

OLD CHURCH BELLS AND CLOCKS.

BY EDWARD NASH.

BELLS OF THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL.

The first Church-bells of which we read are the golden bells placed in alternation with the blue, purple, and scarlet pomegranates round the hem of the high priest's ephod (Exod. xxviii, 33). The number of bells attached to the priest is not mentioned in Scripture, but is said by the Rabbis to have been seventy-two. These bells were to announce the entering of the high-priest into the sanctuary. He was required to enter the sanctuary and to discharge his priestly duties there in the most solemn manner possible; and he was reminded by the tinkling of the bells to attend closely and constantly to these duties.