

An Account of the Ring of Bells now in the Tower of the Church of All Saints, Derby.

BY W. H. ST. JOHN HOPE.



THE earliest records of the existence of Bells in All Saints', Derby, is to be found in the first of two volumes of the Churchwardens' Books of Orders, now in private hands, commencing as early as 1465, where, in the accounts of John Newton and John Clifton, Churchwardens for the year 1510-11, occurs *inter alia* the following entry:—

“And to Ryngers of belles upon Corp^s xⁱ day iiij^d.”

But, as the building of the present Tower was not commenced until 1509, it is doubtful whether the five bells, which the Church probably then possessed, are here referred to, unless we may suppose that they were hung in a temporary wooden building until the new steeple was ready for their reception.

The first records of any of the existing bells are to be found in the Churchwardens' Accounts which are extant from 1620, with occasional notices in the Books of Orders already referred to.

Before, however, entering into particulars, it will be better to give a brief outline of the history of the present Ring of ten Bells.

When the Church first became possessed of a bell is unknown, but the existing Tenor is certainly not later than the first half of the fifteenth century. The remaining nine are all of the seventeenth century. What was the number of the original ring, or how first augmented, it is impossible to say; but in the year 1620, a new Treble was added to the existing five,

and these six Bells continued up to 1677, when they were increased to ten. The four new ones were hung above the others, until 1687, when the whole ten were hung in one frame as at present. This latter fact was recorded on a brass plate affixed to the bell frame, but which has since been removed to the Vestry. It reads as follows:—

Anno Dni 1677.	
These Fower east Bells were	
Bought by the Endeavours of Francis	
Thacker of Southwood Esq & hung	
above the rest.	
Anno Domini 1687	
John Baxter of Laxton in Northamptonshire	
Bellhanger built this Frame and hung	
the Bells new The same being undertaken	
By George Sorocold of Derby Gentleman	
John Bowly	} CHVRCH }
Joseph Heywood	} WARDENS }

In its present position this plate is unmeaning, and it ought to be again fixed in its original and proper situation.

We will now proceed to give the history of the several bells in order.

As appears from the brass plate already referred to, the first four bells were bought by the endeavours of Francis Thacker, of Southwood, the parish contributing £10 towards defraying the cost of hanging the two smallest, as appears by the following minute in the Churchwardens' Book of Orders :

Sept. 19, 1676. "The same day ordered that whereas there was five pounds formerly given by the Parish of All S^{ts}. towards hanging the "2 least Bells the said five pounds being too litle to Defray the aforesaid "charge, the Parish have this 19^o Septemb^r 1676 thought fit to add "five pounds more for y^e aforesaid use as a free gift from y^e said Parish."

In the Churchwardens' Accounts are the following entries, referring to the hanging of these first four bells:—

1676-7	To Joseph Bradbury for y ^e Bell frames etc.	13=09=11
	* To Jonathan Massey for mending the Bell Window . . .	01=01=02
	For ale to Carpenters Masons and plumers	00=09=04
	To watchmen 2 ^s and Laborers to help up the Bells 6 ^s 8 ^d	00=08=08
	Casting Brasses 3 ^s 4 ^d	00=03=04
	Francis Smedleys bill for work done at Church & Bells	02=06=08½

It has been already mentioned that these four bells were hung in a separate frame above the other six, but ten years afterwards we find the following minute in the Book of Orders:—

“July 28, 1687. Itt appeareing to us all this p̄ish meeting that the 1
 “worke & fframes & wheeles belonging to All . . . the Bells in All
 “S^{ts} steeple within y^e Burrough aforesaid are decayed and oute of
 “repaire and [that there is] greate necessity for y^e repaireing of y^e same
 “and although y^e p̄ish bee in debt yet are willing to contribute to
 “y^e repaire of y^e same & are willing to raise fifteen pounds now and
 “five and twenty pounds for the future for y^e repaire of y^e same p̄vided
 “that a new frame bee wholly made & all y^e ten bells new hung and
 “whereas the late Churchwardens are out of pocket 13^{li} 15^s And
 “y^e late Overseers 11^{li} 10 Itt is this day ordered that a dubble
 “assessm^t bee made that is two quarterly payments And wee assesse
 “eny Inhabitant of y^e p̄ish as wee thinke weekly chargeable in
 “y^e quarterly payment to y^e poore of y^e p̄ish And y^e same to bee
 “collected by the p̄sent Churchwardens and paid as followes to witt
 “13^{li} 15 to y^e late Churchwardens and 11^{li} 10 to y^e late Overseers of
 “y^e poore and fifteen pounds to Mr. Sorrocolde to bee employed for
 “& towards y^e repaire of y^e wheeles Y work & fframes of y^e Bells
 “of y^e p̄ish of All S^s aforesaid and that y^e five & twenty pounds
 “more bee raised within twelve months for y^e compleating of y^e worke.”

In accordance with this resolution all the ten bells were rehung by one John Baxter, of Laxton, Northamptonshire, Bell-hanger, in one frame as at present. Mr. Sorocold being responsible for payment (see Brass Plate). The following are the only entries on the subject:—

“ 1687-8.	Paid Mr. Geo. Sorrowcold for y ^e Bells	15=00=00
1688-9.	Paid Mr. George Sorrocolde	06=05=00
	Paid Mr. Sorocold	06=05=00”

* It would probably be partially taken out to allow the Bells, etc., to be drawn through.

The remaining £12 10s. was not paid within the year as ordered, for in 1698 we find the following resolution passed at a Parish Meeting, held March 28 :—

“It is this day ordered that what moneys is stated by the p̄sent
“Churchwardens to be due to Mr. George Sorocold upon account of
“Hanging the Bells in All Saints Steeple be paid to the said Mr. Soro-
“cold by the officers of the said parish.”

There is, however, no further record of the money having been paid.

The TREBLE, or smallest Bell, is 29 inches in diameter at the mouth,* and bears the following legend :—

☉ (Ornt. Fig. 6) SAVE (Ornt. Fig. 6) HIS
(Ornt. Fig. 6) CHVRCH (Ornt. Fig. 6) FRA
THACKER (Ornt. Fig. 6) I RAGG (Ornt.
Fig. 6) 1678, in one line round the haunch in small foliated Lombardic Capitals.

The F and T in Mr. Thacker's name are larger, and of great beauty, but as they occur also on the 6th bell, we shall have more to say about them further on. The ☉ in the first word is upside down. Between the words is the small running pattern, Fig. 6. The crown of the bell is encircled by the fine moulding, Fig. 1, and the same ornament is repeated (points upwards) beneath the legend, except beneath the ornament between the two names, where it is replaced by the letters W. N.

These are the initials of William Noone, of Nottingham, at whose foundry the bell was cast. The names are those of Mr. Francis Thacker, who was instrumental in purchasing the bell, and of John Ragg, the Sexton of All Saints' at that time.

I am unable to account for the discrepancy between the date of the bell, and those given in the Book of Orders and on the brass plate, as it does not seem probable that the bell was recast so soon after its being placed in the Tower, and there are no entries whatever specially relating to it in the Churchwardens' Accounts.

* The height of a Bell is about the same as its diameter at the mouth.

The SECOND Bell is 30 inches in diameter at the mouth, and bears the following legend:—

GOD (Ornt. Fig. 1) SAVE (Ornt. Fig. 1) HIS (Ornt. Fig. 1) CHVRCH (Ornt. Fig. 1) 1687 (Ornt. Fig. 1) in one line round the haunch in Roman Capitals. Between the words is the fine moulding Fig. 1 (which occurs also on the Treble). The same pattern encircles the bell beneath the legend, but is interrupted in two places by the words:—F. THACKAR and G. SARACOLE, also in Roman Capitals. These are the names of Messrs. Francis Thacker and George Sorocold, already referred to. It is not at all unusual to find words and names misspelt on bells.

There may be a mistake in the date of this bell, as the figures used by the founders are identical with those on the Treble, and there is no mention anywhere of its being recast. It is possible that the last two figures should be transposed.

There are no entries specially relating to this bell in the Churchwardens' Accounts. It was probably cast by Noone, of Nottingham.

With reference to these two Bells, Simpson states in his "*History of Derby*" (p. 110), that in 1669 there were "Two new bells added to All Hallows Church by subscription;" but this is certainly erroneous.

The THIRD Bell is 34 inches in diameter at the mouth, and bears the following legend;—

LET DABY BEE EVER
HAPPY (Ornt. Fig. 4) DAN PRIME
(Ornt. Fig. 4) THO CHAPMAN WARDENS

1693 in one line round the haunch in small floriated Lombardic Capitals, similar to those on the Treble, excepting the last word, which is in Roman Capitals. The letter **R** is omitted in the second word, and the second letter of the third word should be **E**. In the last word but one **A** is omitted. The running pattern Fig. 4 is a larger variety of Fig. 6, which occurs on the Treble. Nathaniel Prime and Thomas Chapman were Churchwardens in 1693. In the Book of Orders (1689-1722),

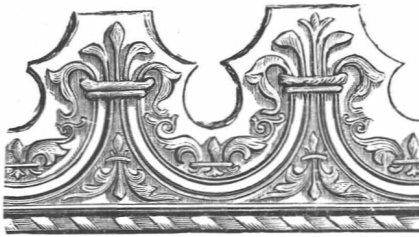


Fig. 1.

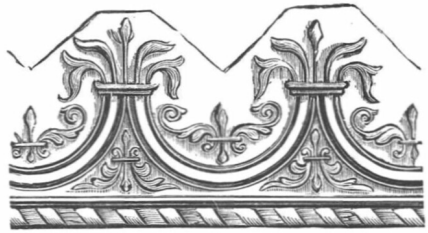


Fig. 2.

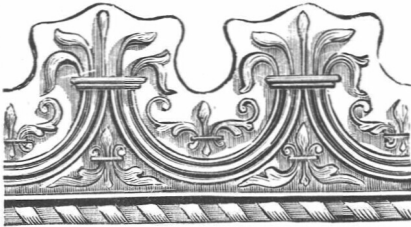


Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.



Fig. 5.



Fig. 6.



Fig. 7.



Fig. 8.



Fig. 9.

is the following resolution, passed November 8th, 1693 :—

“Ordered likewise y^e y^e Churchwardens take care to have y^e third
“bell new cast att as reasonable terms they can.”

This was accordingly done by William Noone, for £16 18s.,
and we find the following entries in the Accounts for 1693-4 :—

Pd John Coap for y ^e Carraige of y ^e bell too and from Nottingham	00	12	00
Pd for getting up y ^e bell 6/	00	06	00
Pd Mr Noone his bill for casting and adding metle to y ^e 3 ^d bell	16	18	=

The FOURTH Bell is 33 inches in diameter at the mouth, and
bears the following legend :—

COELVM REMVNERET BENEFACITORIBVS MEIS
("May Heaven reward my benefactors") in one line round the
haunch in Roman Capitals, similar to those on the second bell.

The crown is encircled by the fine moulding, Fig. 1, which
occurs on the two smallest bells.

There are no entries specially relating to this bell in the
Accounts, and it is probably one of the original four put in
circa 1676-7.

The FIFTH Bell is 36 inches in diameter at the mouth, and
bears the following legend :—

BATCHELERS (Ornt. Fig. 5.) BELL (Ornt. Fig. 5.) 1620
(Ornt. Fig. 5.) in one line round the haunch in Roman Capitals,
similar to those on the second and fourth bells. The initial
letter of the second word is upside down. The Ornament, Fig.
5, between the words is a peculiar one, with satyrs, monkeys,
and squirrels. It also bears the Owl of Minerva, and the letters
R. M. P. B., which have not yet been explained. On the crown,
and below the legend, is the fine moulding, Fig. 3. This differs
somewhat from the one previously noticed. On the waist is the
mark of George Oldfield* (Fig. 9.) who cast the bell, bearing

* Henry Oldfield and his son George were Bell-founders, of Nottingham,
and cast a great number of bells in Derbyshire, Nottingham, Lincolnshire,
and Leicestershire, during the 16th and 17th centuries. Bells cast by the
former range from 1589, at Norbury, to 1621, at Marston-on-Dove. Latterly
he appears to have taken his son into partnership, as bells bearing the latter's
stamp occur at Morley, 1614, and elsewhere. His latest bell in Derbyshire
is at Longstone, 1674.

his initials on either side of a Cross Calvary, with the sun and moon above; and the rim is encircled by the larger running pattern, Fig. 4. This is the most ornamental bell in the Ring. Until 1677-8, this was known as the Treble Bell.

The history of this bell is most interesting, the particulars given in the Accounts being very complete and curious. It appears that the Virginia Company started a lottery in the parish, and that certain of the parishioners subscribed three guineas to be "adventured" in it; their enterprise was fortunately successful, as they won £12, £2 of which was given towards the repair of the Chancel leads, and the £10 towards the new treble bell. The gentlemen, however, who subscribed the £3 3s., did so on condition that if they won, their money should be repaid: if they lost, of course they could not claim it; but as luck attended them, they magnanimously handed over the money towards the rehangng of the great bell.

The following are the entries relating to the transaction in the Accounts:—

1620, "Febr ij Receaved of the Virginia Companie by the hands of
"Mr Gabriel Barber and Mr Robert Parker, at the instant Sute of these
"Churchwardens, twelve pounds, 40s. whereof to be bestowed on the
"Chancell leades, and the rest of the same at the discreation of Mr
"John Chappell and these Churchwardens 12 0 0."

1621

"Aprill 4. Paid unto Dyvers well mynded toward the Church who
"adventured 3 3 0 at the Lottrie for the good of the Church, wth this
"pviso thatt the Church if they gott nothing they wod loose there mony,
"so that we may impute the Losse of this money togeather w^t the
"Churchwardens earnest solissiting of the matter to be the sole cause of
"the getting of the 12^{li} afforesaid, yet this, thus geven to the adventure
"wth the leaft hand, they freely have restored it to the Churche againe
"wth the right hand, and geven the said 3 3 0 toward our Sixt bell,
"notwithstanding they are as deepe in the Sessment as any of ther ranck
"and so are content to undergoe a doble charg wthout repynng thereat
"..... 3 3 0."

We find in 1620, that the Bachelors of Derby, assisted by the county gentry and others, subscribed the sum of £33 1s. 6d. towards a new treble bell, to be called the Bachelors' Bell. The

bell was accordingly cast by George Oldfield, of Nottingham, and the payments made to him, together with the list of benefactors, are thus entered in the Accounts:—

1621

Maye 10

Paid to George Oldfield belfounder in Nottingham for 6-2-0 of bell mettles at 4-15-0 the C ie ..	30	17	6			
Itm paid him for waying 30 ^{lb} or neare	0	10	0			
Itm paid for going to take the waight of } the bell and sealing a bond to uphoul it.. } yeare & day	0	2	4			
Itm paid for bringing it home and raising the said bell	0	5	0			
Itm paid forth in iron, wood and workmanship to hang it in the stieple, the some is	1	6	8	33	1	6
Yt wayed 8 2 0 including the saince bell (sanctus bell), for w ^{ch} he had nothing for casting, it being not remembered in the covenant, we had also two bras wheeles in the Church for w ^{ch} we had 2 brasses and the ower waight of them made the saince bell 2 C ^o so that this sixt and treble bell called the batchelors bell hung up in this goodlie stieple of All S ^{ts} at the charges of dyvers worthie gentelmen our neighbours & other well willers to the same (whose names pticularlie hereafter follow cost						

Anno Dom: 1620.

1620.

The names of those that are benefactors for the sixt and treble bell, made and hung up at their charges in the stieple of All S^{ts} in Darbie are as hereunder follows

BENEFACTORS

The Right honorable ladie Grace gave towards this treable bell	xls.	2	—	—
S ^r John Harper of Swarson	xxiis.	1	2	—
S ^r Richard Harp of Litleo ^{we}	xs.	—	10	—
S ^r John Bentlie of the priorie	xs.	—	10	—
Mr John Curson of Kedelston	xis.	—	11	—
Mr ffrancis Mundy of Marto	xxiis.	1	2	0
Mr John Bullock of Darlie	xxs.	1	—	—
Mr Godfrie Thacker of Repton	xxs.	1	—	—
Mr John Harp of Bredsall	xxs.	1	—	—
Mr Thomas Gilbert of Lor ^w	xs.	—	10	—
Mr Thomas Wiglie Darbie	xs.	—	10	—
Mr John Mundaye of Alestrie	xs.	—	10	—
Mr Nathaniell Bate of litle:C ^r	xs.	—	10	—
Mrs Sligh widow of Ierton p ^d	xs.	—	10	—
Mr Collingwood Sanders of Ie ^a	xs.	—	10	—
Mr John Keys of Hopwell p	vs.	—	5	—
Mr Anthonie Lister of litle:C ^r	vs.	—	5	—
Henry Cundie of Alestrie	vs.	—	5	—
Nicholes Collier of Alestrie	vs.	—	5	—
		12	15	0

Townsmen benefi

1620

Mr Tymothie Leimming Recorder xvs.....	—	15	—
Mr Samuell Parker balif xs.....	—	10	—
Mr Jarvis Sligh gave us xvs.....	—	15	—
Mr Henry Mellor gave xs.....	—	10	—
Mr Richard fletcher gave xiijs ivd.....	—	13	4
Mr Edward Pottle gave viijs.....	—	7	—
Thomas Ward butcher gave vs.....	—	5	—
Richard Doughtie mercer vs.....	—	5	—
George Mellor hath given ijs.....	—	2	—
Robert Kingstonne shoemaker iijs.....	—	3	—
John Heathcott habberdasher vs.....	—	5	—
		<hr/>	
		4	10 4
Some on this side is xvij v iiij.....	17	5	4

(On another page)

Anno Dom : 1620**Bachelers in**

1620

Darbie Benefactors as followes

Mr John Chappell Minister xxiiis.....	I	2	—
John Osborne clark of p vis.....	—	6	—
William Leveret gave also vs.....	—	5	—
Edward Spuring gave also vs.....	—	5	—
Hamblet Neidle gave a marke.....	—	13	4
Mathew Bate draper gave xis.....	—	11	—
Peter Cearie drap a marke.....	—	13	4
Thomas Leening gave us vis 8d.....	—	6	8
Daniell Parker gave a marke.....	—	13	4
Samuell Doughtie gave a marke.....	—	13	4
Edward Smith gave a marke.....	—	13	4
Edward Jacksonne gave a marke.....	—	13	4
Thomas Potter gave us xs.....	—	10	—
Richard Stringer gave us xs.....	—	10	—
William Wollett gave us xis.....	—	11	—
William Turner gave us xs.....	—	10	—
Thomas Wandell gave us xs.....	—	10	—
Richard Burklie gave us xs.....	—	10	—
Phillip Par gave also xs.....	—	10	—
Thomas Jepley gave also xs.....	—	10	—
Thomas Statham gave also xs.....	—	10	—
Thomas Radford gave us vis 8d.....	—	6	8
Richard Collier butcher vis 8d.....	—	6	8
Anthonie Spicer gave us vs vid.....	—	5	6
Thomas Bryan gave a crowne.....	—	5	—
Thomas Whallie gave a crowne.....	—	5	—
Thomas Cooke gave a crowne.....	—	5	—
Thomas Wilsonne gave a noble.....	—	6	8
Thomas Greaves gave a crowne.....	—	5	—
Abell Topplis gave us iijs.....	—	4	—
Vincent Olliver gave us vs.....	—	5	—
Paul Ballydon Churchwarden.....	I	—	—
Joseph Parker Churchwarden.....	—	15	—
of all Saints in Darbie aforesaid			
		<hr/>	
		15	16 2
Broughte from the other side and is.....	17	5	4
		<hr/>	
	33	1	6

Received of benefactors in all

— xxxiiij^{li} js vjd —
 Some on both sides is : x.x.x.iii^{li} is vi^d
 And now the bell is worth : x.x.x.x.iii^{li}
 Thanks to all these benefactors
 To ovr Chvrch and steipell : s : r
 Who may rightly be stiled the
 preservers of steipel, bells & mens
 lives . from iminent danger pre-
 uented by the making . & hanging
 vp of this bell : Dominvs providebit
 Deo tribvite lavdem : gloria tribuatur Deo
 Amen :—

The "Sixt bell" referred to is the present Tenor, which was rehung in this year. I am unable to find any other record of the existence of the Sanctus Bell. The two brass wheels have, however, come into view before in the 4 and 5 Philip and Mary, when "It is ordered that the chwardens shall receive ij brasen pulleses and Irone pinnes and a hooke for theym." Perhaps they were formerly used to suspend lamps from the roof. The following entries appear subsequently in the accounts :—

1636	for mend y ^e first bell	0 5 2
1641	A key cotters and rollers for treble bell.....	0 1 4
1670	(In Josiah Wheeldon's bill) for y ^e ould little Bell irons mendinge	oo=oi=oo
1683-4	pd Roger Morlaye for drawing up the 5 th Bell and putting a Gudgion into it.....	} oo : o3 : o6

The SIXTH Bell is 3 ft. 4 in. in diameter at the mouth, and bears the following legend :—

* **Hec Campana Sacra Hiat Trinitate Beata** 1607 ("May this bell be blessed by the Holy Trinity"), in one line round the haunch in "Black letter," with very fine and elaborately ornamented Lombardic capitals. See Figs. 10, 11, 12, 13, for the **H** **C** **T** and **B**. The **R** and **F** also occur on the Treble bell. At the commencement is the square rose, Fig. 8.

On the waist of the bell are the following letters in pairs :—
IB RP HC HB GB TW. They are in small Lombardic capitals, with the exception of the last pair,

which are in Roman capitals. These are probably the initials of the principal personages connected with the church, but it is difficult to assign them with certainty to any individual. Possibly the first pair should be **E B**, for Edward Bennett, Vicar; **R P**, for Robert Parr, Churchwarden; **H C** for **H D**, the initials of Henry Deane, Churchwarden; **H B**, for Henry Bingham; **G B**, for Gabriel Barber, or George Blagreave, the Sexton. The last pair I am unable to assign.

There is nothing relative to the casting of this bell either in the Book of Orders or the Accounts, but from the style of lettering, &c., it is almost certain that it was from the foundry of Henry Oldfield, of Nottingham.

Until 1677-8 this was the second bell, and the following entries occur in the accounts :—

1637	for trussinge y ^e 2 ^d & 3 ^d Bell	0	1	4
1670	(In a bill of Josiah Wheeldon's, quoted in full further on) for mending a staple for y ^e 2 ^d Bell	00	00	04

The splendid capitals on this bell were such favourites with bell-founders that we find them on bells from about 1450 to 1786.

The SEVENTH is a remarkably fine toned and heavy bell. It is 3 ft. 7 in. in diameter across the mouth, and bears the following legend :

NON NOBIS DOMINE NON NOBIS SED NOMENI TVO
DA GLORIAM **E W I S** 1629 ("Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but to Thy Name give the glory"), in one line round the haunch in Roman capitals, excepting the initials before the date, which are of Lombardic character.

Encircling the crown is the fine moulding, Fig. 2, of which there are three variations on these bells. It is also repeated beneath the legend, except below the initials, where it is replaced by the word **WARDENS** in Roman capitals. Edward Walker and John Sharpe were churchwardens in 1628-9.

On the waist are the initials **G B** in Lombardic capitals, but I am unaware of a bell-founder bearing them, and the bell was almost certainly cast by one of the Oldfields, at Nottingham. In all probability they stand for George Blagreave, who was



Fig. 10.



Fig. 11.



Fig. 12.



Fig. 13.



Fig. 14.

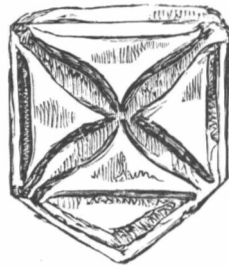


Fig. 15.

sexton at the time. There are many entries relating to it in the accounts, where it is termed the "3rd Bell," there being only six until 1677-8. The following are the items:—

1629	Itm the charges of Casting and hangyng the Bell y ^t was broken	13	14	3
1636	for mend: y ^e 3 ^d Bell	0	9	9
1637	for trussing y ^e 2 ^d & 3 ^d Bell	0	1	4
1639	ffor a Gudgeon & 4 wedges for 3 ^d Bell & carpent: wages about y ^e 5 Bell & Iron Work about y ^e same bell.	0	4	4
	Two carpters wages about hanginge y ^e 3 rd Bell &c.	0	2	6
1640	To Mr Ragge for his work and his mens about a new yoaik for y ^e 3 ^d & 6 ^t Bell	1	0	0
1659	to Robert Smalley ffor borde and to Edward Carver ffor wood ffor the 3 ^d and 5 th bell wheels by bill	01	09	07
	To Edward Daft for materials about the 3 ^d and 5 th bell wheels by bill	00	14	01
1663	It for the third bell wheel (to Edw ^d Daft)	01	06	07
1670	(In Josiah Wheeldon's bill, given in full further on) for Irone for y ^e 3 ^d Bell weighinge 12 pounds	00	04	04

The EIGHTH Bell is 3 ft. 8 in. in diameter, and bears the following legend round the haunch in one line, the lettering being Lombardic capitals:—

GOD SAVE THE CHURCH 1632

In the last word the fourth letter is a **K** on the bell, and the second **G** is upside down. The lettering is that used by the Oldfields about this time. In the accounts are the following entries relating to this bell:—

1623	Itm charges for a bell wheel that was broken	1	4	4
	Itm for yron worke upon the fall of the fourth bell	0	1	6
	Item for a daies work to Ragge about the same Bell	0	1	2
1642-3	Aug 6. ffor cottaringe 4 th Bell and help	0	1	0
	Sep 27. To Ragge Ilkesson for 4 th Bell wheel & trussinge all y ^e Bells	1	0	0
	Daft for 2 clypiss wedges and cottars	0	4	6

The following also occurs in the Book of Orders:—

April 1 1678 Ordered y^t y^e sixt & y^e fort Bell in All S^ts steeple bee both turned* and that John Ragg & Henry Blinkgreave & John Strong shall agree with a workman for y^e dooing thereof & y^t y^e said churchwardens shall paye y^e same.

We now come to the history of this bell, which is rather curious. The original bell appears to have been cracked about the year

* After a bell has been hung many years, it often becomes necessary to turn the bell round, so that the clapper may strike on a fresh place. This operation is technically termed "quartering."

1712, and an agreement was entered into between the churchwardens on the one hand, and one John Halton on the other, that the latter gentleman's brother, Emmanuel Halton, should recast it. This agreement was not fulfilled by the founder within the stipulated period, so the parish determined to make him abide by it. He was therefore summoned to attend at a meeting called for the purpose, and explain the non-fulfilment of the bond; and in order that he might not shirk it, the notice was served upon him at his house. The resolution on this point is as follows:—

“Att a Parish Meeting held in the Parish Church of All Saints in the Borough of Derby the 4th day of March Anno Dni 1712

“It is ordered that the bond entred into by Mr John Halton to the Churchwardens of this Parish Church (with condicion that his brother Imanuel Halton should new cast the eight bell belonging to this parish in such manner as in the condition of the s^d bond is expressed and sett forth and which he hath not pformed) be putt in suite ag^t the s^d Mr John Halton, unlesse hee shall and doo appeare att a parish meeting to be held for this parish on Wednesday the 11th day of this instant March att one of the Clock and then and there show good reason to the contrary. And it is further ordered that a copy of this order be delivered to the s^d John Halton or be left for him att his dwelling house to p^rvent his excuse.”

What Mr. Halton did or said is not entered in the books, but on June 24, 1712, we find:—“It is now also ordered that this p^rish will allow the sum of seaven or eight pounds towards the new Castinge of the eight bell.”

The bell was accordingly recast, and the accounts say:—

1712 “Spent at Hangyng up the Eight Bell 00 : 05 : 0”

There still remained the money question with the founder, and on Oct. 12, 1713, it is “Ordered that the matter Concerninge the Eight Bell belonging to this p^rish shall be Considered to night at Benjamin Smith's about six a Clock, to send Mr Halton an Account. And now tis ordered that Mr James Cock deliver up Mr John Haltons bond & take in his bill of 10^{li} Concerninge the eight bell.”

The matter appears to have been finally settled shortly afterwards, for in 1713 the entry occurs :—

“p^d when y^e matter was decided with Mr Halton
“about the bell 00 : 06 : 06.”

It is now necessary to explain the discrepancy between the date on the bell, and that when it is stated to have been recast. Tradition says that the 1712 bell was exchanged about 70 years ago for the tenor at Ashbourn, but as the whole of the bells in that church bear date 1815, there seemed to be no way of clearing up the matter. Reference was however made to the Ashbourn parish records, and from particulars there given, we are able to settle the question. Until 1815, Ashbourn Church possessed but six bells, and as the tenor appears to have been cracked about that time, the question arose whether they should have it recast, or have a new ring of eight bells. The parishioners resolved to adopt the latter plan, and accordingly agreed with Wm. Dobson, of Downham Market, in the county of Norfolk, to exchange the old ring of six for a new one of eight bells. The new ring was hung in October, 1815, and the old bells taken away by Dobson. Fortunately the inscriptions and dates on them were recorded in the books, and the fifth bell (not the tenor) is described as bearing “God save the Church, 1632,” which we have already seen is the legend on the eighth bell now in All Saints' tower. The true state of the case appears to be this, that an exchange was arranged with Dobson, the parish receiving the old Ashbourn fifth, and Halton's 1712 bell being handed over to him. There is no record in the books of this transaction. I have made a search through most of the published works on Church Bells, but cannot find that the latter bell was rehung elsewhere.

The Ashbourn Records are as follows :—

“At a vestry meeting this day held (31st January, 1815) pursuant to
“the following Notice given on Sunday the 22^d day of January instant

“The Inhabitants of the Town are requested to attend at the Vestry
“on Tuesday the 31 Instant at 3 o'clock in the afternoon to take
“into consideration the propriety of recasting the Great Bell, or
“having a new peal of Eight Bells

“It was unanimously resolved at the said meeting that there should be a
 “new peal of Bells according to the following statement produced at
 “the said Meeting from William Dobson of Downham in the county
 “of Norfolk.”

“Statement

“William Dobson of Downham in the County of Norfolk
 “will engage to exchange the old Peal of six Bells
 “in the Parish Church of Ashbourne Derbyshire for a
 “new Musical peal of eight Bells which shall weigh
 “ab^t 64 cwt the Tenor in the key of F[♯] &c &c”

14th February, 1815. At a Vestry Meeting, &c.—

“The Parishioners are requested to attend &c in order to finally
 “determine upon the recasting of the old Tenor Bell or having a New
 “peal of 8 Bells.”

It was resolved that both Resolutions passed at the Meeting on the 31st of
 January, 1815, should be forthwith carried into effect.

“In the month of October 1815 a new Peal of 8 bells was put up and
 “the six old bells were taken down on which were the following
 “Inscriptions and dates” :—

(Here follow the inscriptions).

“65· 1· 6 w^t of old Bells

“62· 3· 6 w^t of new Do

“ 2· 2· 0 less w^t than the

“old Bells. Quere

“are they mended?

(in pencil) “Certainly not.

“Oct. 27, 1815

“John Hobson.”

For these particulars I must express my thanks to the Rev.
 Francis Jourdain, Vicar of Ashbourn.

The NINTH Bell is 3 ft. 10 in. in diameter at the mouth, and
 bears the following legend round the haunch in Roman capitals :—

GLORY (Orn. Fig. 4) BE (Fig. 4) TO (Fig. 4) GOD (Fig. 4)
 ON (Fig. 4) HIGH (Fig. 4), mark of George Oldfield, Fig. 9
 (Fig. 4), 1655 (Fig. 4).

Encircling the waist is the fine moulding, Fig. 1.

The following entries contain all further particulars :—

1639.	f ^r for a Gudgeon & 4 wedges for 3 ^d bell & carpent: wages about y ^e 5 Bell & Iron work about y ^e same bell	o	4	4
1655.	I ^t m Paid To Mr Ouldfeild of Nottingham for new castinge the fifth Bell & for overweight		21	: 07 : 00

	Itm for carriage of it to Nott ^m & back again two nights layinge there.....	01 : 04 : 00
	Itm Churchwardens charges at castinge of it.....	00 : 10 : 00
	Itm to George Ragge for hanginge the Belle	05 : 04 : 06
	Itm to Edward Daft for Iron worke.....	02 : 01 : 00
	Itm for old wood that lined two yokes and for Saweing them	00 : 08 : 00
	Itm for helpe to gett up the Bell.....	00 : 05 : 6
	Itm for a piece of wood that made two yokes.....	00 : 06 : 8
	Itm to John Page for cotters and bands.....	00 : 02 : 4
	Itm to Mr Ouldfield for castinge 1 pare brasses & for carriage of 1 pare to Nottingham	00 : 17 : 0
1659.	to Robert Smalley ffor borde and to Edward Carver ffor wood ffor the 3 ^d and 5 th bell wheels by bill	01 09 07
	To Edward Daft for materialls about the 3 ^d and 5 th bell wheels by bill.....	00 14 01
1670.	(In Josiah Wheeldon's bill) for filinge two Goodgins for the fivfth Bell & fittinge them for y ^e Brasses	00=02=06

Tradition says this was one of the bells brought from Beauchieff Abbey at the Dissolution, but this is very doubtful.

The TENOR Bell is a remarkably fine-toned one, measuring 4 ft. 3 in. across the mouth. It is traditionally asserted to have been the treble of the six at Dale Abbey before the Dissolution; but as the Dale bells weighed 47 cwt., and this alone weighs 32 cwt., this seems absurd. It bears the following legend, in old black letter, in one line round the haunch:—

(Shield, Fig. 15) **Trinitate sc̄a fiat hec campana**
(Crown, Fig. 14) **beata** (May this bell be blessed by the Holy Trinity).

The same legend, in different order of words, occurs on the sixth bell. The initial of the first word is engraved in Fig. 7.

As the Tenor is of fourteenth or fifteenth century date, I am unable to say where, or by whom, it was founded, the records not extending so far back. The following charges for repairs, &c., occur in the accounts:—

1623	Itm to Thomas Pegg for mending the great bell	0 0 0
1630	Itm for trussing the Great Bell and mending the wheele..	1 3 2
1633	pd John Ragg for a gudging for great Bell 14d	
1635	ffor mendin y ^e great bell's claper	0 2 6

1640	To Mr Ragg for his work & his mens about a new yoak for y ^e 3 ^d & 6 ^t Bell.....	I	0	0
	To ffrirson for Iron Work about y ^e sayd worke	I	3	0
	ffor fetchinge y ^e wood wch made y ^e great Bell yoake from Marton (Markeaton) & for help to draw it up into steaple & neales	0	4	0
	ffor mendinge y ^e great Bell-wheele.....	0	2	8
1670	(In Josiah Wheeldon's bill)			
	for peicing y ^e great Bell Clapper	00=06=00		
	for Lainge more Iron uppon y ^e great Bell Clapper to make it Heavier.....	00=03=06		
1675-7	To Rodger Wheldon for mending y ^e great Bell Clapper..	00=02=06		
1680-1	The Great Bell wheele 1 ^l 8	I	8	0

It was also rehung in 1620—see particulars under the fifth bell—and was “quartered,” together with the eighth, in 1678.

The entries relating to repairs to the bells and bell-frames, both in the Accounts and Books of Orders, are very numerous. The following are some of the most interesting :—

“ 4th May 1628.

“ Memorand it is agreed the daie & yere above written that the church-wardens of All S^{ts} shall get fforward wth the reparaire of the Leads at the Top of the Steeple & that timber for the reparaire of the fframe of the Bells shall be p^rvided for & the church repared And that the sessm^t by the gen^ral consent of the saide p^rishe w^{ch} was formerly made shalbe gathered by the now churchwardens for & towards the repares aforesaid the one half to be paid pse^tly & the other half after the leads of the said steeple shalbe repared.”

Copy of a letter from George Oldfield, 1670 :—

“ Nottingham Octo 22

“ Mr Worden my kind love and Respects
“ presented this is to give you accompt
“ of the charge for the Brasses* and als
“ which you sent from your church
“ the 5 pare of ould brasses wayed 0—2...
“ the 5 pare new brasses wayed —0—2...
“ the casting the ould comg to —1— ...
“ the new mettelle aded comg to —0—1...

(part is torn off here)

2—6. [1]

“ this from your friend Geo. Old[field].”

This is endorsed :—

This for Mr Worden
Churchwarden of
All Sants in
Derby.

* “Brasses” are the sockets in which the axles or “gudgeons” of the bell work.

There is also a most interesting bill for repairs done to the different bells in 1670, by one Josiah Wheeldon, which we give in full :—

Josiah Wheeldon his Bill for his worke donne at ye ffa August y^e 8th 1670.
By Josiah Wheeldon

	£	s.	d.
Imp ^s for six Cotters*	00	00	06
for eight Cotters	00	00	08
for Irone wayinge five pounds	00	01	08
for five daies worke uppon their own Iron	00	12	06
for pinns and plates weighinge 7 ^{lb} & a halfe	00	02	06
for a payre of Clirie weighinge one stone	00	04	08
for alteringe pinnes	00	00	04
for foure Cotters	00	00	04
for alteringe more Irons	00	00	04
for nailes fatcht of daniel wagstaffe.	00	02	04
for Irone for y ^e 3 ^d Bell weighinge 12 pounnds	00	04	04
for one River and 4 Cotters	00	01	00
for makinge y ^e Clock hammer	00	04	00
for a staple and layinge Iron of a pine	00	00	08
for a goodgin pinn weighinge two pounds	00	00	08
for a Cannon staple weighinge 7 ^{lb}	00	02	04
for peicinge pinns & layinge on Iron	00	00	04
for peicinge a Cannon Staple and laying on of Iron	00	00	06
for 20 Cotters	00	01	08
for three Verrills	00	00	06
for ye ould little Bell Irons mendinge	00	01	00
for eight Ringes	00	01	04
for mendinge a staple for y ^e 2 ^d Bell	00	00	04
for filinge two Goodgings for the fifth Bell, and fittinge them for ye Brasses	00	02	06
for two staples weighing 7 ^{lb}	00	02	04
for six Cotters	00	00	06
for alteringe two pinns	00	00	02
for peicinge ye great Bell Clapper	00	06	00
for Lainge more Iron uppon ye great Bell Clapper to make it Heavier	00	03	06
for Bushinge three Roulers and one pinn	00	01	04
for foure staples & Braggs	00	01	02
for six verrills & two pinns making longer	00	01	06
	£	s.	d.
	03	03	08

* A Cotter is a small strip of iron put through a rod to prevent a nut coming off. The term is still in use.

These two bills were passed at a parish meeting shortly after, of which the following is the minute :—

Oct. 26, 1670. At a parish meeting it is ordered *inter alia*—

- “ And allsoe pay : 2^l : 6^s : 1^d to Mr Oldfeild
 “ for Casting Brasses for y^e old Bells
 “ And allsoe pay : 3^l : 3^s : 8^d to Josyah
 “ Wheeldon for Iron worke about y^e old Belles
 “ And allsoe pay to Joseph Hall x x x
 “ Carpenter for worke in removing
 “ and altering y^e old Bell frames
 “ 4^l : 10^s : 0^d & x^s to George Blagrove
 “ for drincke for y^e workmen.”

In the Accounts for 1671-2, these are entered as follows :—

“ paid Josiah Wheeldon for worke	03—03—08
“ paid Mr Oldfield	02—06—01
“ paid Joseph Hall for work	04—10—00
“ Pd George Blagrove for drinke by a parish order	00—10—00
also “ Spent w th Mr. Oldfield	00—01—00

From the Accounts :—

1631	Itm for mending the Gudgcon of a bell	0—0—6
1632	It p ^d Ragg & one to help him to trusse y ^e bells	0 3 6
	It for a clapp [clapper] mending	0 2 6
1633	p ^d Will Turner for 5 Bell yokes w ^{ch} ly in y ^e belfry	00 15 0
1635	Paid ffrrierson for wedges & cotters about bells at sizes ..	0 1 3
1636	to Job Frearson for mend y ^e Bell claper	0 4 0
1647	It to Edward Daft for mending a clapper & a chyme hamer	0 4 6
	It to John Rowe for a Joyst & borde wh: is about the belles	0 4 5
1664	It pd John Jaques p bill for worke about y ^e bells	00—13—03
1670-1	Josiah Wheeldon for a new Bauldricke *	0 = 2 = 0
	To Josiah Wheeldon for makeinge a clapper	0 = 4 = 0
	ffor leather to line the Bauldrick of the Bells	0 = 3 = 0
1671-2	for leather to line the the (sic) belis and bawdrick	00—05—00
	for cotters and rollers for the bells	00—01—04
1677-8	To Jno Ragg for 2 Brasses for Bells	00 11 6
1678-9	p ^d for the exchange of 2 Brasses for the bells	0 6 10
	p ^d the Sexton for lether for the bells	0 0 8
	Alowd John Rag to give with fframes	0 0 4
	p ^d the Sexton for lether for the Balltrix	0 1 0
1683-4	p ^d Samuel Roberts for a Gugion for a Bell	00 02 06
	paid John Ragg for Leather and to other workmen to take up y ^e bells	0 3 6

Bells cannot be rung without ropes, consequently we find many records relating to them :—

Aug. 24, 1653. “ The Churchwardens are ordered to pay unto Mr

“ Thomas Greaves for A bell rope & A padlock formerly Delivered for
 “ y^e use of this p^rish xis.”

* The Bauldrick was a leather thong by which the clapper was suspended from a staple in the crown of the bell. It has since been superseded by a wooden block.

Accounts for 1654. Itm to Mr. Greaves for a bellrope 0—10—00

Att A parish meeting y^e 9th Day of May: 1663

“It is ordered that George Blagrove shall have fro’ Easter Day
“twenty shillings p Ann’ to fynde Bell Roapes payable by y^e Church-
“wardens.”

Nov. 25 1718 “Ordered that Jacob Hall shall have the summe of
“Thirty Shillings allowed & paid to him for Bell Ropes for the Ten
“Bells to be paid yearely and the time to begin at our Lady’s day next,
“and the said Jacob Hall is to get them made well and substantially.”

In the Accounts :—

1631	Itm for one Belrope allowed by the yeare	0—	5—	0
1632	It given G. Blagrove to buy a bell-rope	0	5	0
1633	p ^d Clem: Spicer for a bell rope.....	00	06	8

A charge for a bell rope occurs for many successive years.

1647	It for a bellroape & houre glass	0—	11—	0
1657	ffor Ropes for the Bells and a Shovell In Snow ty ^{me} ..	00	17	0
1659	To Robert Burne ffor bell Ropes	00	13	00
1664	It p ^d George Blagrove for bellropes (as per order)	01—	00—	00

This entry occurs for several years.

In 1672, Economy appears to have been the order of the day, since we find—

	pd for 3 new bellropes and peeing 2 old ones	—	00—	14—	00
1676-7	To Will Jebb for 6 Bell Ropes	01=	01=	08	
1678-9	pd for 10 Bell Ropes waying 57 pownd	1	8	6	
1685-6	Paide for a sett of Bell Ropes and a clock rope.....	1	14	6	
1695-6	Jacob Bourne for Bell ropes	01	03	06	

Some curious miscellaneous entries occur, of which we select a few :

1627	Itm for powder and shott to kill pigions in the church ..	0	0	7½
1631	Itm for stopping the pigeons out of church (<i>i.e</i> the Tower)	0—	1—	0
1633	pd Blagrove for keeping out pigeons	00	01	0
1646	It for 1 gallon of sack of Ringing in Mr. Hearvey	0—	6—	0
1664	It p ^d Rich: Sheapard for getting clods out of y ^e bell- house	00—	01—	00
1680-1	To Alexander Jud for Edword Marshall for taking down Bell and hanging it up againe and mending the turnegates	0	11	4
	for wire for the Chimes and shooting the Ropes (<i>i.e.</i> through the floors)	00:	03:	06
1685-6	for Ale at taking up a bell	0—	0—	6
1690-1	p ^d Elias Grice for poynting ow’ y ^e Bellhouse door ..	0—	2—	0
1707	For castinge the Chime Weight	0	6	6

There are many interesting particulars of the Clock and Chimes from 1510 upwards, which we hope to enter into in a future article.

It was the custom at All Saints' to ring a bell at 5 o'clock in the morning, and another at 8 o'clock in the evening. The former was intended to rouse the people from their beds, in order that they might get to work punctually—at least such is the received account. We are, however, inclined to think it was the sole relic of the early mass of the Trinity Guild, which, before the "Reformation," was sung at that early hour. We say "was," because this bell is now discontinued. A yearly allowance was made to the sexton for candles on dark mornings.

The eight o'clock is still rung nightly; it goes by the name of the Curfew, but is probably a relic of the time when All Saints' was a Collegiate Church.

At a parish meeting, held Nov. 6th, 1663, it was agreed:—

"that George Blagrove shall have of the Parish twentie shillings for the
"ringing of the eight a Clock bell & five a Clock bell for the year past
"and also to have twentie shillings at next ladie daie and be payed also
"after ladie daie next ffourtie shillings p Ann at March (?) & Ladiedaie."

May the 4th, 1664 "At a p'ish meeting

"It to George Blagrove w^{ch} was due to him at Ladie day

"last by order 2—00—00."

In the accounts:—

1620	December 20	Paid to Richard Baggelow clark for candels to ring the 5 a clock bell	2	6
1634	Itt to John Parker for 6 lbs of Candles for George Blagrove	00	02	6	
1647	It for half a dozen of candles for George Blagrove.....	0	3	6	
1664	It pd Blagrove for ringing y ^e 5 & 8 of clock bell.	01	00	00	
	It to Blagrove for ringing 5 & 8 a clock bell.....	02	00	00	
1665	ffor Ringing 5 & 8 a cloacke bell	01	00	00	

These last entries are repeated for many years.

We may be sure that such a fine ring of bells would be heard on every public occasion, and the entries in the accounts compose quite a chronological series of historical events.

The following are instances:—

1624	Itm for ringing at the newes of the contract w th ffrance ..	0	1	0	
1630	Itm paid for ringing at the Birth of the prince (after- wards Charles II.).....	0	6	8	
1633	pd for ringing at y ^e birth of y ^e Duke of Yorke (afterwards James II.).....	00	05	0	
1641	ffor ringing for joy at y ^e peace.....	0	.6	8	
1642-3	Sep 16 To Georg Blag: for Ringing for y ^e Kinge (Battle of Edgehill)	0	13	4	

1647	It for Ringing on a thanksgiving for Ireland by Mr Mayors appoyntment	0—6—8
1649	It for Ringing for a Victory in Ireland.....	0—5—0
1659	To the Ringers ffor Ringing the 15 th and 16 th and the 24 th and 25 th of febr: ffor the Lord. H Court parliament (Dissolution of Parliament) and Sityss uniting..	01 00 00
1660	It Gave George Blgrave for ringing at y ^e proclaiminge the Kinge	00—10—00
	May 24 Gave y ^e ringers 10 ^s May 29 th gave them more..	01—00—00
	It Gave y ^e ringers at setting up y ^e Kinges Armes	00—05—00
1666	Pd Ringers for victory at seay.....	00 2 6
1667	It Mr Major's order for ringing 7 th June for sea victory ..	00 : 03 : 00
	It for newes of a victory 2 August at sea.....	00 : 03 : 00
	It Ringers, for a thanksgiving 23 rd August	00 : 10 : 00
1670-1	ffor Ringinge Coronation Day	0=10=0
1673	ffor Ringeing for agreem ^t w ^h y ^e Dutch	00—05—00
1683-4	Given John Ragg for Ringing on y ^e Thanksgiving Day (for failure of Rye House Plot)	00 : 10 : 00
1685-6	Given y ^e Ringers at the rout of y ^e Rebels in y ^e West (Battle of Sedgmoor)	0 5 0
	Given them more at y ^e taking of m	0 16 0
	Given y ^e Ringers on y ^e day of Thanksgiving	0 10 0
1688-9	pd ffor Ringing upon the happy newes of the Birth of the Prince of Wales by Mr Mayor's order (James Stuart, "The Pretender")	00—05—00
	pd the Ringers when P was proclaimed King (William III.)	00—05—00
1689-90	At y ^e birth of y ^e prince of Denmark	0 10 0
	Pd to John Ragg for ringeing At y ^e Corowneation Day	0 5 0
	Pd for wringing y ^e ffirst Corowneation Day	0 10 0
1690-1	pd for ringing for y ^e joyfull newes out of Ireland (Pacification of Limerick, Battle of the Boyne).....	0—5—0
1694-5	Pd for wringing at the Queen's Funerall.....	00 10 0
1695-6	pd him (John Ragg) for Ringing the taking Namure ..	00 : 08 : 6

The bells were also rung on the capture of the Spanish Fleet in Vigo Bay, 1702; at the news of the Battle of Blenheim, 1704; at the Capture of Barcelona, 1705; at the taking of Douay, 1710, etc. The truly Protestant festival of the Fifth of November, of course, occurs, from 1623; also the King's Birthday, the 29th of May, and S. George's Day, April 23rd. The Bishop's and Archdeacon's visitations are also duly recorded by the payments to the Sexton and Ringers:—

1620.	Septemb' 5	Paid to the ringers for ringing at my L ^d Bushops coming to visit & i e 5 8
	June 8.	Paid for ringing at Mr Chanclors coming to towne the some of 2 —
1623	Itm for ringing the sixth Bell * the 5 th of November.....	0 2 0	
1630	Itm paid for ringing twice for the Bishop	0 4 4	
1647	It for Ringing the 5 th of Novemb	0—6—8	
	It for mending a bell gudgeon broken that day	0—3—0	

* This is the present Tenor bell.

1662	Item To George Blagrave for ringinge the 23 of Aprill 29 th of May	00 : 10 : 0
	Item To George Blagrave for ringinge the 5 th of November	00 : 10 : 0
1673	pd for Ringeing on y ^e 5 th of 9 ber	00—10—00
	pd for Ringeing y ^e Bishop in towne	00—10—00
1685-6	paide to John Ragg for Ringing on the Kings Birthday	0—5—0
1688-9	for Ringers on the Kings Birthday by Mr Mayors order	00—05—00
1693-4	for wringing at y ^e bishops coming	— 5 —
	pd for ringing at y ^e polle and 29 th May	00 13 —

The annual perambulation of the parish boundaries is duly notified by the entries in the accounts. I quote a few:—

1631	Itm at the perambulation for ringing	0	1	6
1640	ffor Ringinge at pambon	0	1	6
1680-1	Ringing the Procession weeke	0	3	4
1689-90	Pd John Ragg for Ringing y ^e 29 th of May and att y ^e professioning	0	13	4

From the entries in the Books of Orders and the accounts, we gather that at one time the ringing loft was on a level with the sill of the great West window, instead of being higher up the Tower as at present, and that it was separated from the gallery by an iron railing. It appears, however, to have been a nuisance, etc., as in 1635 is the following item:—

Paid at y^e Surrogates Court being psented for y^e Bellhouse | 0 | 1 | 6
and a few years afterwards it was removed.

The following are the entries relating to it:—

1640	ffor iron pikes betwixt Sutton's loft and Bellhouse	0	2	8
1657	Pd Woodcock & others for stuff and workman shipp about a floor over the ringing loft	02	01	05
1664	It for making a paire of Staires and other worke in y ^e bell house	02	04	00
Sept. 11 1665	“At a pish meeting by the pishioners of the pish of “All S ^{ts} in Derby It is ordered that the bords of the middle loft where “the now ring be taken up and an account of the bords bee entered “& that there be noo ringing but upon the nethermost loft where they “anciently used to Ring.”			
1666	for takeinge downe y ^e Ringers loft	00—	1—	6
1672-3	p ^d to y ^e Ringers according to an agreem ^t made with them to set up a new loft in y ^e Steeple the sum of	05—	00—	00
1690-1	p ^d Elias Grice for poynting ow ^r y ^e Bellhouse door ..	0—	2—	0

It still remains to give what is recorded of the Sexton, who is the guardian of the bells—

1620 October 1 “Paid to George Blagrave for a quarters
“wages 25/8 wh^{ch} in the whole year for keeping the bells clock
“and chimes comes to 5^{li} | 5 | - | -

May 30 1635 Ordered *inter alia*

“Itm that George Blagrove shall presently give to the now Churchwardens a particular of his demands for keeping the clock bells, and all other business he doth and shall p'forme in or about the Church and thereupon an agreement is to be made by the parishioners at a general meeting.”

April 15 1637 “It is this day agreed upon att a parish meeting that the Churchwardens of this parish shall pay to George Blagrove five markes in discharge of all such money in his care.....
“.....parish..... diall and have of the outside of the steeple
“..... thereof he said Blagrove having undertaken
“to maintain a register require during his life.

“.....t a pish meeting y^e 5 June 1637

“.....ings following are agreed on

“.....greed that George Blagrove

(torn off).... “nothinge for making y^e churche

“.....offrings but as it is a worke

“.....y hee shall for charity make y^e dore

“.....agreed that hee shall have 5^s 6

“.....buy a bell rope p annum

“3^d He shall have for ringing at a buriall

“5s of y^e better sort of p'ishioners and 3^s 4^d

“of y^e porer”

Sept: 11 1665 “And it is further ordered that George Blagrove hath care to keep the chimes in order & constantly going at the usuall houres & that he take care to ring the eight a clocke bell diligently in time everyday in the weeke except the Lords day & that George Blagrove suffer & assist young men & boys to Ring every Saturday at night & on any holyday even at seven of the clock.”

August 27 1694 “Whereas itt appears by y^e late officers Accounts that they have allowed to the Sexton and Clarke for ringing oute and buriall off paupers Itt is therefore ordered this day that by reason the Clerke and Sexton are excused from payment to y^e Church and poore that they in case of paupers performe their offices gratis.”

June 12 1704 “It is also ordered that Henry Goulding shall pay John Ragg sexton forty shillings for six years sallary oweing last Easter for finding oyle and wire for the Chimes and other necessarys.’

In the Ringing Chamber are the following records of peals rung on these bells:—

On Tuesday 15th Feb 1763.....Peal of Grandsire Tripples of 5040 was completed in three hours seven minutes and forty eight seconds by a Society of Youths from nineteen to under twenty two years of

age after six months practice without the assistance of a Tutor; the said Peal not known to have been compleated here before : performed by

WILLIAM BROWN	JOHN WRIGHT	JOHN FARNSWORTH
THOMAS COPE	THOMAS DUDLEY	and
JOHN STONE	JOHN CHATTERTON	ISAAC BRETNALL.
	SAMUEL FOX	} Churchwardens.
	GEORGE RICHARDSON	
	JOSEPH FROST Sexton	

Monday Jan 24 1805 Holts Peal of Grandsire Tripples consisting of 5040 Changes was compleated here in the most masterly stile in three hours and fifty five minutes by the Society of Change Ringers of this Town whose names are as follows

RICH. WARD Treble	CALEB COCKAYNE 4	JOHN SILLS 7th
CHA ^S HARLOW 2nd	LUKE SHARP 5th	SAM ^L JOHNSON } Tenor
JOSEPH FORD 3rd	EDW ^D WOODWARD 6th	WILL ^M REESBY }
	JOHN CHATTERTON	} Churchwardens
	WILLIAM HUBBALL	
	WILL ^M CUBLEY Clerk and Sexton.	

On a board—

SATURDAY	
MARCH 18 1826	
Was Rung by the Derby Society an Abstract of A Peal of Bob Major Containing 5040 Changes in three hours and 45 Minutes Never attempted here before. Names as follows—	
Treble THOMAS STUBBS	5th RICHARD REDGATE ..
2nd JOHN SILLS JU ^R	6th W ^M BROCKLESBY
3rd JOHN HOWE	7th JOSEPH FORD
4th THOMAS HOWE	Tenor JOHN SILLS SE ^R
JN ^O HARRISON SEXTON	

On Tuesday Feby 23rd 1830 the first Peal of Grandsire Cators rung by a Derby Society of Change Ringers containing 5093 changes was completed

here in three hours and forty two minutes being the greatest extent of changes ever rung on these Bells.

JOSEPH HARRISON Treble	LUKE SHARP.....7th
WILLIAM PARKER 2nd	W ^M BROCKLESBY...8th
JOSEPH FORD3rd	THOMAS HOWE.....9th
RICHARD REDGATE 4th	GEORGE BATEMAN } Tenor
THOMAS STUBBS .. 5th	and
JOHN HOWE 6th	JN ^O HARRISON JUN ^R }

WILLIAM ABBOTT } Churchwardens
 THOMAS HACKETT }

JOHN HARRISON SEN^R SEXTON

In conclusion, it is to be remembered that few churches can produce such a complete series of books and papers as those preserved at All Saints', through the care of successive churchwardens. Most churches have none at all; and if by any chance a few have escaped destruction, they may often be found lying about loose in a chest without locks, affording a ready means of lighting fires, &c. It is owing to their value, when complete, that I have been so diffuse in this case, and must therefore apologise if successive entries have seemed wearisome.

My thanks are due to the present Churchwardens of All Saints', Messrs. Husband and Cooling, for the kind way in which they have facilitated my researches by allowing me access to the books and papers under their care, and also to my friend, Mr. J. Charles Cox, for much valuable assistance in deciphering the earlie records.

I must also mention the kind courtesy of the Sexton, Mr. Thomas Harrison, in allowing me access to the bells themselves on numerous occasions.

As has been previously mentioned, I hope to be able to submit to the Society on a future occasion the equally interesting history of the Clock and Chimes.