

BOLSTERSTONE PARISH.—THE BELL MEMORIAL.

It was with deep regret that we heard, in the early part of the year, of the death of the Rev. John Bell, who, from 1848 to 1862, was Incumbent of this Parish. A meeting was held on February 8th, 1892, at which it was decided to place a Peal of Bells in the tower of Bolsterstone Church, as a Memorial of him. At this meeting, subscriptions amounting to £110 15s. 6d. were promised, and a committee was appointed to collect further subscriptions. Great interest was felt in the movement, and by the help of a most energetic committee, the sum of £585 was obtained from parishioners, friends, and former pupils of Mr. Bell, and is now in the Bank. Between 800 and 900 persons have subscribed in sums varying from 2d. to £25.

A Peal of eight Bells has been cast by Messrs. J. Taylor & Co., Loughborough. The following are the weights:—

	Cwt. Qrs. Lbs.		Cwts. Qrs. Lbs.
Treble (F sharp)	3 1 0	6th (A sharp)	6 2 26
2nd (E sharp)	3 2 11	7th (G sharp)	9 2 26
3rd (D sharp)	4 1 6	Tenor (F sharp)	12 3 24
4th (C sharp)	4 3 16		
5th (B natural)	5 3 7		
		Total weight ..	51 1 4

As is customary, Latin inscriptions are placed upon the Bells. The following have been written for our Bells, and are upon them—one verse on each Bell.

Campanus vos aere voco qui voce vocabam,
 Aerea vox resonat vox silet ipsa viri;
 Per juga per valles resono Campana Johannis,
 Huc age Disce mori, vivere disce precor.
 Ergo ego gaudentem fausto infaustove dolentem
 Ut discat fidens omnia fata pati;
 Terrestrem in sedem hanc Domini voco et usque vocabo
 Donec in aeternam vos vocet ipse Deus.

Of which the following is the English translation:—

I, Bell, call you with bronze who used to call you by voice. Brazen is the voice that resounds, the human voice is silent. O'er hill and dale, I, John's Bell, resound. Hasten hither I pray, "Learn to live, learn to die." Therefore I call him who rejoices in prosperity, or him who mourns in adversity, to this earthly House of the Lord, that he may learn to bear all things in faith. I call and ever will call, till God himself call you to an everlasting abode.

On the Tenor Bell is also inscribed—

In Dei gloriam et in memoriam Johannis Bell, A.M., hujus Parrochiæ olim
 Pastoris, has octo Campanas amici posuere, auctoribus.

REGINALD HENRICO RIMINGTON WILSON, Domino Manoriæ Bolsterstone, et Patrono.

GULIELMO REGINALD WILSON, A.M., Vicario.

JOSEPHO HATTERSLEY et CAROLO MACRO WILSON, Ecclesiæ Custodibus.

which being translated is:—

MDCCCXCII.

"To the glory of God and in memory of John Bell, M.A., formerly clergyman of this Parish." His friends have placed these eight Bells, foremost amongst whom are

REGINALD HENRY RIMINGTON WILSON, Lord of the Manor of Bolsterstone, and Patron.

WILLIAM REGINALD WILSON, M.A., Vicar.

JOSEPH HATTERSLEY and CHARLES MACRO WILSON, Churchwardens, 1892.

BRINGING UP OF THE BELLS TO BOLSTERSTONE.

On Saturday, 28th May, the Bells were brought up to Bolsterstone. Nine drays, each with two horses, gaily decorated with ribbons, &c., were kindly lent for carrying the Bells, iron frames, girders, &c., &c., and took places in the following order, viz.:—Those belonging to Mr. Macro Wilson, Stocksbridge Co-operative Society, Mr. Friend Schofield, Mr. B. Webster, Mr. C. Booth, Messrs. J. Armitage & Son, Mr. J. Charlesworth, Mr. J. Newton, Messrs. J. G. Lowood & Co. After the drays had been loaded at Deepcar Station a procession

was formed to go by Deepcar, Stocksbridge, Hoyle House Lane, and Low Lane to Bolsterstone in the following order:—

- Stocksbridge Brass Band.
- Church Lads Brigade.
- Vicar, Curates, Churchwardens, and Members of Committee.
- Drays with Bells.
- Fire Brigade, with Engine.
- Public.

The procession left Deepcar Station about three o'clock, and after following the proposed route, which was lined with crowds of people, arrived at Bolsterstone about five o'clock, where the drays were arranged in a semi-circle, those who had joined in the procession gathering in the centre. The first verse of "The Old Hundredth" was sung, accompanied by the band. The Vicar then addressed the people, of whom a very large number were present, and said:—

"My friends,—This day is one in our parish history which will not easily be forgotten. This peal of bells will soon be placed in the tower of our Church. The deep interest taken in obtaining these bells, the liberal response made to the appeal for subscriptions, and your presence here to-day show the feeling which exists amongst us all. The deepest sympathy has also been shown towards this movement by our various religious bodies. I trust that these bells may be successfully hung, and that they may be a voice inviting all to worship in this Church; that our children and children's children may here offer prayer to God, and a blessing rest upon all. I trust that the bells may be a means of good to this and all succeeding generations. But as the success of all our undertakings depends upon God's blessing, I invite you to join with me in prayer."

After prayer, asking for God's blessing upon the use of the bells, all joined in singing "Praise God from whom all blessings flow," &c., accompanied by the band.

The work of unloading the bells was then successfully accomplished by many willing helpers, to whom we are much indebted. We wish especially to thank those who lent the drays.

Great credit is also due to the members of the Committee who took part in the arrangements of the day. The members of the Band well merit our thanks. The drivers of the drays deserve praise for the way in which their horses were decorated, and for the steady manner in which they managed their teams. Friend Schofield is to be congratulated on the readiness with which he raised the loads from the drays at the Church gate.

After the events of the afternoon tea was provided in the School, at which a large number of persons were present.

It may be a matter of interest to some to know that the Church Bell which is at present used at Bolsterstone has been in three Churches there, and has called people to the worship of God for 154 years. It was cast in 1738, and has inscribed upon it "Gloria Deo. 1738. E. SALLER, Ebor." The Churchwardens' accounts for 1738 contain the following:—

A new Bell	£6 16 0	Sold ye old Bell for ..	£1 11 6
Carriage	4 0	Collected	1 0 0
To ye Blacksmith	1 6		
Jos. Dyson	1 2		
Ale	1 0		
Letters	2 8		
An additional sum was paid to ye Blacksmith of ..	6		
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	£7 6 10		

The remainder of the cost being paid by the Churchwarden's Fund.

FRANCIS HAIGH, Incumbent.
NICHOLAS STEADE, Churchwarden.
MARK STANLEY, Schoolmaster.

The bell of 1738 is to be re-hung, and retain its place in the tower, together with the new peal.

In addition to the new peal of eight bells a handsome oak screen will be placed in the Tower arch, and through the kindness of Mr. Rimington Wilson a new clock, with two dials, will be placed in the Tower. A new font of Mansfield stone has also been given to the Church.

It is not yet known when the Dedication of Bells will take place.