

#### LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS.—

The annual meeting of this association took place on Saturday evening in Holy Trinity Schoolrooms, Bolton, and was largely attended by ringers from all parts of the country. The objects of the society are most laudable and include the cultivation of the science of change ringing, and the elevation of the moral and religious tone and status of the ringers. The list of honorary members includes a large number of clergymen, and the performing members are from Bolton, Aughton, Blackrod, Bradbury, Church, Deane, Eccles, Garston, Grassendale, Heywood, Huyton, Leigh, Layland, Liverpool, Manchester, Newchurch, Padiham, Pendlebury, Ramabottom, Rusholme, Southport, Stockport, Swinton, Walton, Walkden, Westhoughton, Whitefield, Widnes, and Worsley. The proceedings commenced with service in the church, when the Rev. H. H. Heywood, vicar of Swinton, delivered a practical discourse on the ringer's office, from the society's book of rules: "The bells and ringers are intended to be exercised for God's glory and worship." His remarks were much appreciated. Tea was served in the schoolroom, to which about 130 sat down, and the business meeting was held immediately afterwards, under the presidency of the vicar, the Rev. C. Lowe, M.A. Letters regretting unavoidable absence were read from the Rev. K. Jacques, M.A., Westhoughton, Canon Powell, M.A., vicar of Bolton; the Rev. D. Winfield, B.A., Hulme; Canon Sheldon, M.A., Ormskirk; Archdeacon Anson and Canon Birley, M.A., Hulme. The Chairman welcomed the ringers once more to Holy Trinity, and was glad to find the society had increased its numbers to 150 during the year, 54 members having joined in that period. The report was read by the secretary, Mr. W. J. Chatterton, Moss Side, in which attention was called to a number of matters connected with the society. The balance in the bank was £3 13s. 6½d., against £3 2s. 10d. last year. The retiring treasurer, Mr. H.W. Jackson, Bolton, was re-elected, and Mr. J. Redford, Bolton, was re-elected co-secretary. The three retiring members from the committee were—Messrs. Aspinwall, Liverpool; Curtis, Bolton; and Albinson, Garston. Messrs. Currier, Huglers (Garston), and Aspinwall were elected. The names of 21 new members were then submitted and accepted, these including ringers from Walkden and All Souls' Church, Bolton, and the Revs. C. Heath, M.A., W. Poplewell, M.A., and R. Loxham. A discussion ensued as to whether a coloured emblem or certificate of proficiency should be instituted, and also as to the terms upon which it should be granted. Some ringers thought it should be given to all who had rung a 5,040 peal or a date-touch, while others considered no regulation should be decided upon, which would oppress members of bells in places where there were only six bells. Ultimately, Messrs. Yates and Albinson were appointed to consider the matter with the committee at their next meeting. A vote of thanks to the preacher of the afternoon was proposed by the Rev. A. Turner, B.A., Burnley, seconded by Mr. Beacall, and a similar compliment to the Chairman was passed, on the motion of Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. Higson. The Rev. J. Lewis, Mr. John Greenhalgh, and Mr. Nathaniel Greenhalgh were among those present.