Bourne End (near Little Marlow), and thence by barge to London ; where a ring of eight bells was cast in their place, by Richard Phelps, of the Whitechapel Foundry, at a cost of £140, exclusive of the expenses of carriage.

The new bells (only two of which still remain here) were only five hundred-weight heavier than the old six, and formed the second ring of eight ever erected in this county (Denham being the first). The inscriptions are said to have been :—

\* Wingrave is the only other place in the county that had a ring of 6 at that date. Soulbury, which alone perhaps had 6 in 1552, had certainly only 5 in 1637.



1. Wm. Shrimpton, T. Clerk ; Jno. Rose, Serjeant ; Wm. Hailey, Beadle ; R.P.,  
fec. 1711.
2. (*The present 5th.*)
3. (*The late 6th.*)
4. God preserve the Church of England, and our Gracious Queen Ann. R.P.,  
fec. 1711.
5. Messeiurs Ben. Hickman, Jos. Pettipher, Ric. Shrimpton, Hen. Hunt,  
Aldermen. R. Phelps made me, 1711.
6. (*The present 9th.*)
7. Hugh Shrimpton, Mayr. ; Thos. Russin, Justice ; Thos. Wood, T.C. ; Richd.  
Allen, Jno. Carter, Bail ; R.P., fec. 1711.
8. Saml. Guise, M.A., Vicar ; Nath. Morgin, Wm. Packer, Saml. Welles, Fra.  
Williams, C.W. Richd. Phelps made mee, 1711.

The seventh bell at Wooburn (dated 1712) has an almost exact counterpart of the inscription just recorded on the late fifth here. It is not easy to see why the names of Wycombe aldermen should be placed on a bell cast for another parish, and the obvious explanation seems to be that this bell was moved, second-hand, from here to Wooburn; perhaps in 1802, when some of the bells here were recast. It is quite likely that Phelps's original fifth for Wycombe tower (dated, like the rest, 1711), may have been unsatisfactory, and therefore recast the following year. The tenor is stated in John Briant's List of Bells, published in *Bells of Herts* (p. 65), to have weighed 28 cwt.; the present tenor represents Phelps's seventh.

The massive frame, constructed in 1711, still remains.

The only eighteenth century Peal Board remaining in the county, hangs in the ringing-chamber here, in an elaborate gilt frame :—

*All Saints, Wycombe, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 1792.*  
 On the evening of the eighth Instant  
 — was **Rung** in this Steeple, —  
 A COMPLEAT PEAL of GRANDSIRE CATORS  
 <<<<|>>>> consisting of <<<<|>>>>  
**Five Thousand one Hundred & eleven**  
 —|—|—|— changes \ \ \ \  
 By a Party of the SOCIETY of  
 √√√ LONDON COLLEGE YOUTHS. √  
 which they compleated in *three* hours  
 & *forty two* minutes, in that Masterly  
 Style for which they are famous.

## Performers

<i>Mr. John Povey</i>	<i>Treble</i>	<i>Mr. James Wooster</i>	6
<i>Mr. Jos<sup>th</sup> Holdsworth</i>	2	<i>Mr. John Inville</i>	7
<i>Mr. James Lance</i>	3	<i>Mr. Edm<sup>d</sup> Sylvester</i>	8
<i>Mr. Will<sup>m</sup> Wilson</i>	4	<i>Mr. Dan<sup>t</sup> Jenkins</i>	9
<i>Mr. Rich<sup>d</sup> Wilson</i>	5	<i>Mr. John Lyford</i>	<i>Tenor</i>

*The Peal call'd by Mr. John Povey*

John Povey, of London, was Beadle to the Society of College Youths, and his name appears in the list of subscribers to *Clavis Campanalogia* in 1788; as do also those of Joseph Holdsworth, of Westminster; William Wilson, of London; and James Worster (? a misprint for Wooster) of Chelsea, Middlesex, who was, perhaps, a native of this town; there was a ringer here named Wooster in 1770, besides Aaron, the churchwarden of 1756, recorded on the seventh bell. John Inville, of Newington, "Surry," was likewise a subscriber to *Clavis*; as were Edmund Sylvester (whose name was also on an older Peal Board formerly at Denham, see p. 378\*), and John Lyford, of Whitechapel.

The Morning Ave was rung daily at 4 a.m., until 1836.

The Evening Ave, or Curfew, was rung at 8 p.m., on the ninth bell, until 1853.

The "Pancake Bell" is still rung on Shrove Tuesday, on the seventh bell, at 10 a.m., for five minutes.

Death Knell: at any convenient time; but if the death occur after Evening Service, the knell is tolled the following morning. It was formerly the custom to toll the death knell on the day preceding the funeral, at the same hour as the funeral was fixed for. Tellers:  $3 \times 3 =$  a male;  $3 \times 2 =$  a female. At funerals, a bell is tolled as the body is borne to the church, and again, when it is carried from the church to the grave. When there is muffled ringing, it is after the interment. There is muffled ringing on the death of any member of the Royal Family, for clergy of the parish, a ringer, churchwarden, mayor, or other high official.

On Sundays and other Holy Days, the treble is chimed for a quarter of an hour before the 8 a.m. Celebration; and on Easter Day for the 7 and 8 a.m. Celebrations. For Morning and Evening Services, a single bell is first rung, which is known as the Sermon Bell; then the bells are chimed (? or rung); and lastly the treble alone; each for fifteen minutes (= three-quarters of an hour in all).

\* In an account of the "Cirencester Parish Church Bells," kindly sent me by the Ven. the Archdeacon of Cirencester (the Rev. H. R. Hayward) since p. 370 was printed, occur the names of no less than six out of the eight members of the College Youths who rang at Denham in 1773; viz., James Darquit, Thos. Bennett, Winstanley Richardson, Will<sup>m</sup> Scott, Robert Bly, and Joseph Monk,—taking part, at Cirencester, in a Peal of Grandsire Cinques (5,082 changes, in three hours fifty-seven minutes), on January 7th, 1767.

For the daily Services, a single bell is rung for fifteen minutes, except on Thursdays, when the bells are chimed from 6.30 to 7 p.m. On New Year's Eve, the bells are rung for a Service at 8 p.m., and are left set, with the exception of the tenor. From 11.45 to just before midnight, the tenor is tolled. As soon as the clock has struck the hour, the tenor is raised, and a touch rung for fifteen minutes. The bells were rung muffled on Good Friday, 1888, for the first time, during the Three Hours.

Ringings formerly on November 5th, now discontinued.

In the Borough Records is as follows:—

Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>, 1672. Henry Shepherd was discharged and ousted as a Burgess of High Wycombe for misbehaviour and being uncivil to several gentlemen, especially on the 3rd instant, at the Catherine Weell; and in token whereof it is ordered that the Great Bell be rung out according to custom, in testimony of his misdemeanours, and for his disfranchisement.

#### EXTRACTS FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS.

1760.	Nov. 12,	Richd Stevens for mending the Clapper of the Great Bell	00 . 05 . 00
1763	Sep. 15.	Ringing Day ... ..	00 . 14 . 00
		[In this year commence annual entries of 14s. paid for "Ringing Day" on June 4th (George III.'s birthday), September 22nd (Coronation of Geo. III. and his Queen Consort), and November 5th.	
1764		Paid Joseph Allen for ringing the eight o'clock bell ...	01 . 05 . 00
	June 29.	Paid Mr. Veary for work done to the Great Bell	00 . 03 . 10
	July 9.	Thos. Weller for work to ye bells ...	00 . 01 . 00
1766.		Wm Mead for work about ye bells ...	00 . 15 . 11½
		Ed. Hearn for 8 o'clock bell ...	01 . 05 . 00
		Thos. Wingrove for Carpenters Work to ye Bells and Chimes &c	05 . 18 . 03
		John Wootton his bill for ropes ...	01 . 02 . 11
		Joseph Bowles for 2 ringing days ...	00 . 14 . 00
1767		Richard Carter his bill for looking [to] the Clock and Chimes	01 . 00 . 00
1770		Thos. Phillips for ringing the Eight o'clock bell ...	01 . 05 . 00
		Edward Hearn for sweeping the church and looking after ye chimes ...	02 . 08 . 00
		Mr. Wicheloe for a ringing day ...	00 . 07 . 00
		" " Browne " " " " ...	00 . 07 . 00
		" " Wooster " " " " ...	00 . 07 . 00
		" " Doney " " " " ...	00 . 07 . 00
1770.		Whitwell for repairing the chimes ...	01 . 13 . 00
	May 20.	Ringing at Confirmation ...	00 . 14 . 00
		Mr. Stanworth at the finishing Ringing the 8 o'clock bell	00 . 01 . 00
1772.	Nov. 5.	For beer ...	00 . 01 . 00

(This is extra; the other entries being same as former years.)

1776	W <sup>m</sup> Stanworth for 8 o'clock bell	...	...	...	00 . 12 . 06
1779	Ditto	...	...	...	01 . 05 . 00
1797.	Three ringing days	...	...	...	02 . 02 . 00
„	Aug. 2 ringing days*	...	...	...	01 . 08 . 00
1798.	July 1. Beer for ringers changing ropes	...	...	...	00 . 05 . 02
1804	For two ringing days, May 29, and June 4 <sup>th</sup>	...	...	...	1 . 8 . 0
1807	Robert Youens for ringing the bell†	...	...	...	1 . 6 . 0
1814	Edward Burnham for bell	...	...	...	0 . 15 . 0
	(E. Burnham for 8 o'clock bell recurs for several years.)				
1821	William Brown moiety of Bill for bell rope	...	...	...	1 . 3 . 4
Nov. 1820.	John Lee for clock	...	..	...	4 . 4 . 0
Nov. 1822.	John Lee for 1 year	...	...	...	4 . 11 . 0
1823	Paid ringers for two years	...	...	...	4 . 4 . 0
„	East for 8 o'clock bell‡	...	...	...	4 . 0 . 0
1824	East for 4 and 8 o'clock bell	...	...	...	2 . 0 . 0
	Jan. 29 pd. ringers||	...	...	...	1 . 1 . 0
1826	8 o'clock bell	...	...	...	2 . 0 . 0
	Nov. 5§	...	...	...	1 . 1 . 0
1827	William East for 4 and 8 o'clock bell	...	...	...	2 . 2 . 0
	[On loose paper, between 1827-8, is :—]				
	Expended on Organ & Bells	...	..	29 . 9 . 0	
1828.	Jan. 30. Ringing at King's Acc <sup>n</sup>	...	...	...	1 . 1 . 0
„	July 19 Ringing at King's Coro <sup>n</sup>	...	...	...	1 . 1 . 0
1829	East for bell	...	...	...	4 . 0 . 0
„	Strange for clock	...	...	...	10 . 10 . 0
„	John Youens for bell ropes	...	...	...	6 . 0 . 0
1830	East for 8 o'clock bell	...	...	...	

The following list gives the names of the ringers of the Curfew for the last century of its observance, with date of appointment of each, and annual payment :—

Joseph Allen, 1764, £1 5s. Edward Hearn, 1766, do. Thomas Phillips, 1770, do. ; died or resigned same year. William Stanworth, 1770, was appointed “at the finishing,” and received 1s. for his services during that short period. Robert Youens, 1807, £1 6s. (Steeplekeeper until his death in 1824.) Edward Burnham, 1813 £1 10s. James Lacey, ?? William East, 1823, £2. Richard Russell, 1831, do. Robert Youens, ??

\* The Battle of the Nile, was the occasion of great rejoicings in Wycombe ; Lord St. Vincent, as Admiral Sir John Jervis, K.B., having been Member for this borough in 1784.

† Grandfather of the present steeplekeeper.

‡ For two years.

|| Accession of George IV., 1820.

§ Hitherto 14s.

The anniversaries of the Sovereign's accession, etc., are now discontinued, as there are no funds to pay the ringers.

On May 17th, 1832, when the news reached the town that all opposition to the Reform Bill had been withdrawn, the bells were rung all day. On the following day, when the Ven. Justly Hill, Archdeacon of Buckingham, held his Visitation at Wycombe, the ringers refused to ring, because the Bishop\* had voted against the Reform Bill.

Among the payments appears :—

1778 Bedstead and bolster, £01 . 05 . 00

It was not uncommon for the ringer of the Morning Ave to be provided with sleeping accommodation within the church, and this may have been the case here.

A former ringer of the 4 a.m. bell, James Lacey, is said to have been in the habit of raising the tenor, and then, after a few pulls, of leaving it to ring itself down again, regardless of consequences, while he returned home; and he used to boast that he could get into bed in his cottage near "The Wheel" in Newland, before the bell had run down.

Until about 1829, the churchwardens used to provide the ringer of the 4 a.m. bell, with an alarum clock to awaken him.

Very many thanks to Mr. R. S. Downs.

Chapel-of-Ease : S. Anne, Wycombe Marsh, consecrated 1861 ; one small bell.

*WYCOMBE, WEST.*

S. Lawrence.



1. LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT J756 (28)

2. HENRI KNIGHT MADE MEE  
 † 621 TS RP † (30½)



3. Blessed be the name of  
 the lord 1581 H  
 Joseph Carter (33½)

4. HENRI KNIGHT MADE  
 MEE † 620 (34½)

\* The county of Bucks was annexed and united to the Diocese of Oxford in July, 1837, but the union did not take effect until the first subsequent avoidance of the See, in November, 1845, so the Bishop here referred to was *Lincoln*.

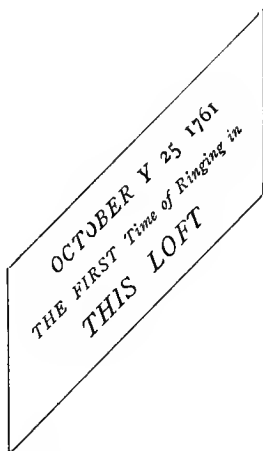
5. THOS<sup>S</sup> BATTING & JN<sup>O</sup> FRYER CH: WARDENS  
 1 7 6 2  LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FE-  
 CIT 

(Underneath, all round:)  (38½)

6.  T. MEARS OF LONDON, FECIT, 1828.   
 THOS FREEMAN. } CHURCH WARDENS. (43½)  
 SAM<sup>L</sup> FLETCHER. }

Treble and 5 (p. 100); the bell on 5 is figured on Plate XXI. On the wheel of 5 is cut, 1818, which probably marks its date. 2 and 4: by Henry Knight I. (see pp. 124 and 126, where the date of the latter bell is stated to be 1626, an awful warning to all future "steeple-chasers" never to scamp work by neglecting to take rubbings in every case). 3: the earliest bell by Joseph Carter in the county (p. 85). 3 and 4 are badly tuned away from the lip. Tenor (p. 105): on its cage is cut, R E (twice) and, W S, which are probably the initials of the bellhangers.

On the wainscot in the ringing-chamber is:—



The church was being rebuilt at that date by Francis, Baron le Despenser, and was completed in 1763.

The frame, and probably the stocks, are cotemporary with the church; all the straps bolted; the wheels are newer.

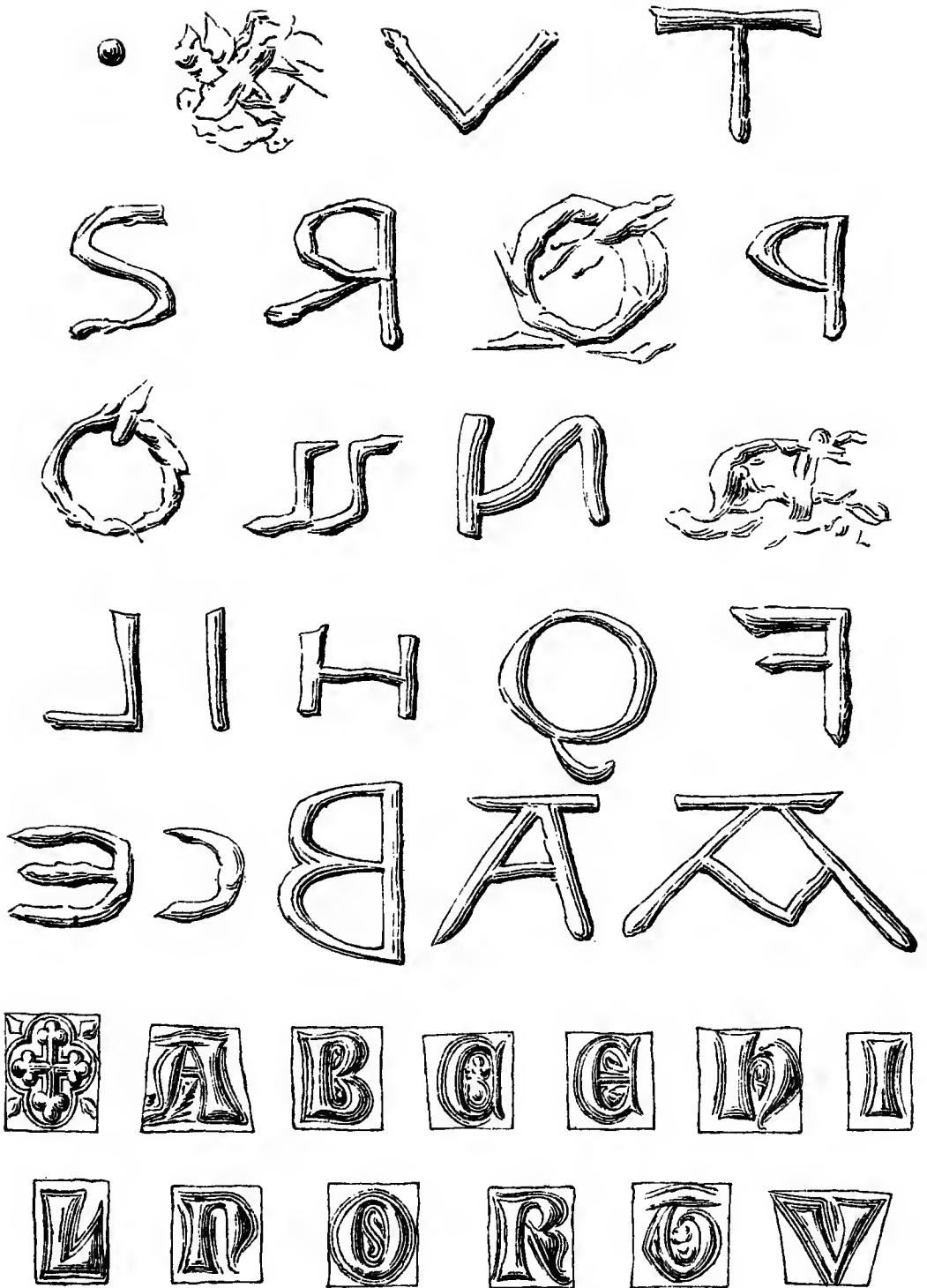
Lord le Despenser was (as stated on his monument) Treasurer of the Chambers, Chancellor of the Exchequer, Master of the Wardrobe, and joint Postmaster General. He died December, 1781, aged seventy-three years.

18 July, 1552, Weste Wicombe. Inprmis iiij belle in the Steple ij litell belle in the chanfell.

15 Aug: 1637, West wicombe 5. Bells & a little handbell.  
the battlement<sup>s</sup> of the steeple in decay.  
1714, 5 bells (sanctus not mentioned).

At the time of the death of Henry Knight I., in January, 1622-3, "West Wickham in the County of Buck," owed him £12 (see p. 125).  
Chapel-of-Ease, S. Paul, built 1875; one small modern bell.

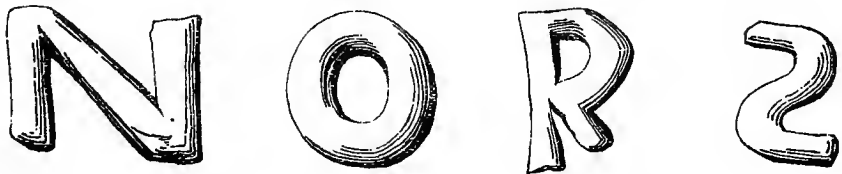
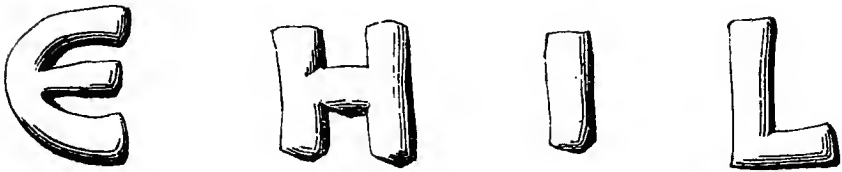
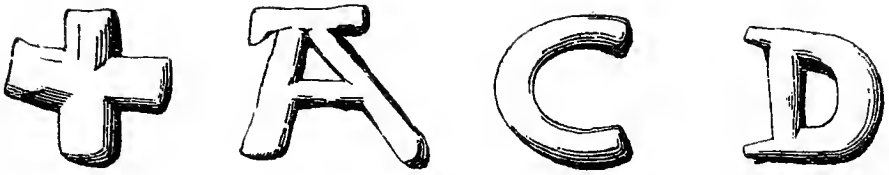
END OF PART III.



FORMER SAUNCE (EARLY 13TH CENTURY), AND FORMER TREBLE (14TH CENTURY), AT CAVERSFIELD.

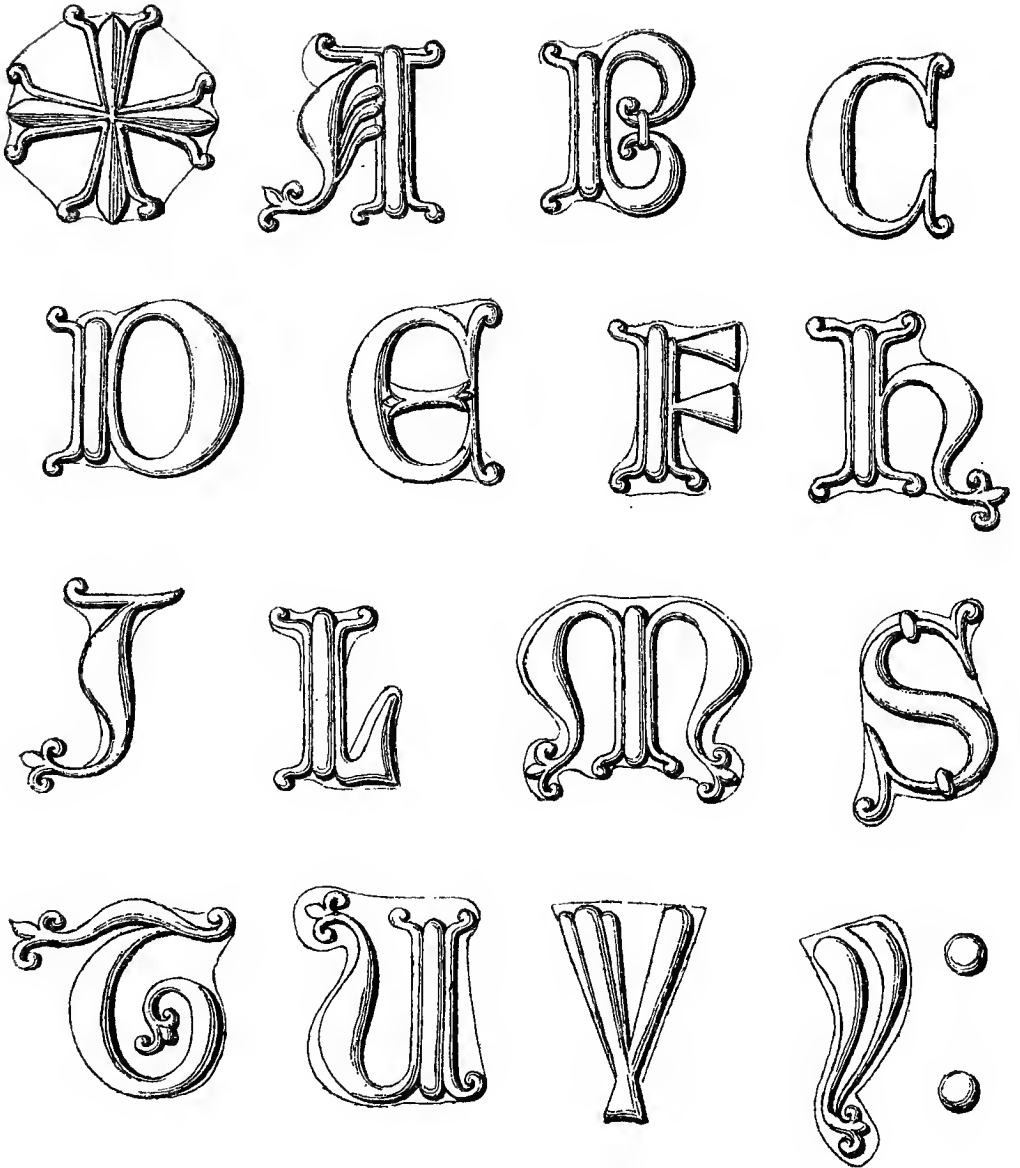




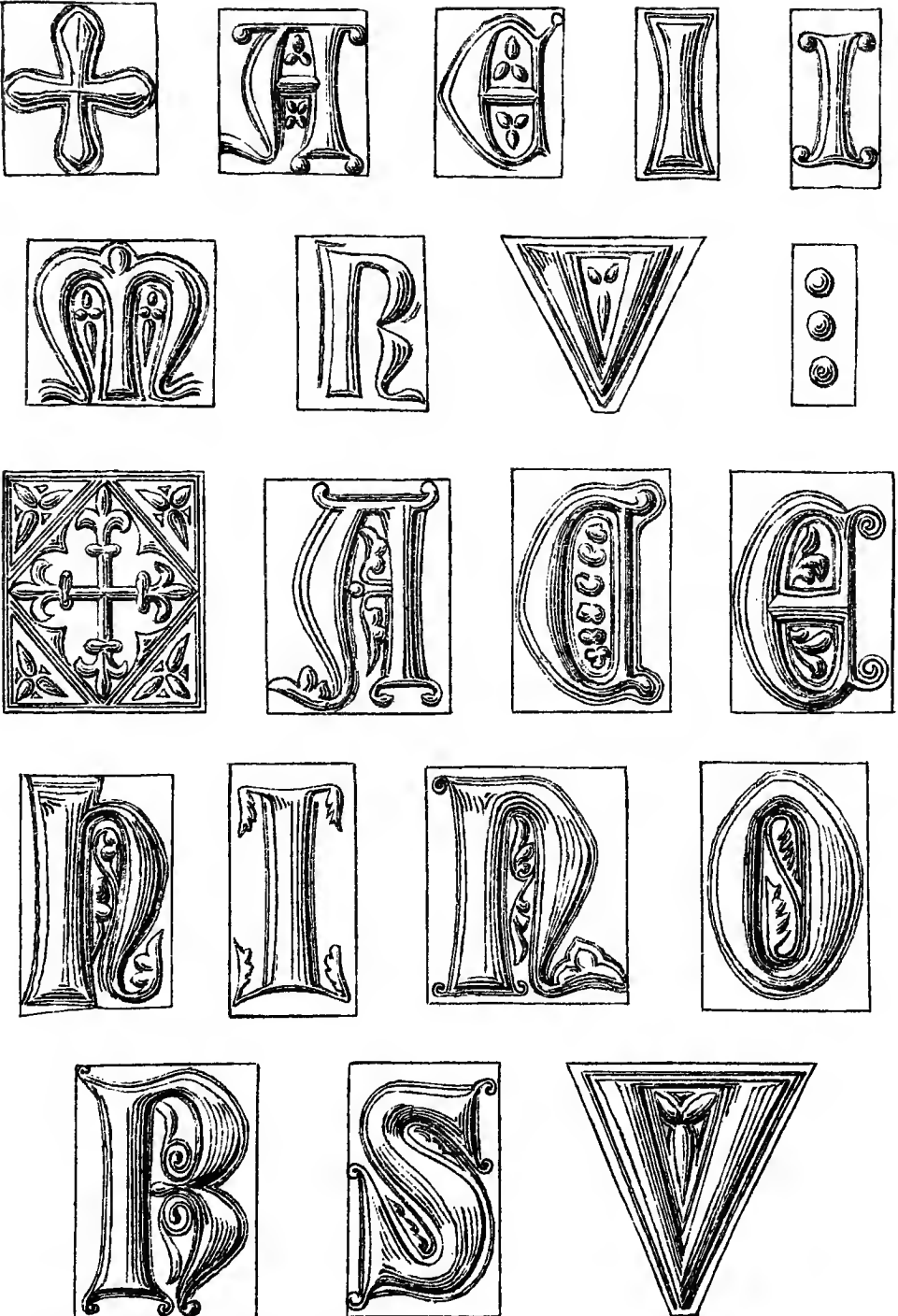


EARLY 13TH CENTURY BELL AT CAVERSFIELD.



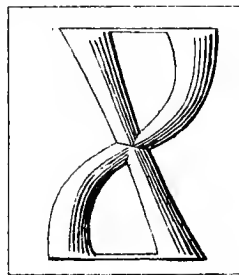
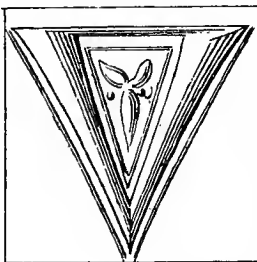
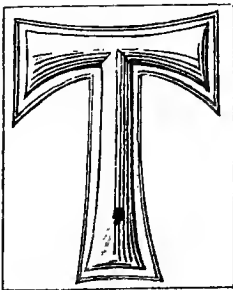
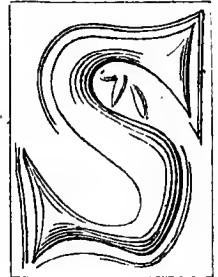
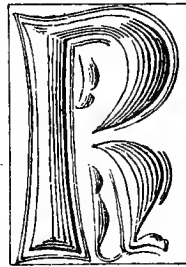
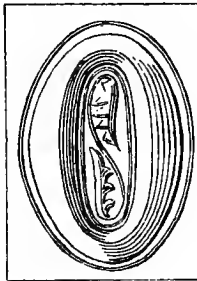
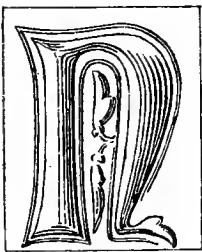
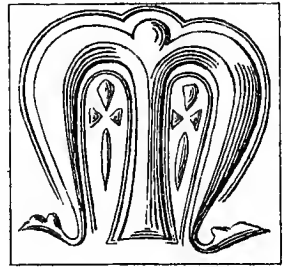
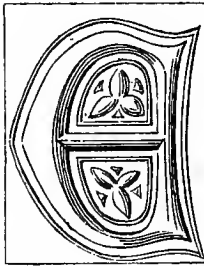
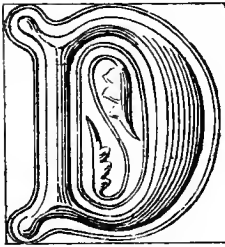
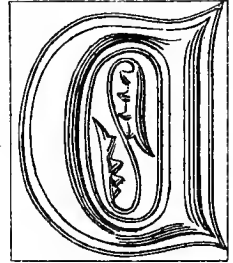
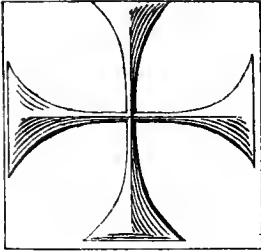






JOHN ROFFORD.  
WILLIAM RUFFORD.





2ND BELL AT BEACHAMPTON. 2ND HALF 14TH CENTURY.







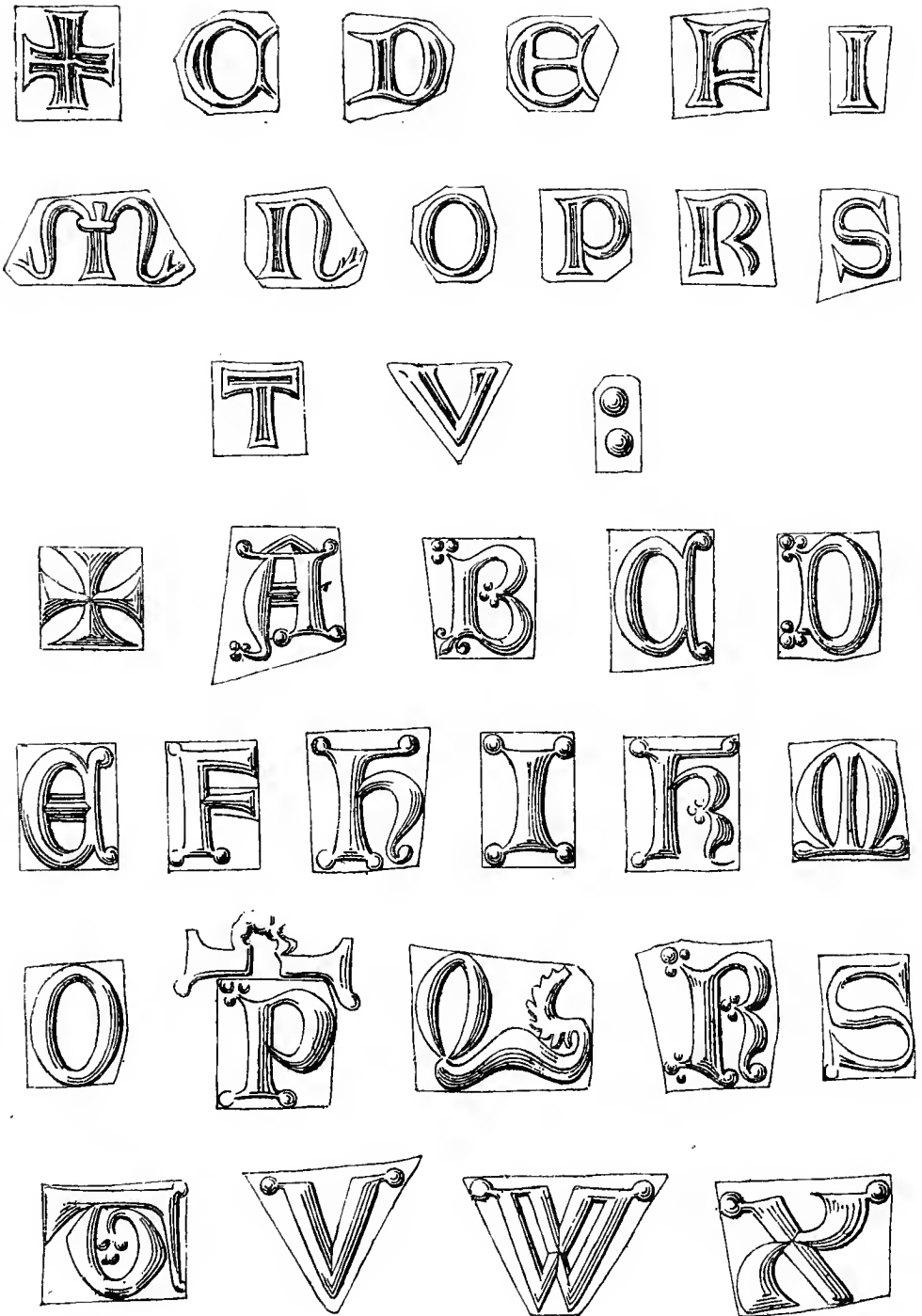
TREBLES AT LITTLE LINFORD AND BARTON HARTSHORN.  
TENOR AT BARTON HARTSHORN (14TH CENTURY).





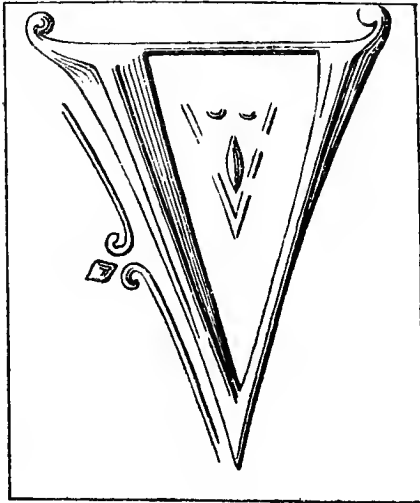
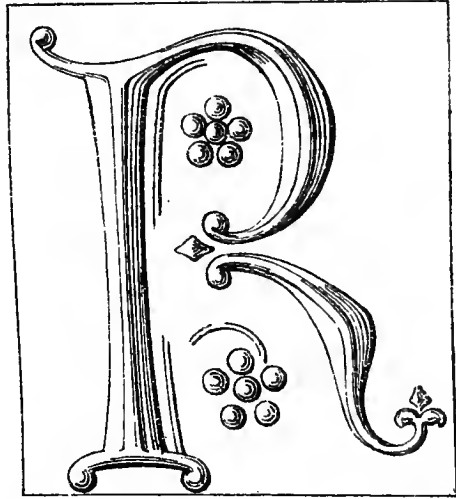
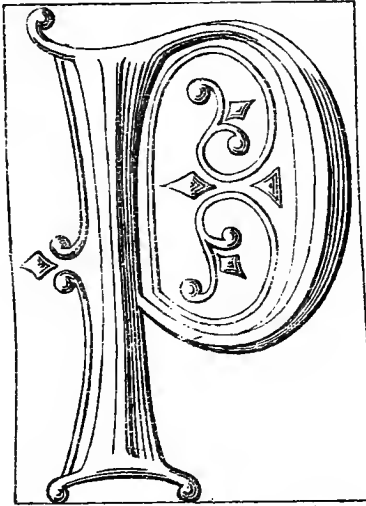
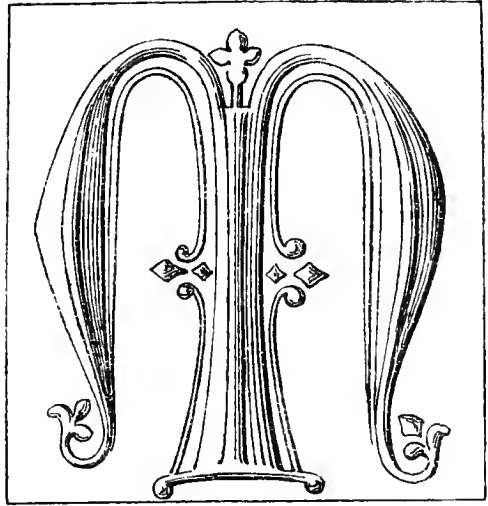
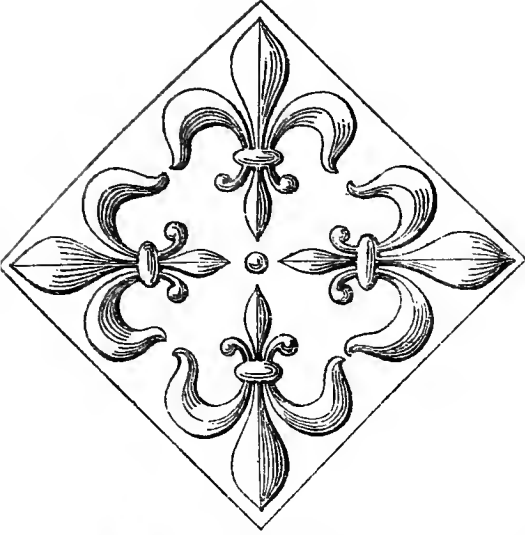
TREBLE AT THORNTON (EARLY 14TH CENTURY).





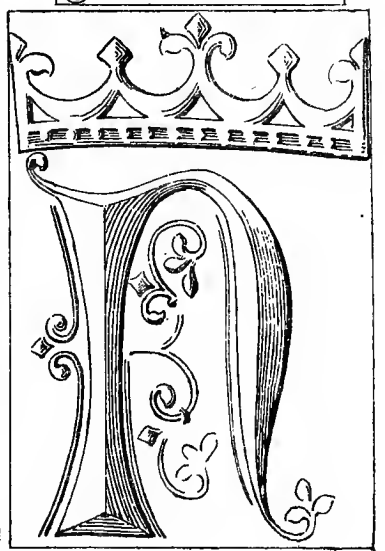
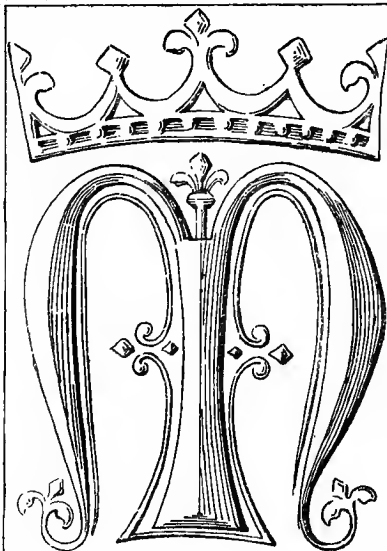
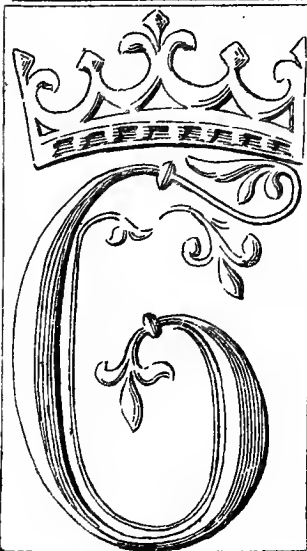
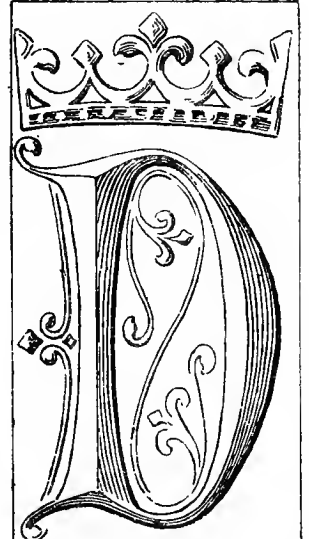
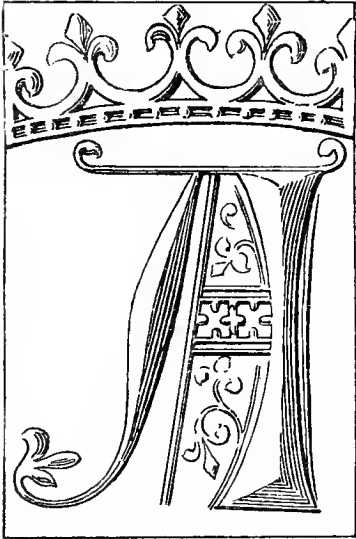
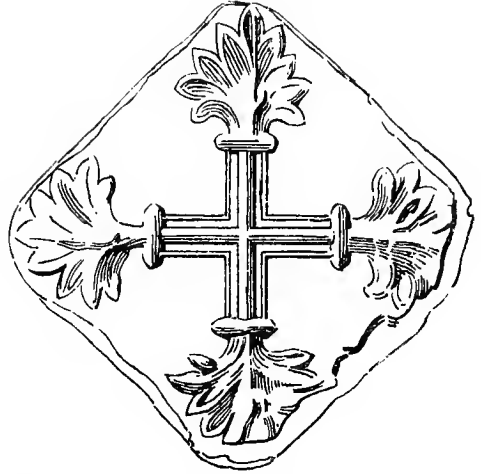
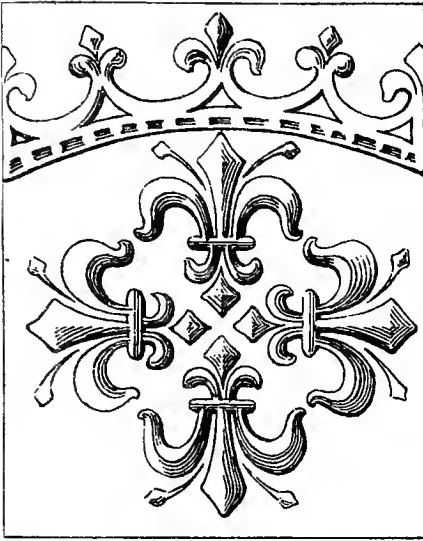
PETER DE WESTON, C. 1328-47 (TATTENHOE).  
14TH CENTURY BELL AT CHETWODE, & A LATER BELL AT LECKHAMPSTEAD.



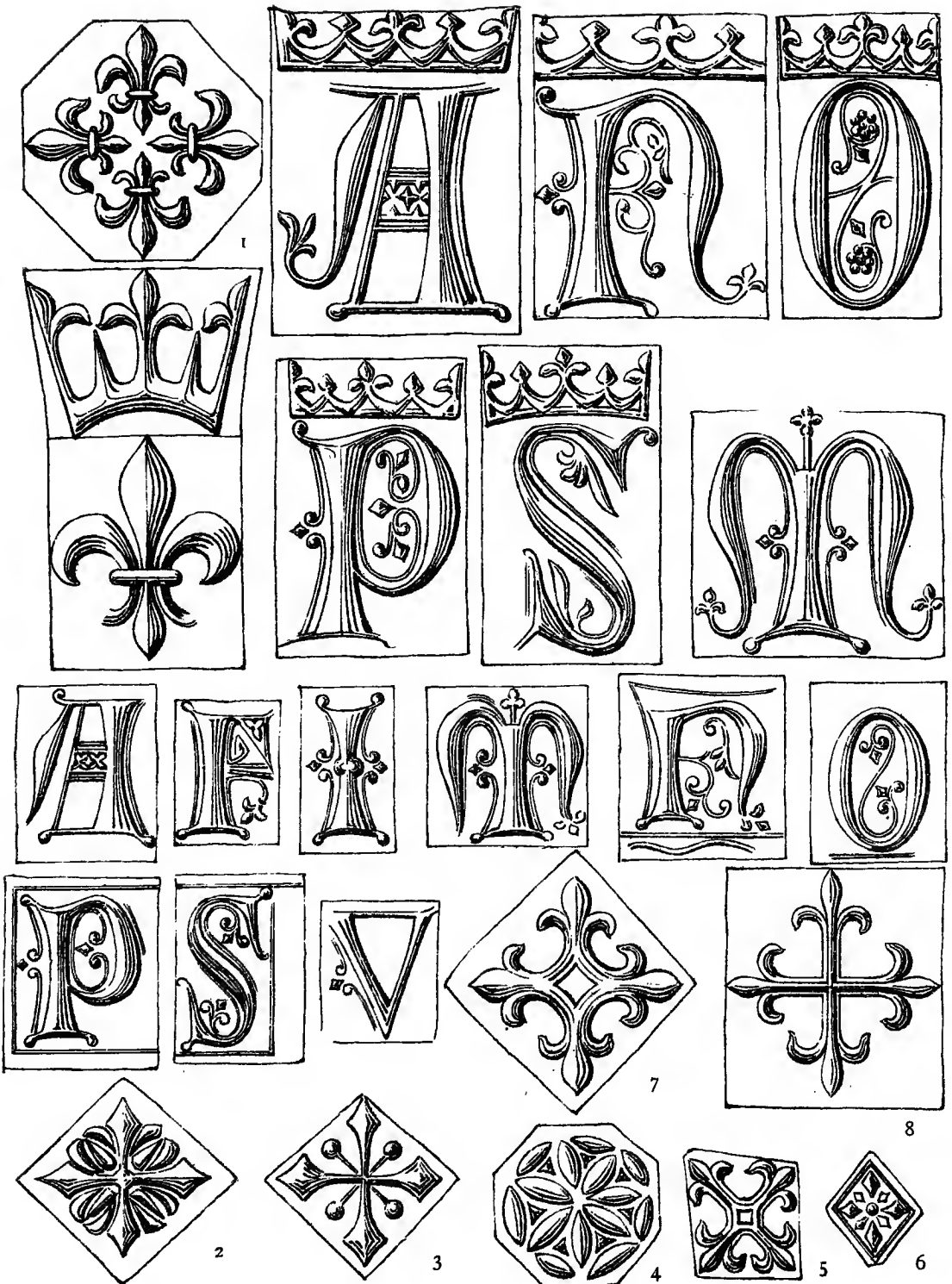




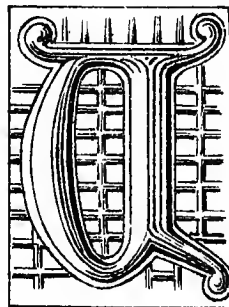
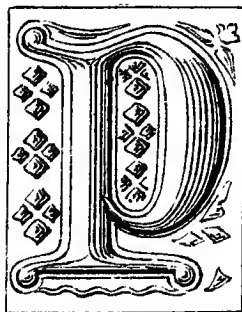
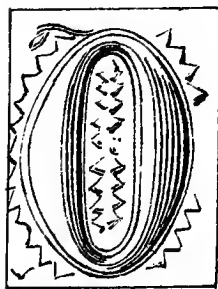
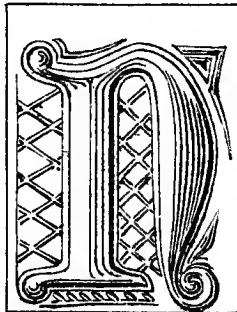
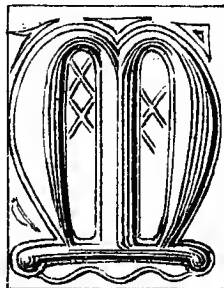
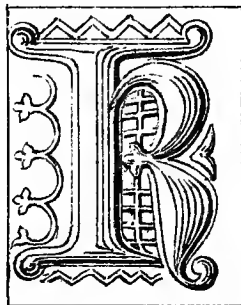
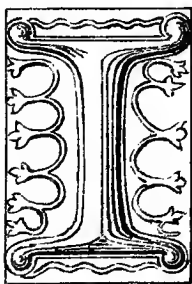
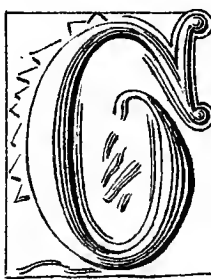
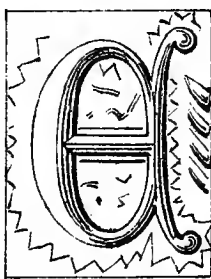
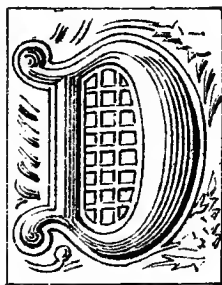
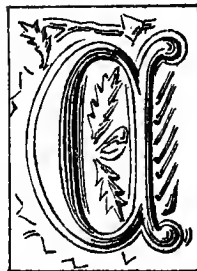
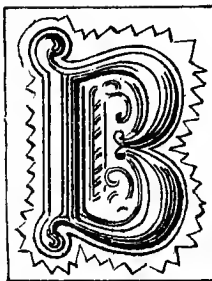
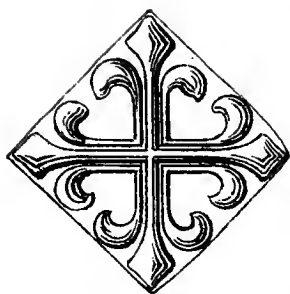




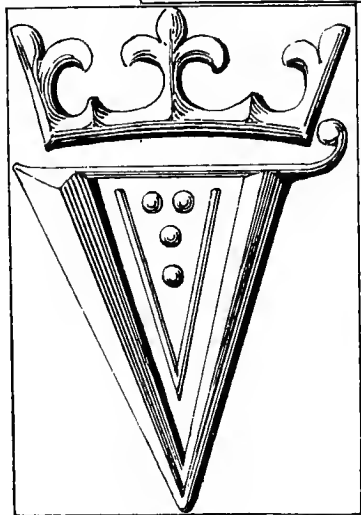
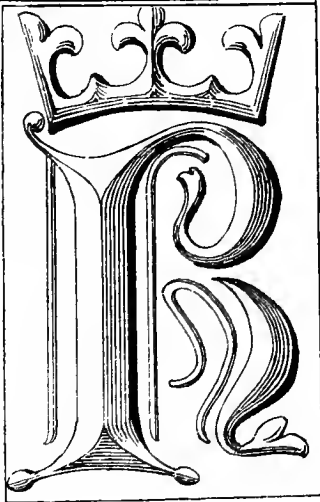
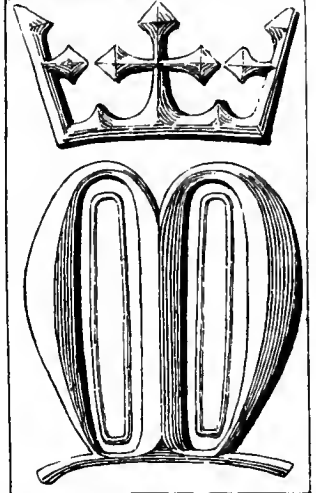
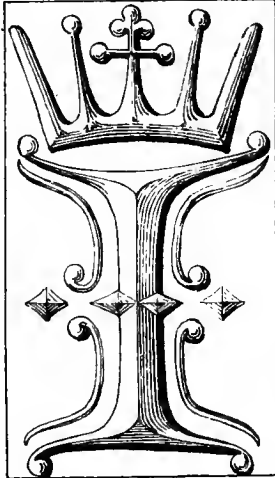
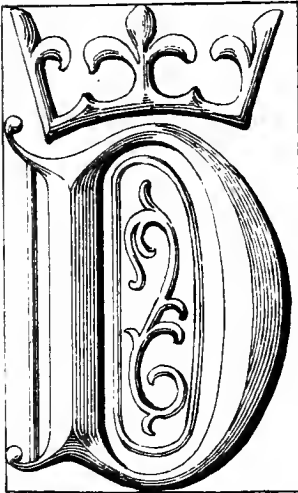
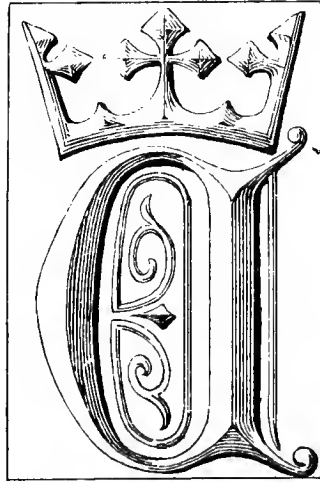
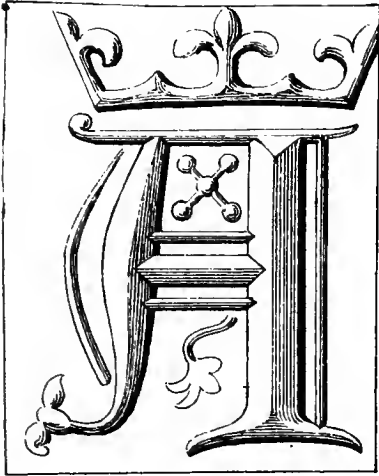








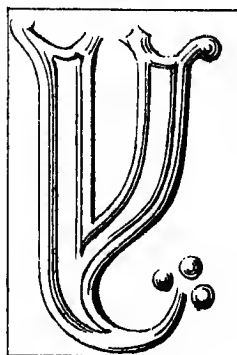
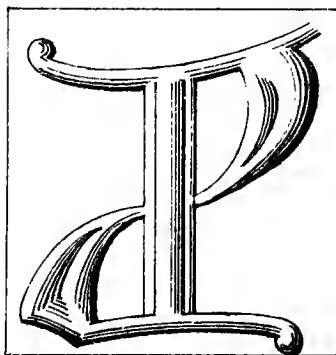
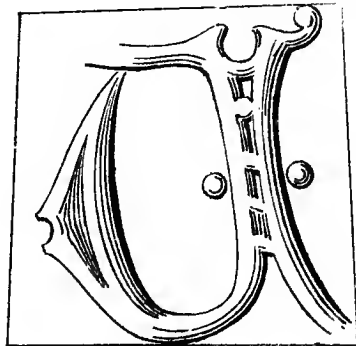
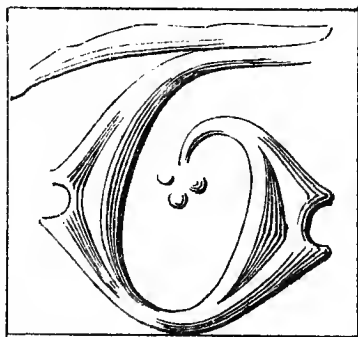
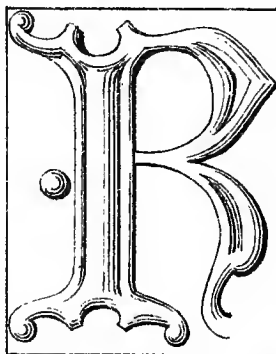
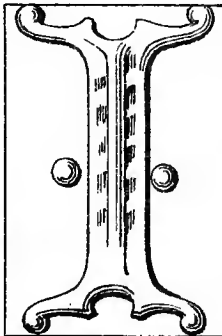
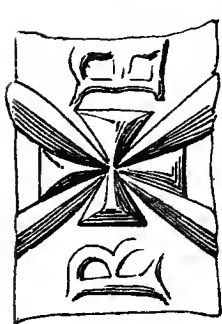
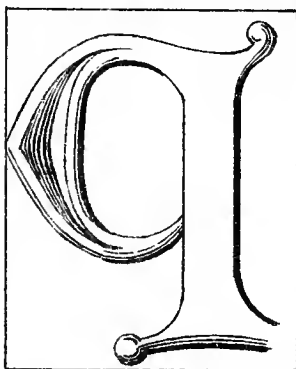
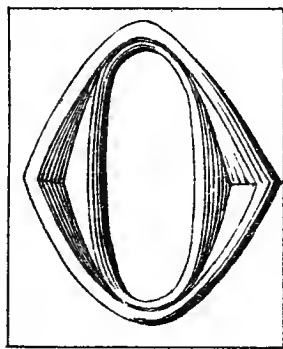
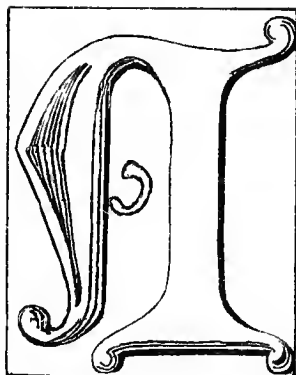
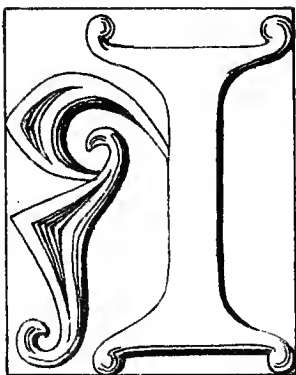
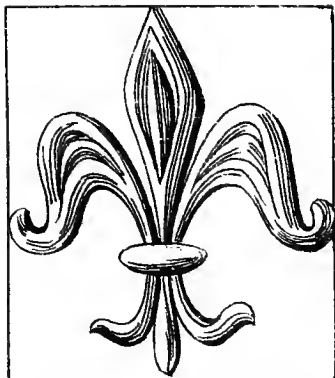




TENOR AT WINGRAVE, BY JOHN DANYELL, C. 1450-1460.



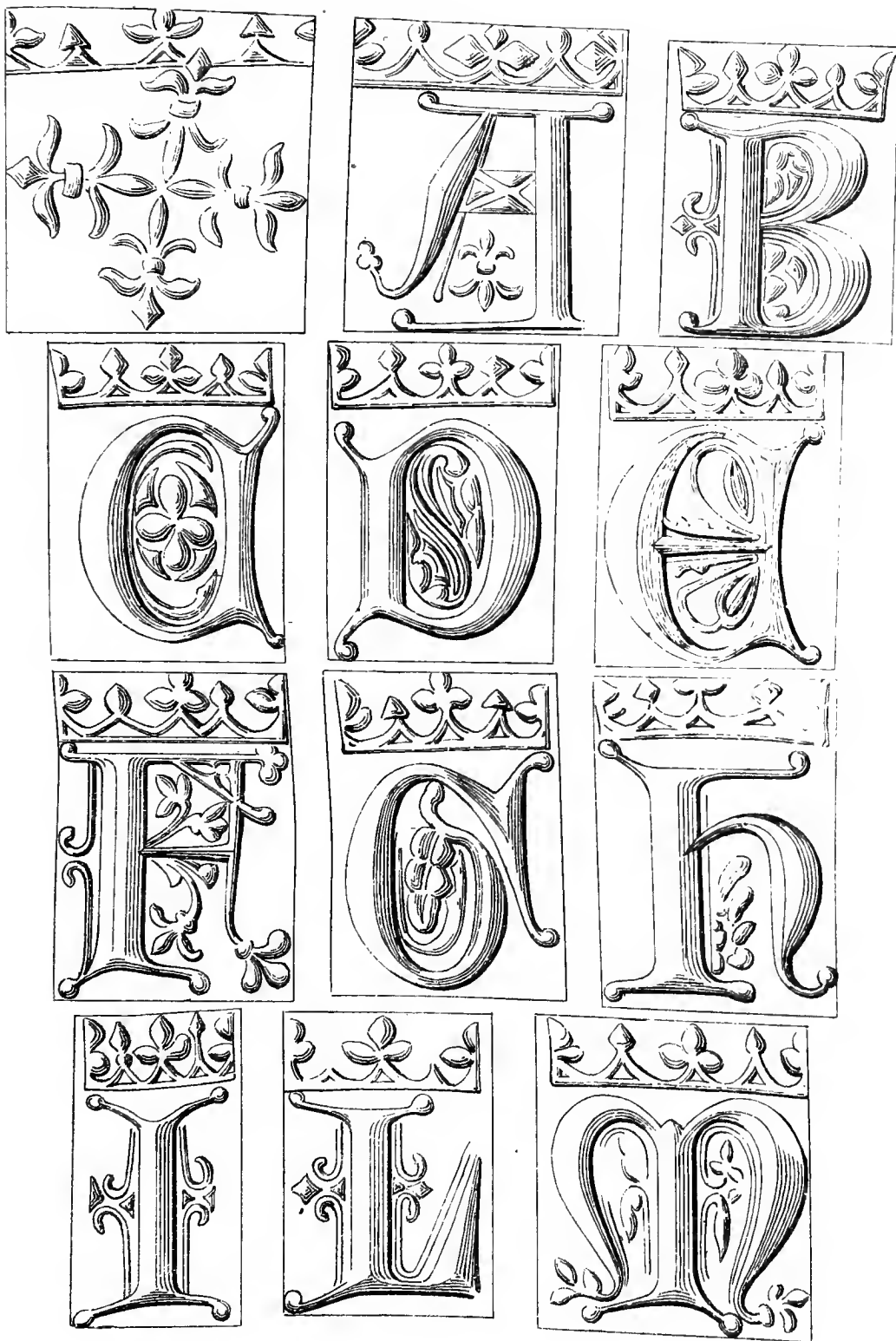




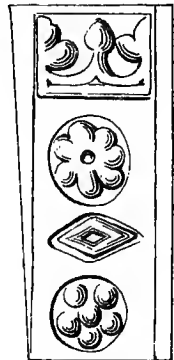
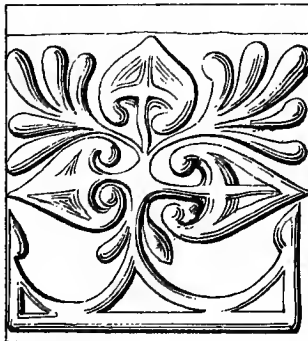
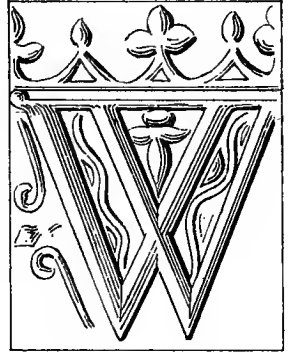
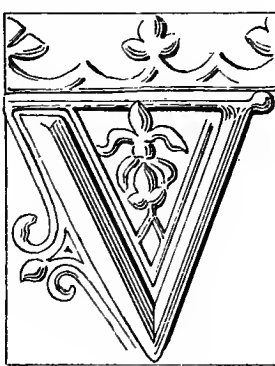
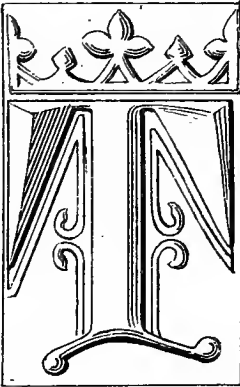
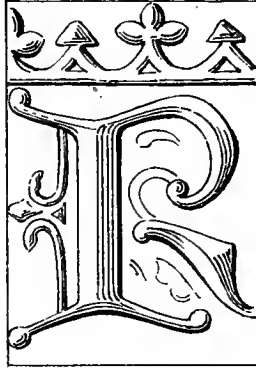
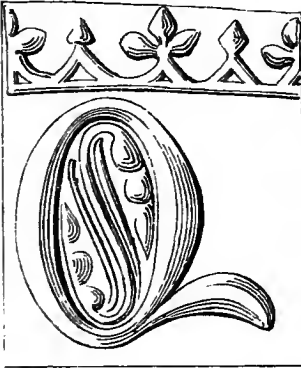
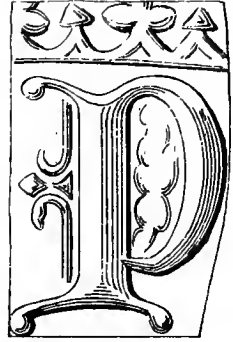
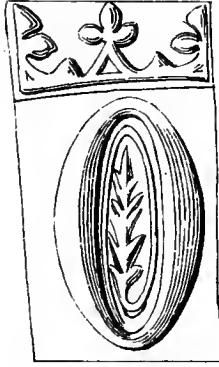
TENOR AT NETTLEDEN, PROBABLY BY THOS. HARRYS, C. 1479.

TREBLE AT ICKFORD, 16TH CENTURY.

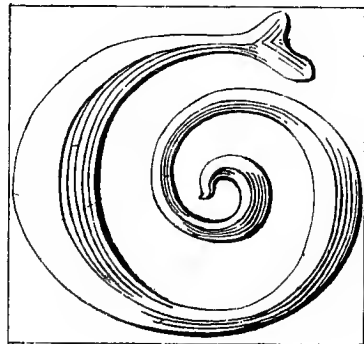
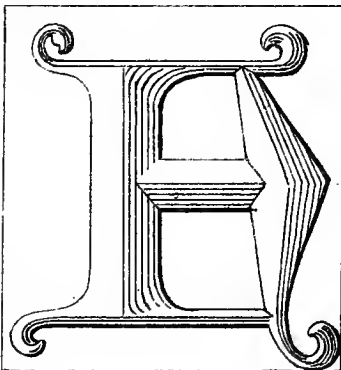
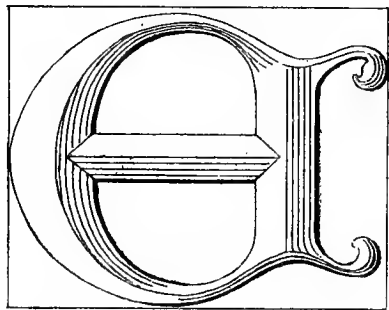
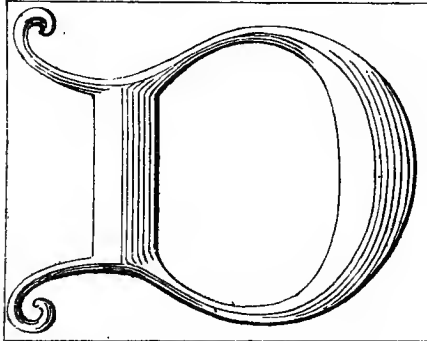
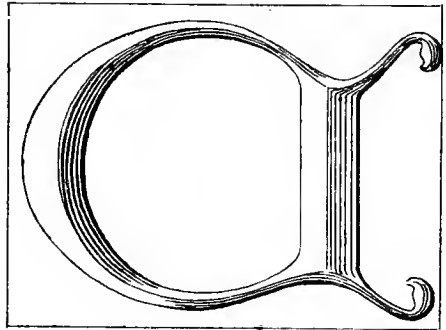
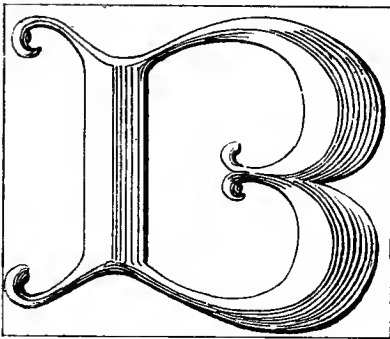
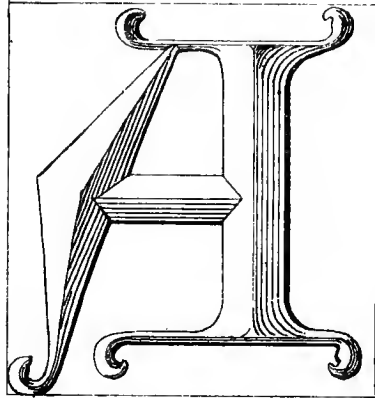
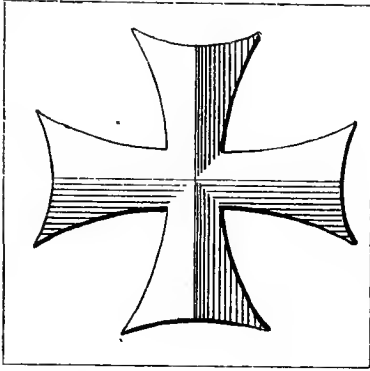






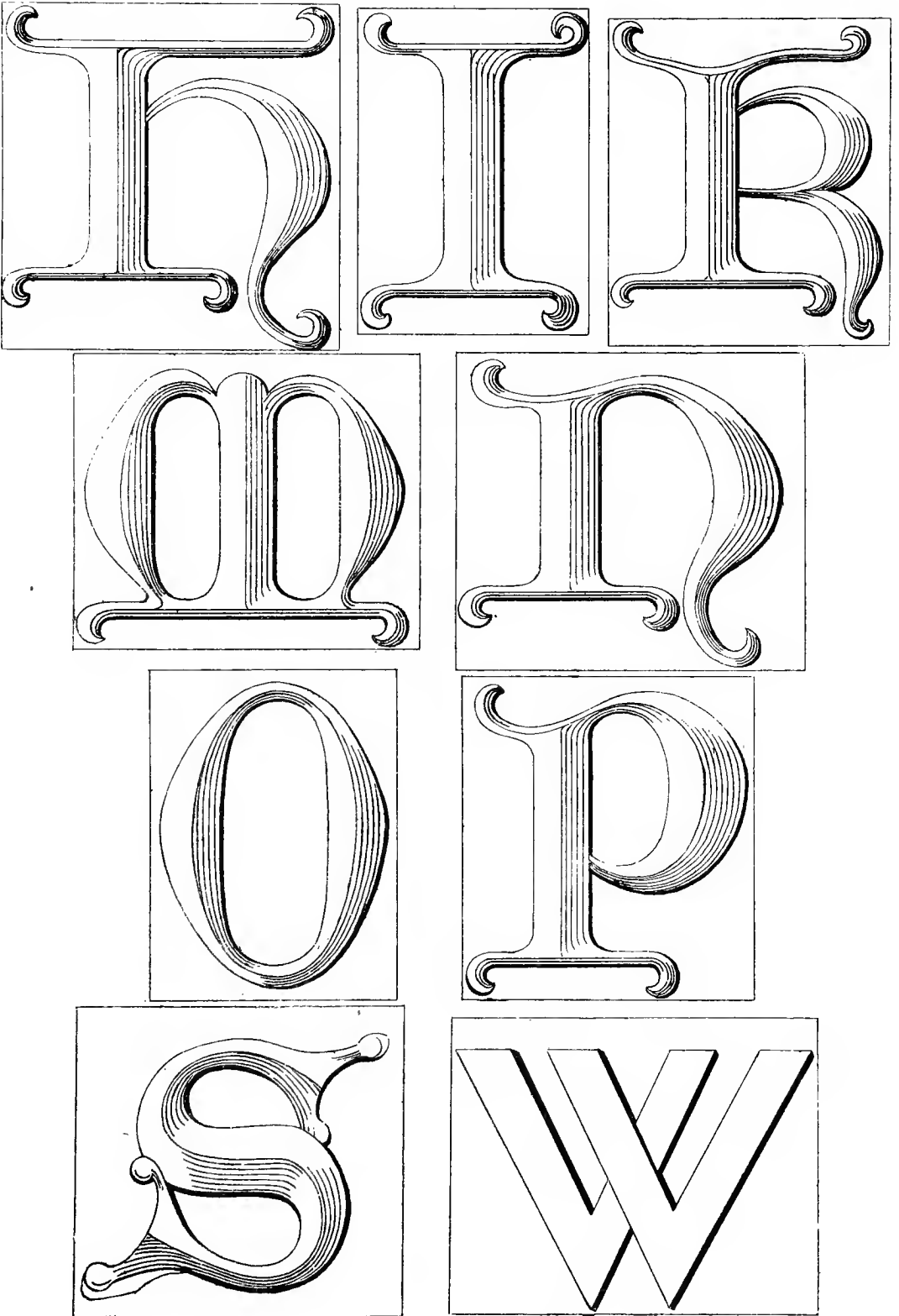




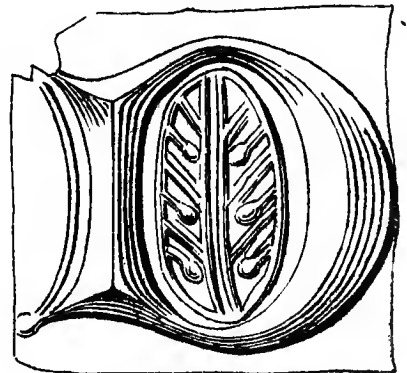
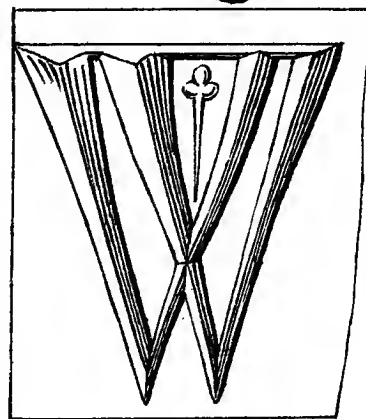
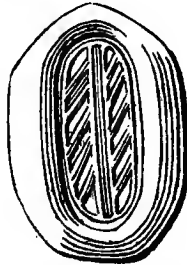
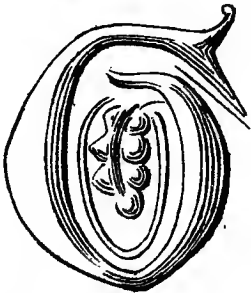
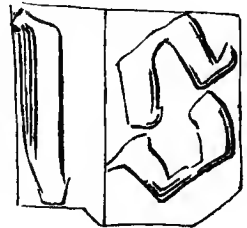
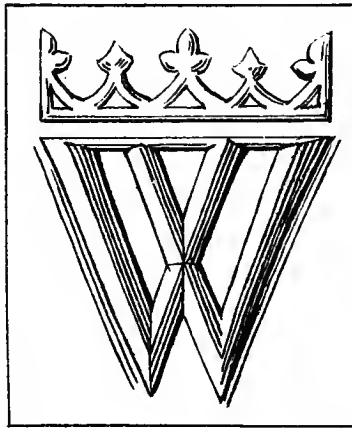
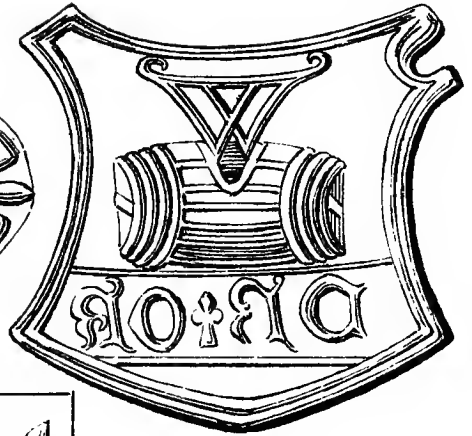
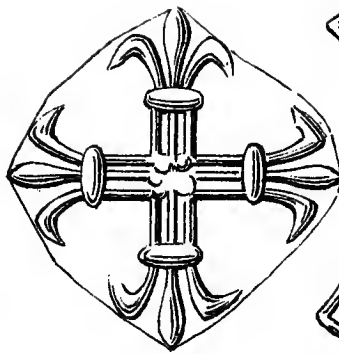
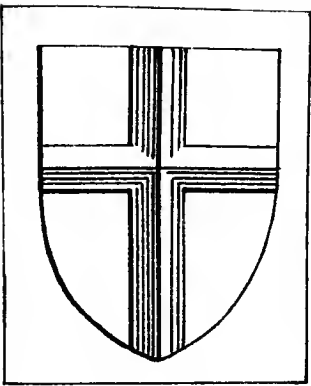




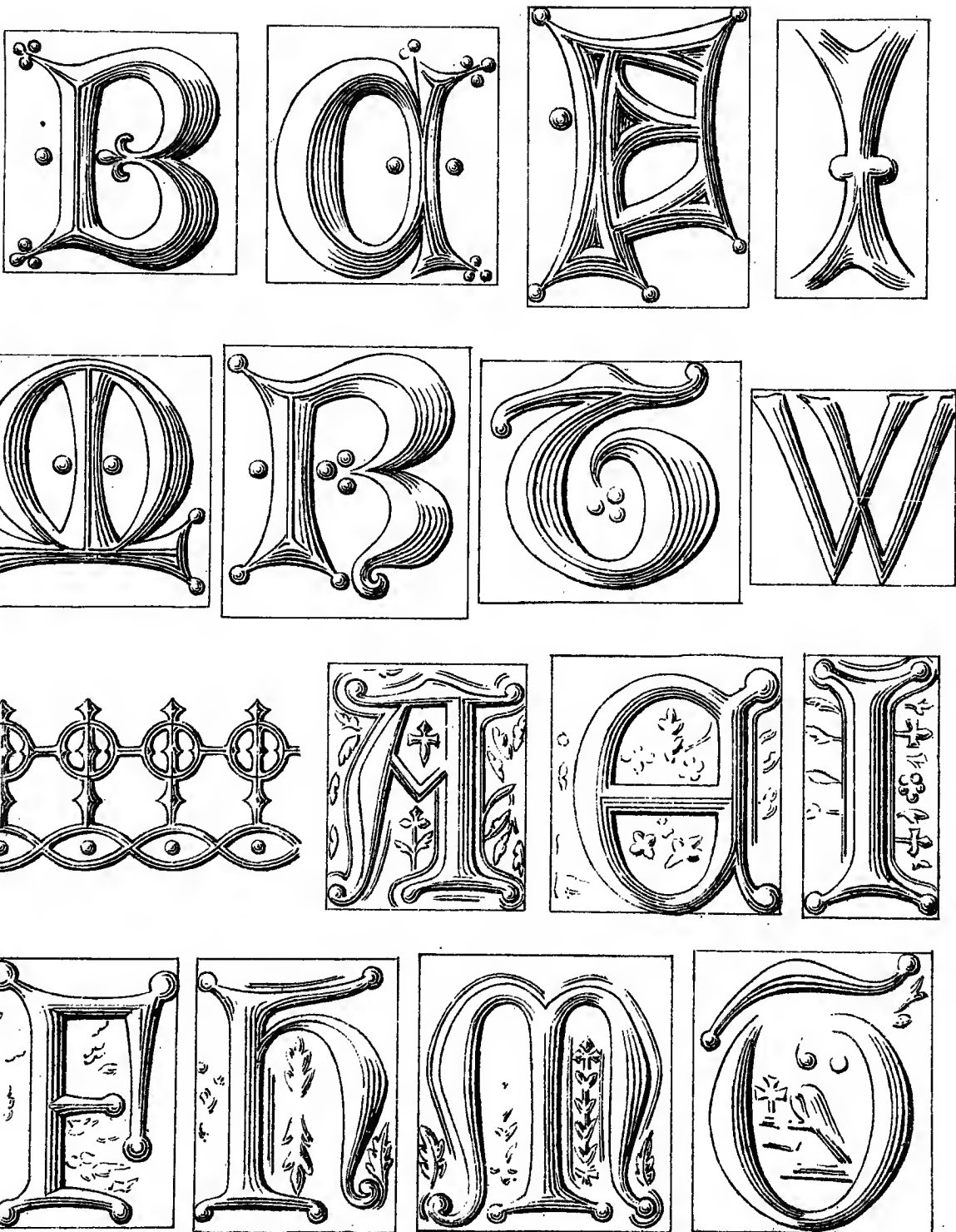








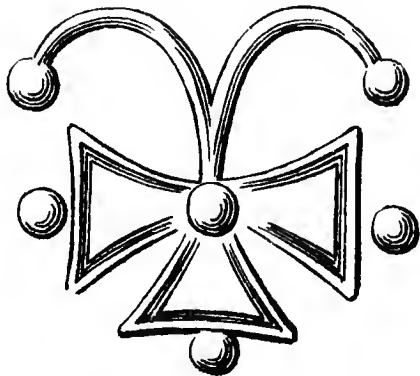
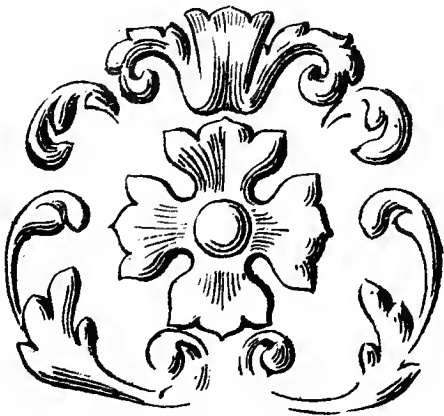
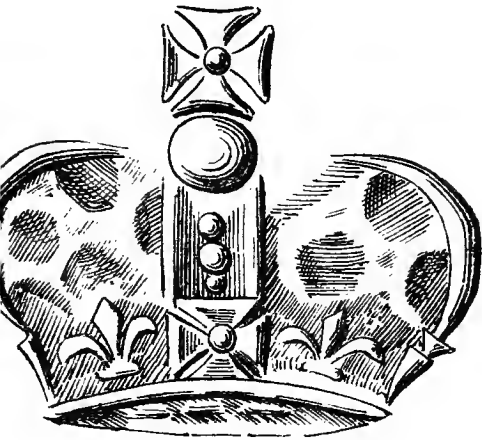
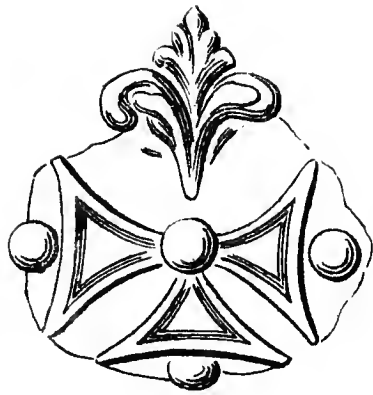
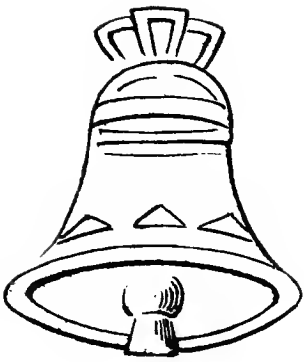




JOHN SAUNDERS, OF READING, AND JOSEPH CARTER, OF READING.

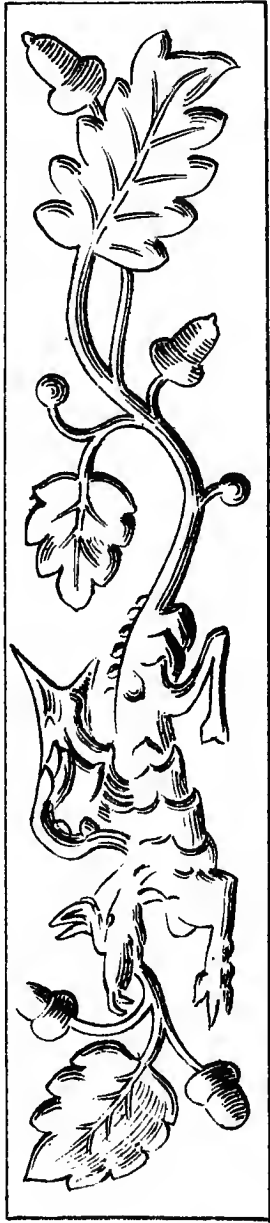
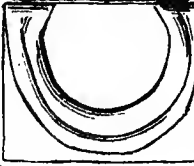
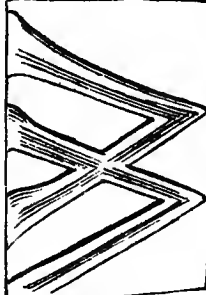
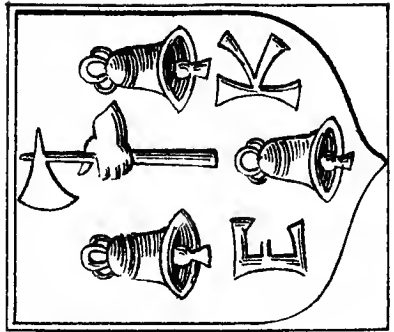
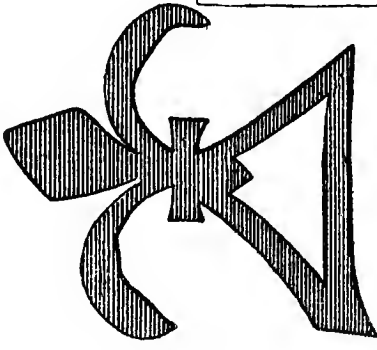
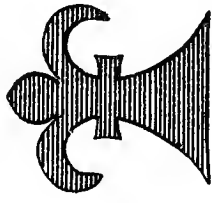
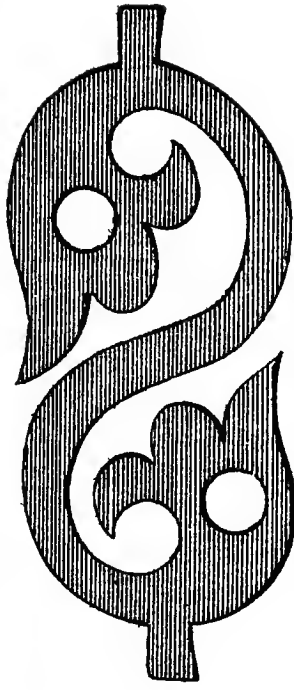
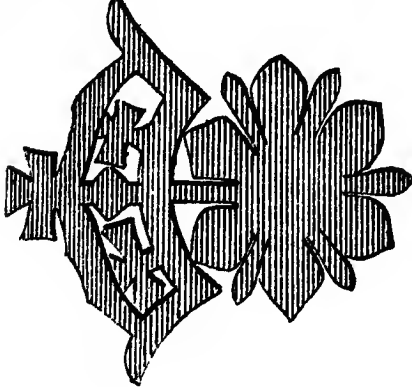
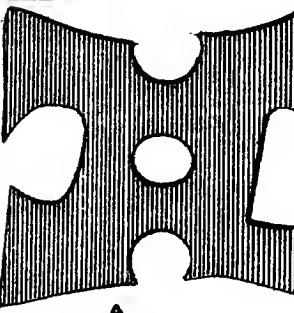
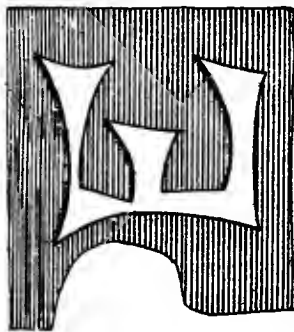
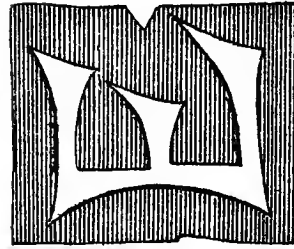
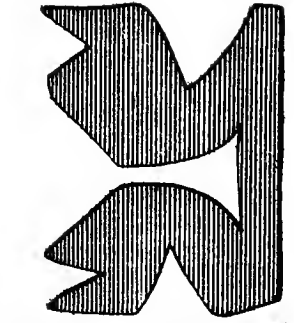
JOSEPH CARTER, OF READING AND WHITECHAPEL



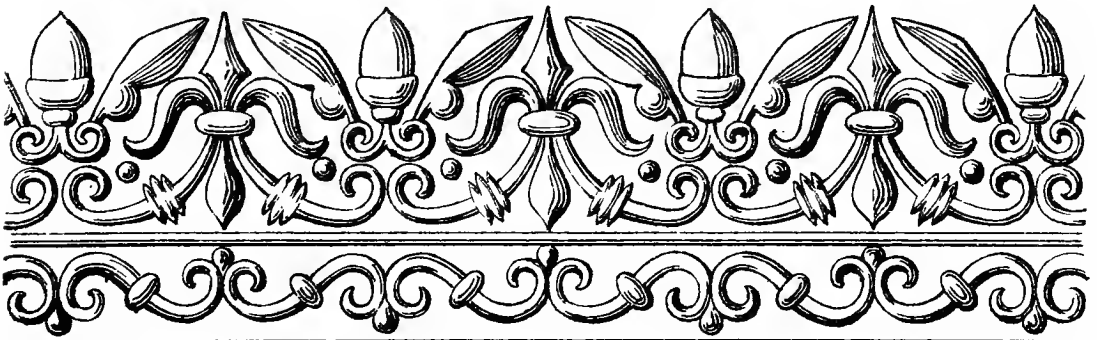
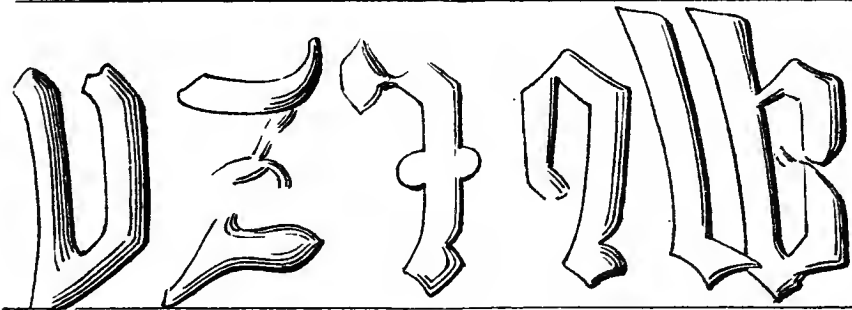
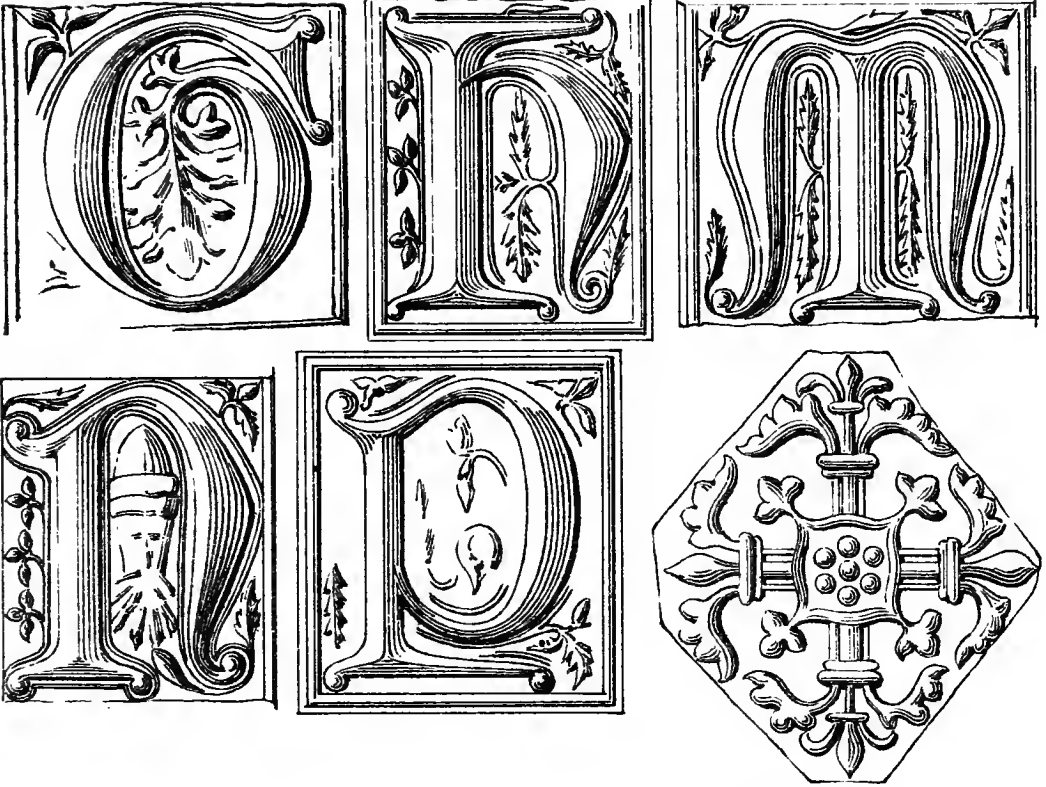






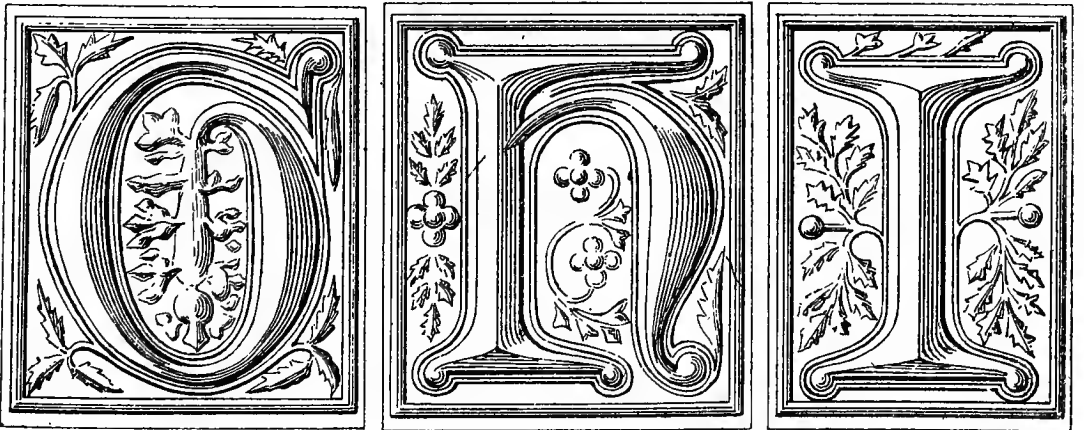
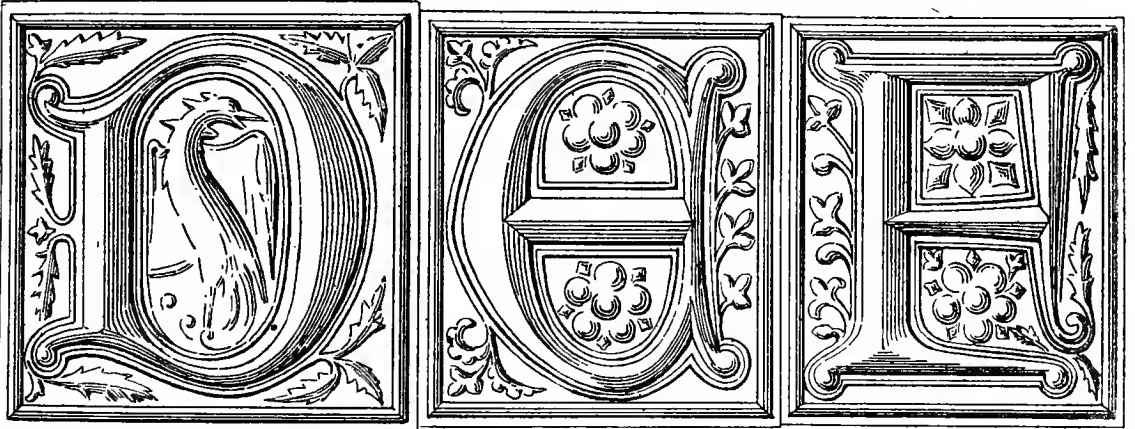
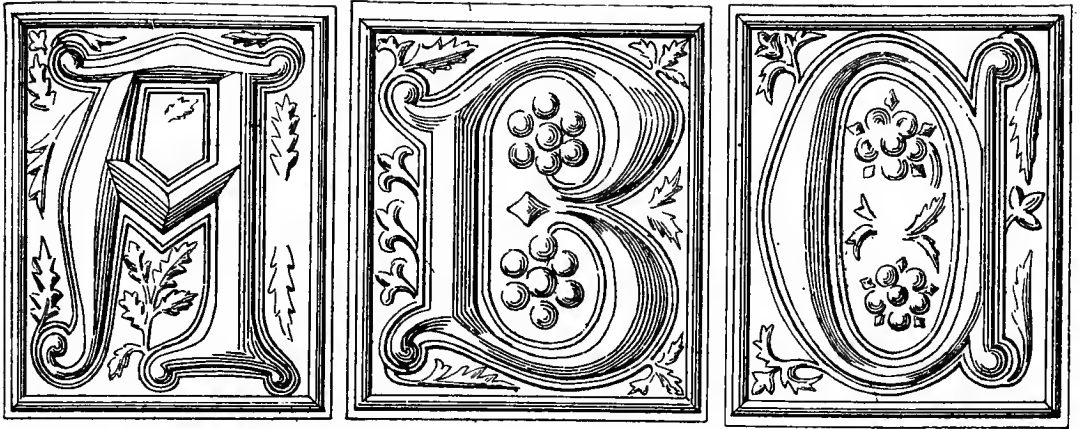






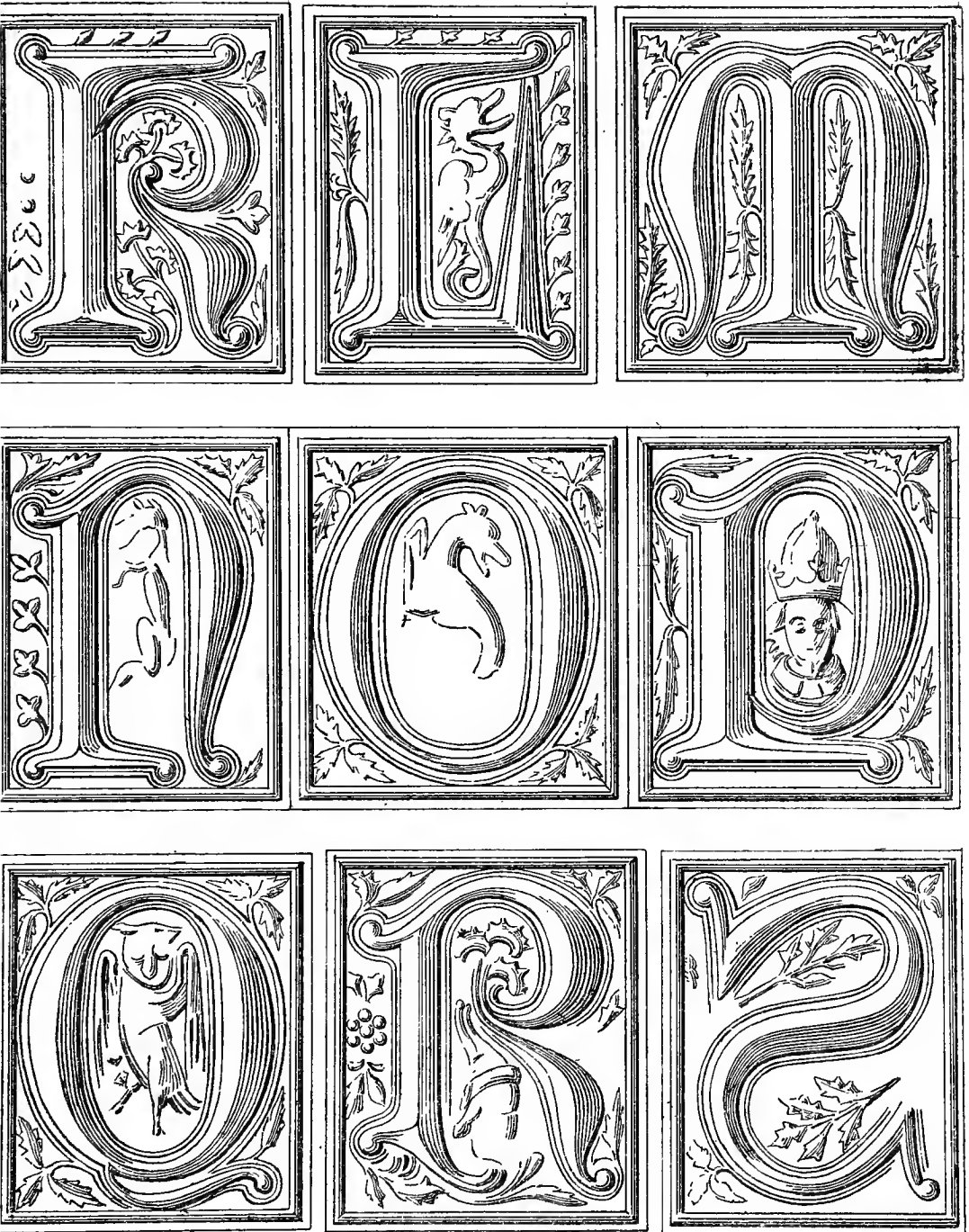
LETTERS FROM "BRASER'S SMALLER ALPHABET," &c., USED AT  
BEDFORD, C. 1589-1610.





"BRASYSER'S LARGER ALPHABET" (OF NORWICH, 15TH CENTURY).

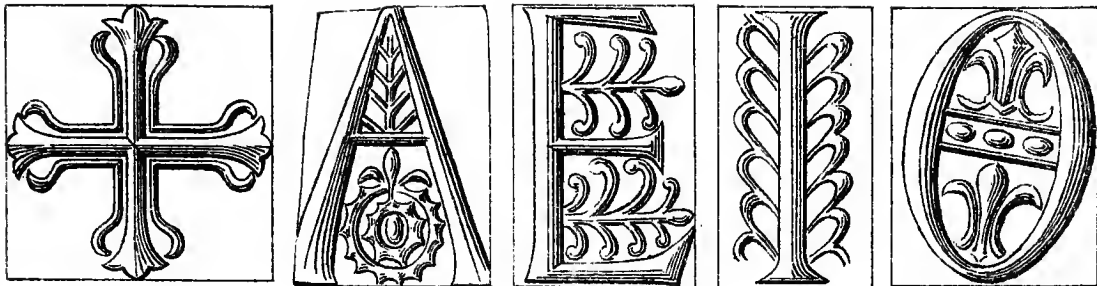




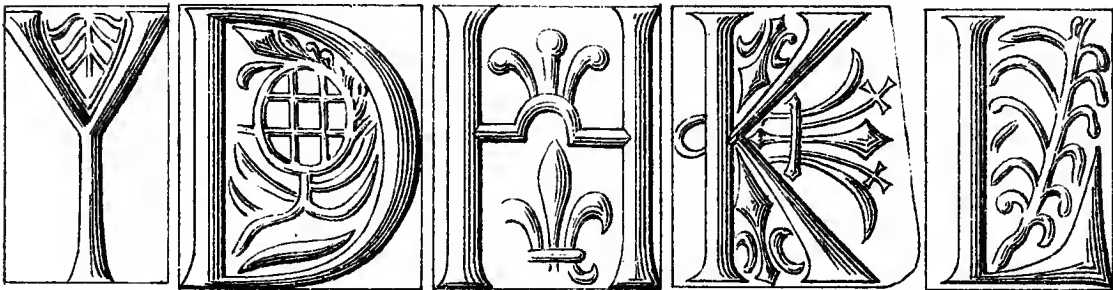
USED BY (? W.) WATTS AT BEDFORD, 1591 (SHERINGTON).



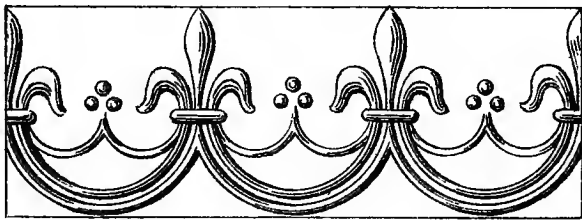




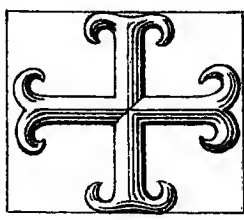
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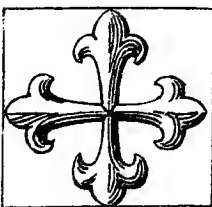
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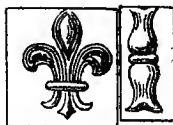
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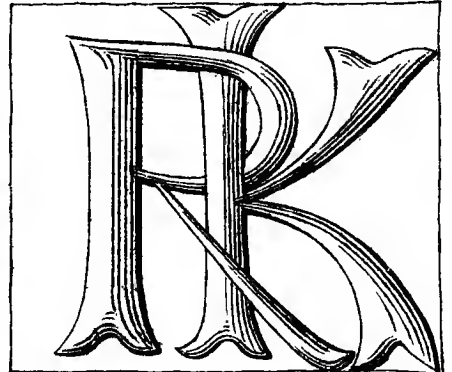
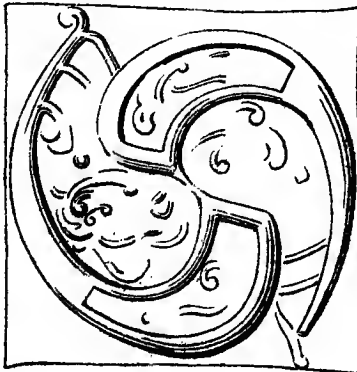
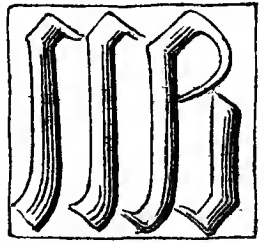
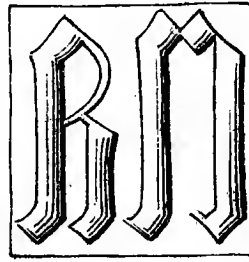
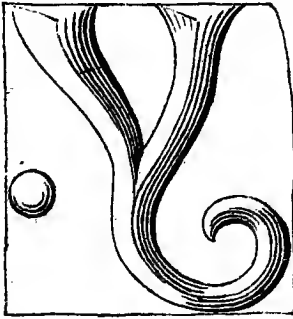
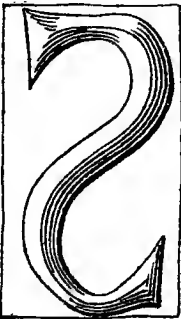
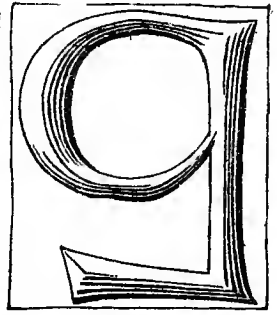
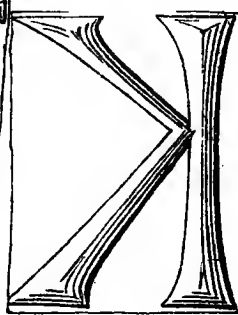
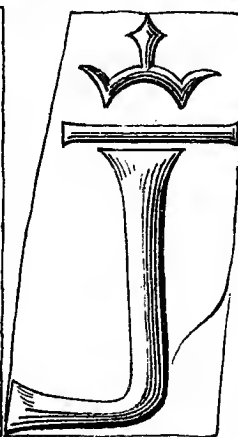
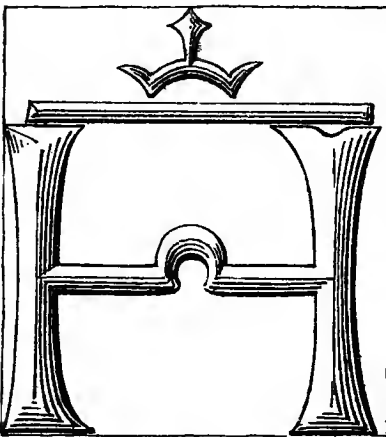
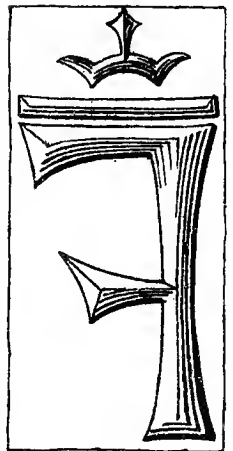
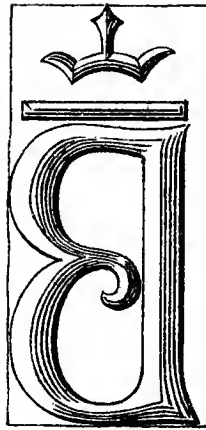
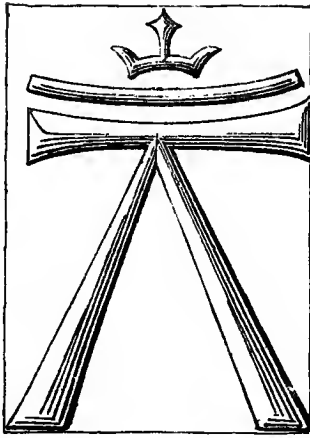
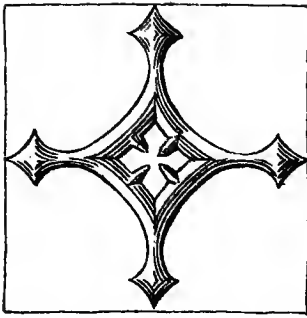
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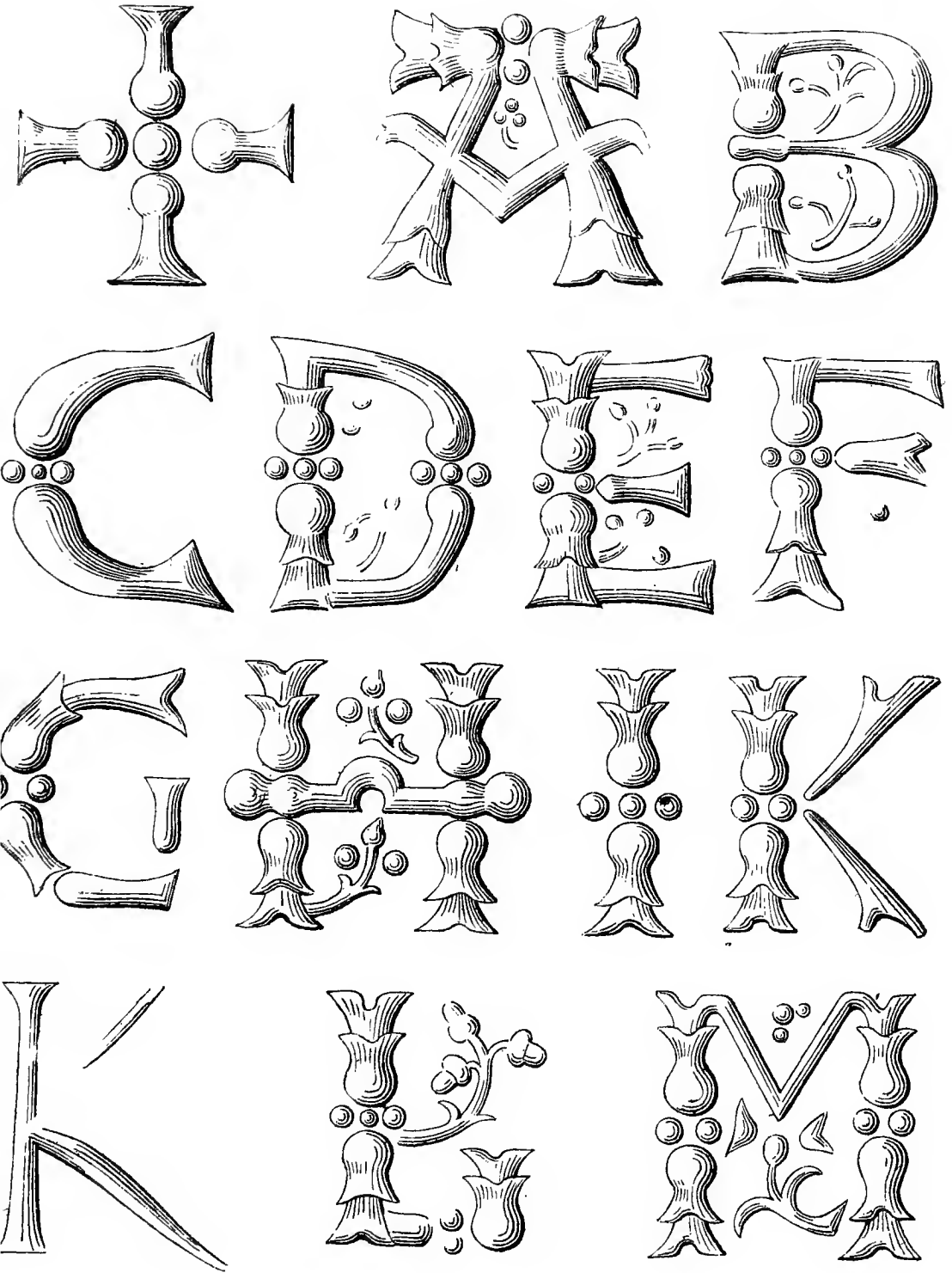
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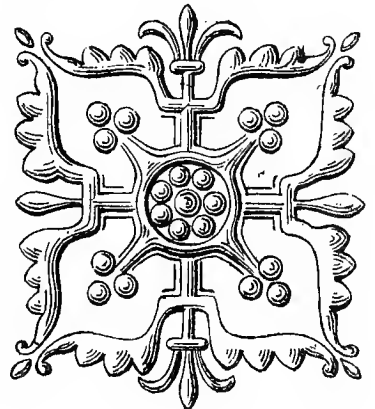
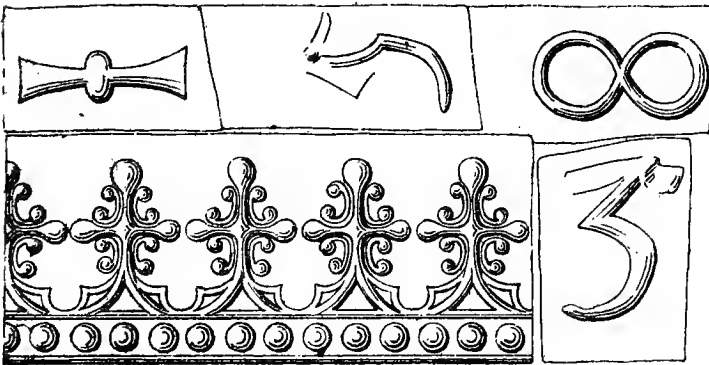
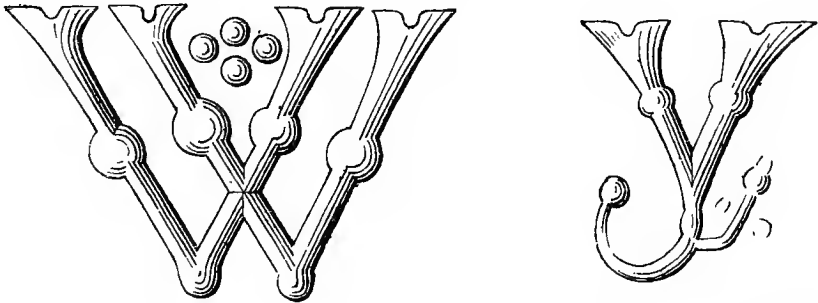
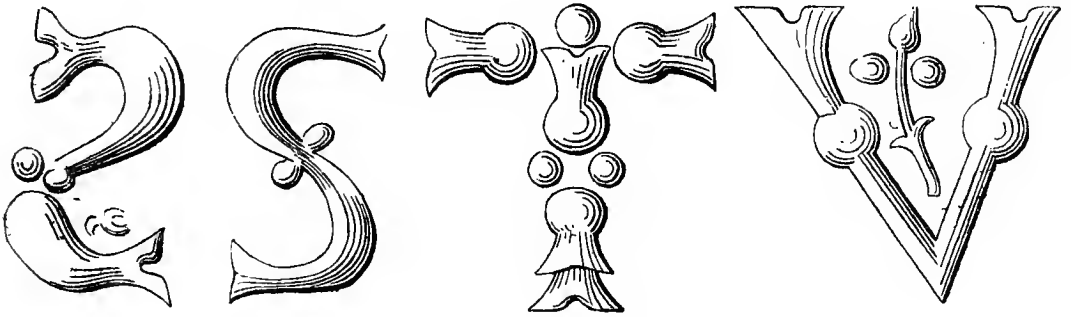
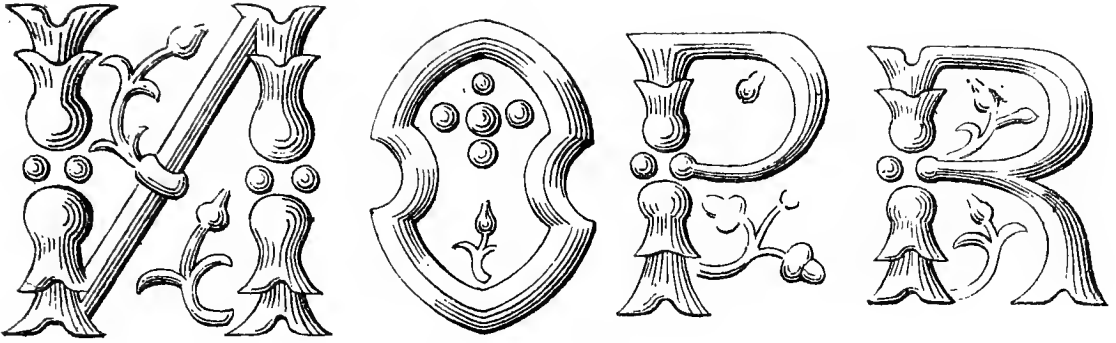






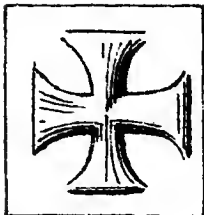












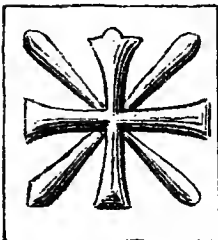
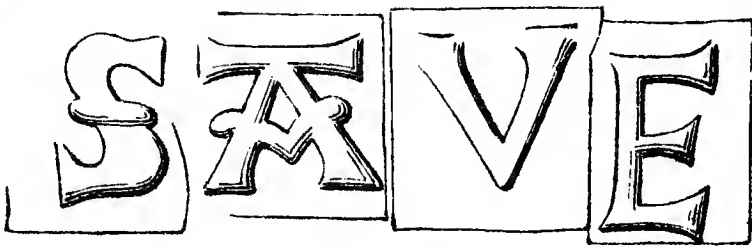
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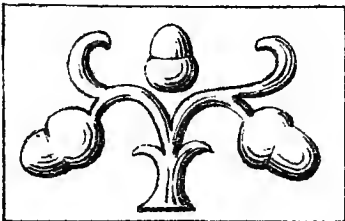
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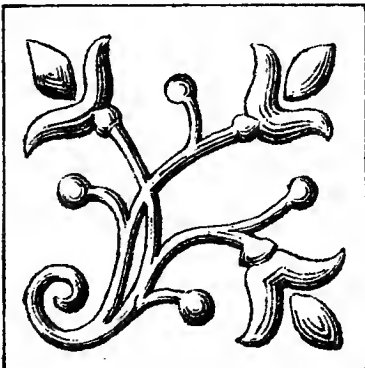
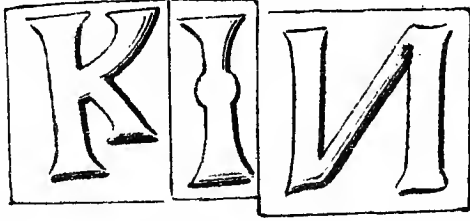
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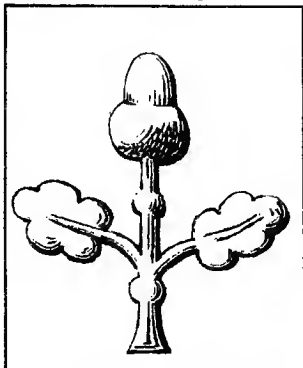
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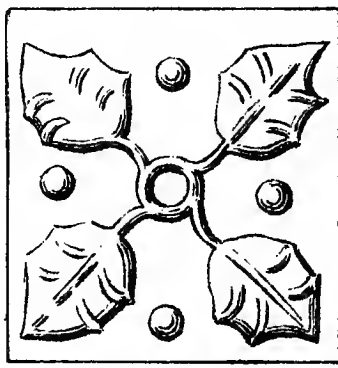
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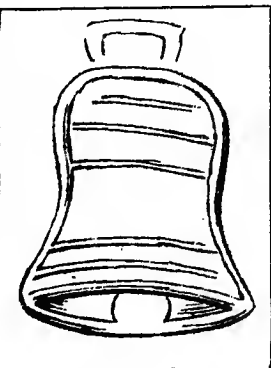
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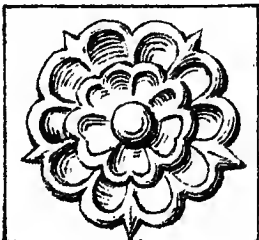
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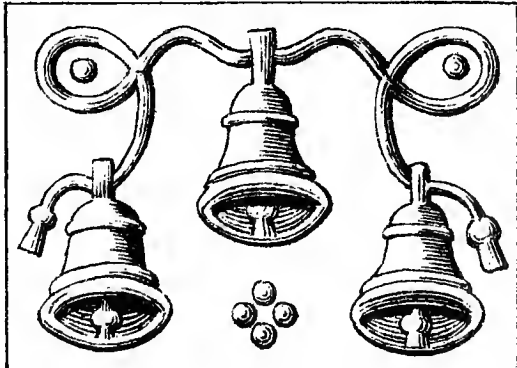
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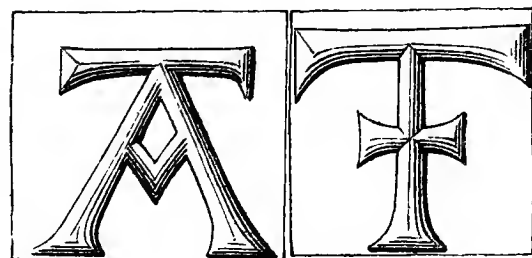
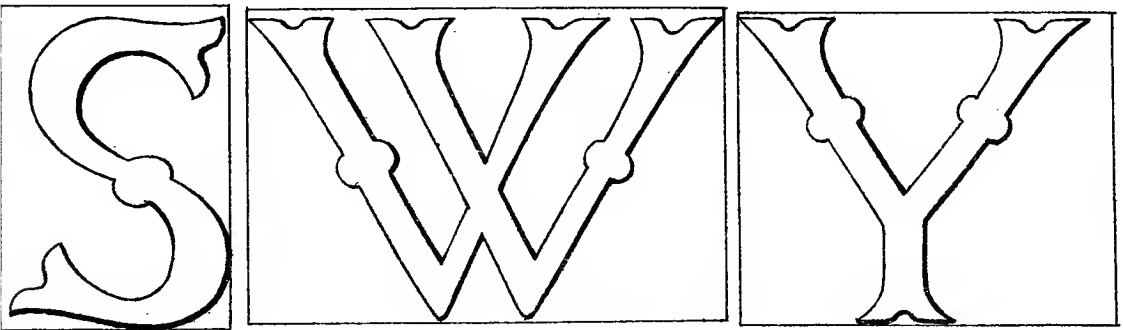
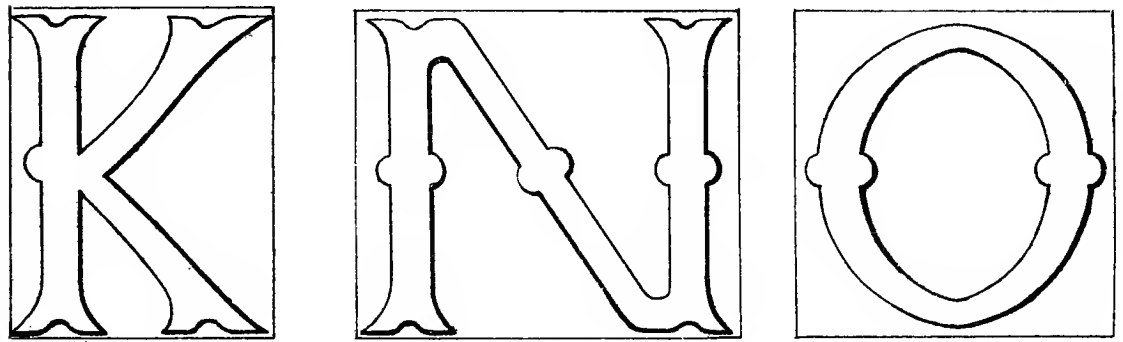
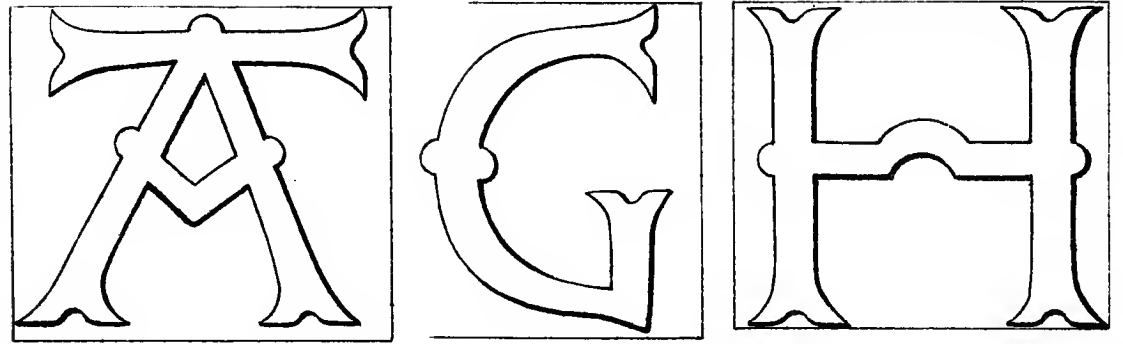


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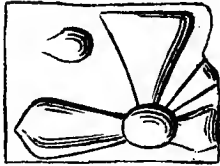
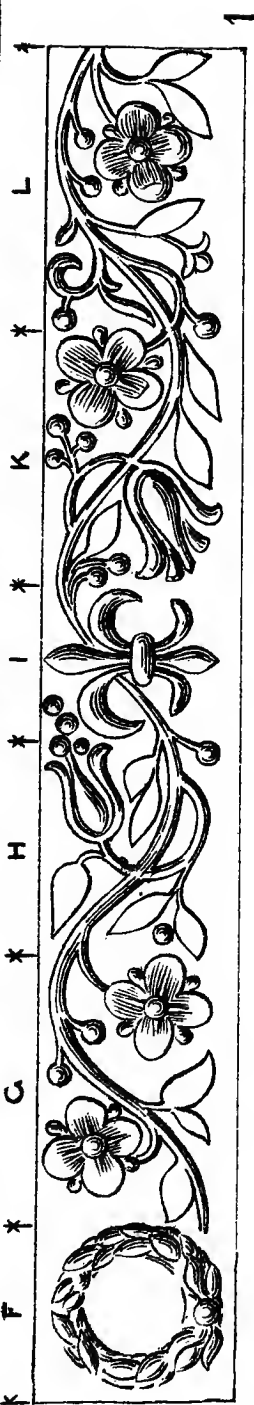
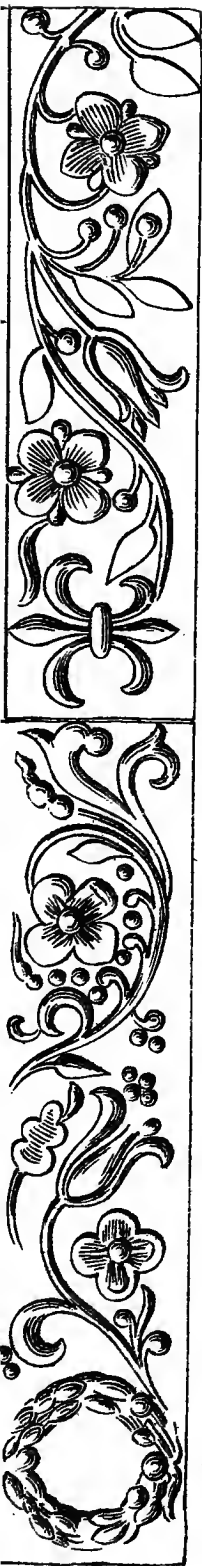


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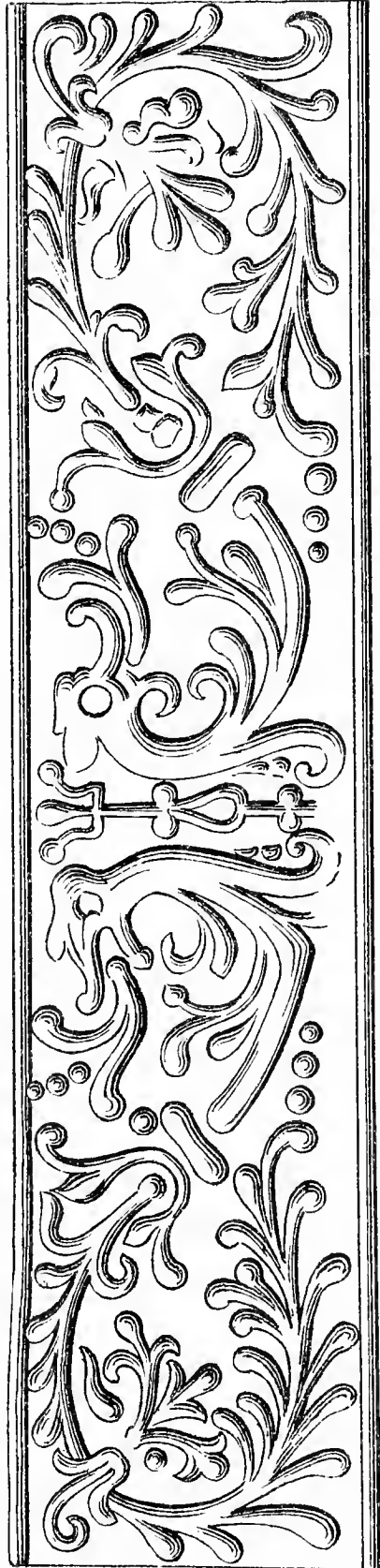
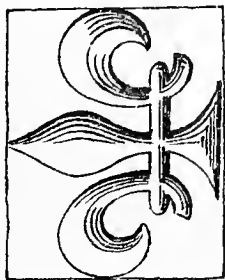
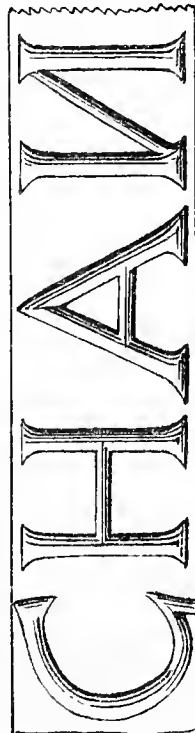
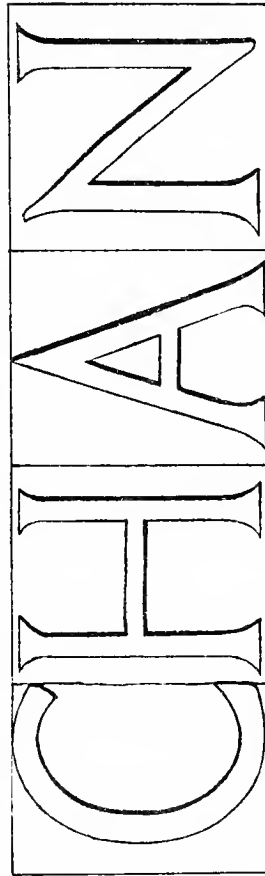
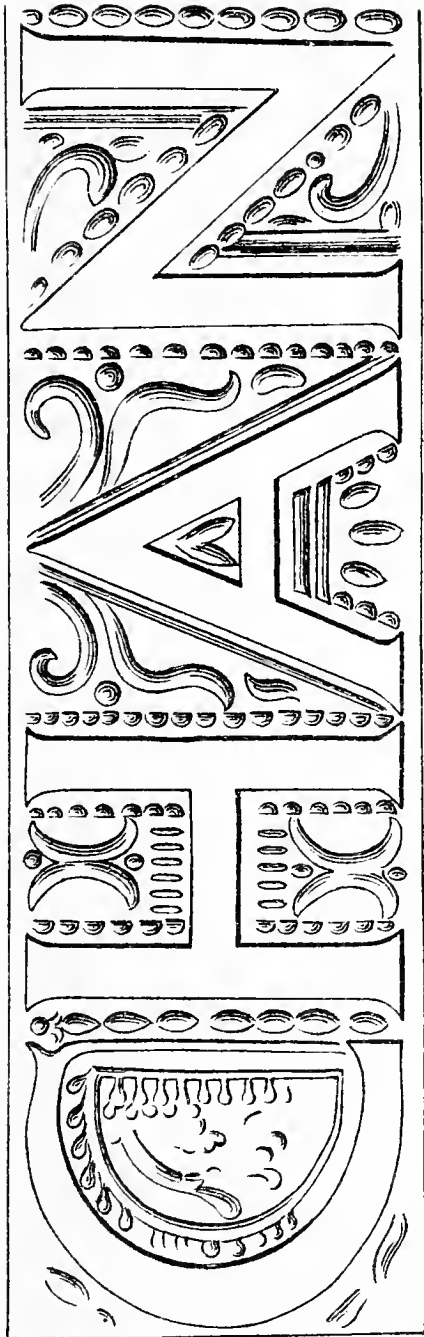
















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## POSTSCRIPT.

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Just too late for insertion in its proper place (p. xxx.), I noticed the inadvertent omission of the expression of my grateful acknowledgments to the several gentlemen in the public offices and libraries, especially Somerset House, and the Record Office, to whose courtesy and kindness I owe very many thanks. Also, to my friend, Charles Hungerford Pollen, Esq., for kindly drawing Plate III. for me ; and to Charles Ousy King, Esq., who drew all the other Plates, and forty-six of the original figures in the text ; and whose patience in puzzling out the details of my casts, largely taken from imperfect originals, was very great. Accuracy, rather than finished drawings, was aimed at, and where blank spaces appear in the illustrations, it will be understood that I was unable to find more perfect impressions, to take better casts from ; and preferred that even the skilful pencil of Mr. King should not fill in by guess.

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